



Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2022

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

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**Churchwide Epiphany
celebration livestreams
on Jan. 6**

Plan to join Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, Diocese of Washington Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde, the Rev. Glenna Huber and other leaders for “To Look Like Jesus: A Call to the Church and the Nation”—a livestreamed celebration of Epiphany from the Church of the Epiphany in Washington, D.C., on *Thursday, Jan. 6 at noon (Eastern)*. During this worship service featuring a diversity of voices from across the church, Curry will invite Episcopalians to commit afresh to [looking, acting and loving like Jesus](#) in our communities and nation. Find more details [here](#). Curry also will offer an address to the nation later in the day.

**Boston MLK Jr. Memorial
Breakfast to be hybrid
event on Jan. 17**

The 52nd annual Boston Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast, *Monday, Jan. 17, 8:30 a.m.*, will feature as keynote speaker Annette Gordon-Reed, historian, Harvard Law professor and author of the *New York Times* bestseller *On Juneteenth*.

There will be limited tickets available for the in-person breakfast event at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center; the event will also be livestreamed. Online participants are encouraged to make donations to go towards continued support of scholarships and grants. Find more information and buy tickets [here](#).

The longest-running celebration of its kind in the U.S., the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast was founded by Boston’s St. Cyprian’s Episcopal Church and Union United Methodist Church, and they continue to host the annual event. Net proceeds from the event support the churches’ community programs and services.

Racial Justice Commission to offer “What is Truth?” study for Lent

A new six-session Lenten study series—“What is Truth?”—is to be offered by the [Racial Justice Commission](#)’s Subcommittee on Reparations. The series invites congregations, small study groups and individuals to go deeper into Pilate’s question “What is truth?” and the truths we’ve learned about our history, our personal truths in relationship to the broader community and national truths that have been told and, in some cases, need to be untold and then retold.

Each session will include a theological reflection; suggestions of a short reading, online video or other media; a discussion guide; suggestions for group action in response to the content and discussion; and suggestions for individual and household follow-up reflection, study and action during the week. The series will also include introductory material to help facilitators prepare.

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The subcommittee was charged to produce this series by the 2021 Diocesan Convention resolution "[Charting the Long Road Towards Reparations](#)." More material will be available later in January, but early planners can seek further information by e-mailing the subcommittee at reparations@diomass.org.

NOTES:

- **Diocesan Convention responses now available from Racial Justice Commission:** During the presentation from the [Racial Justice Commission](#) at the 2021 Diocesan Convention, attendees were invited to use the "chat" feature in Zoom to ask questions of the commission, make comments on what they were hearing and offer to become more involved with specific aspects of the work. The commission promised to follow up with responses to each question and comment. Those responses are offered in a document available [here](#).

 - **"Preaching Hope in a Climate Crisis" with Margaret Bullitt-Jonas and Jim Antal:** If the world's average temperature will soon shoot past the 1.5°C target to ensure climate stability, how do we preach about hope? Geared to the season of Lent, this informal, hour-long conversation will provide a space for reflecting on Gospel hope, keeping in mind the systemic challenge of keeping fossil fuels in the ground and the connections between racial, economic and environmental justice. The session will touch upon a few lectionary readings for Lent, and there will be opportunities for questions and discussion. This ecumenical event is open at no charge to all preachers, and will take place on *Tuesday, March 15, 10-11 a.m.* via Zoom. [Register here](#). (Please note that this event has been rescheduled from Jan. 25).
FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (mgardner@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 403).

 - All are welcome to join the **Creation Care Justice Network's annual retreat** on Zoom on *Saturday, Feb. 5 from 9 a.m. to noon*. The retreat theme is "Embodying Change," and it will start with an example of embodied practice to help participants identify and change internalized white culture habits—how we treat others, our bodies and creation. This will be followed by reflecting on ways to support and engage congregations in participating in systemic climate justice work, using or adapting a United Church of Christ tiered action tool. An afternoon session (*1-2:30 p.m.*) is an invitation for working group members and others to develop specific goals and timelines for the next 6-12 months. Register [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Lise Hildebrandt (lise.hild@posteo.net).
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- **Zoom workshop on Inter-Congregational Collaborations:**

Considering collaborations with another congregation, but not sure where to begin? Curious about what collaborations look like and how they work? Join the Collaborative Ministries Working Group on *Saturday, Jan. 22, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.*, to hear from people engaged in a variety of collaborations (sharing clergy, sharing outreach ministries, sharing formation and worship). Hear about their experiences of beginning, working through challenges and enjoying the fruit of collaboration. There will be panelist presentations, time for Q&A and break-out group conversations. [Register here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Megan Holding (theholdings@gmail.com) or Regional Canons (regionalcanons@diomass.org).

- The diocesan Congregational Consultants' ongoing series of Zoom seminars on the practical aspects of congregational leadership continues with **January sessions focused on Parochial Report preparation.**

The **financial section** will be presented by Terry Robinson, longtime consultant and parish auditor, on *Tuesday, Jan. 11* ([register here](#)) and repeated on *Saturday, Jan. 15* ([register here](#)).

The Rev. Cynthia Hubbard, longtime priest and former canon for transition, will present the **session on Parochial Report non-financial information** on *Tuesday, Jan. 18* ([register here](#)) and again on *Saturday, Jan. 22* ([register here](#)).

In February, Betsy Blagdon, consultant, auditor and experienced small parish treasurer, will talk about **"What Every Treasurer Needs to Know."** This session should be of great use to all congregational treasurers (especially those newly elected to the position) and other vestry members and clergy who need to understand the financial functions of a congregation. This program will be offered twice, on *Tuesday, Feb. 15* ([register here](#)) and *Saturday, Feb. 19* ([register here](#)). All sessions run from 9 to 10 a.m.

All past seminars have been recorded for viewing and are available [here](#). Of interest at this time of year are sessions on how to run an annual meeting and vestry roles and responsibilities.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants coordinator (chris@centrestent.com).

- The monthly online **Finance Forum for Congregational Leaders** continues on the *fourth Tuesday of each month, 5:30-6:30 p.m.* Interim diocesan CFO Cynthia Hallenbeck invites clergy, wardens and treasurers to gather with her for this regular opportunity to share information on finance-related matters. Next sessions are on *Jan. 25, Feb. 22 and March 22*. Register [here](#) for the Zoom link. *FOR INFORMATION: Cynthia Hallenbeck, Interim CFO (challenbeck@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 554).*

- Registration is open, [here](#), for the **annual Ministry Discernment Conference** offered by the bishops and the Commission on Ministry, to be held on *Saturday, Feb. 5, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, and currently planned as an in-person event at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. (The snow date is Feb. 12.)

The conference will provide an in-depth look at the 2022 edition of the Ministry Discernment Handbook and gives potential inquirers an opportunity to learn about the ordination process in the Diocese of Massachusetts as they consider whether their call is to ordained ministry or committed lay ministry. Any person considering applying for admission to the ordination process in 2022 is required to attend the conference, along with a sponsoring priest and at least one member of the Parish Discernment Committee.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Edie Dolnikowski, Canon for Ordained Vocations (edie@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 514).

- Planning is underway for the **2022 Clergy Conference** for Diocese of Massachusetts clergy, taking place *Monday, April 25-Wednesday, April 27*. The planning committee strongly hopes to host a hybrid event at the Babson Executive Conference Center (1 Snyder Drive) in Wellesley, featuring as guest presenter the Rev. Dr. Katherine Sonderegger, William Maude Chair in Systematic Theology at Virginia Theological Seminary. More information and registration will be coming soon.

FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Assistant for Congregations & Event Coordinator (jgarrett@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 421).

- **Clergy Professional Development Days** in 2022 are again being offered in two parts, with each part offered four times between March and September.

Part I is a workshop on microaggression, provided by the diocesan Racial Justice Commission. Microaggressions are the everyday, subtle, intentional—and oftentimes unintentional—interactions or behaviors that communicate bias toward historically marginalized groups that are discriminated against or subject to stereotypes. The workshop is an occasion to learn the difference between microaggressions and overt discrimination, and explore ways to be more aware of biases and how these inadvertent actions affect others. The workshop will be offered on:

- *Tuesday, March 8, 4:30-7 p.m.* via Zoom
- *Saturday, April 9, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.* via Zoom
- *Tuesday, June 14, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston; and
- *Friday, Sept. 9, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston.

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Part II is a Safe Church Review segment which fulfills the refresher requirement along with attendance at a Part I workshop for those clergy who are due for one this year. The Safe Church Review segment will be offered on:

- *Wednesday, March 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.* via Zoom
- *Friday, April 8, 5-7 p.m.* via Zoom
- *Tuesday, June 14, 1-3 p.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston; and
- *Friday, Sept. 9, 1-3 p.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston

[Register here](#). All clergy are encouraged to attend the workshop. Clergy due for a Safe Church refresher in 2022 should attend both the workshop and the review segment. For those attending both segments in person at the cathedral, lunch will be served. Clergy may choose to attend the segments in any order and combination.

Most clergy who are canonically resident or licensed to officiate in the Diocese of Massachusetts are required to attend a Clergy Professional Development Day every three years in order to maintain good standing (see the document [here](#) explaining required attendance and exemptions). Also, every three years, clergy will be required to complete online training via Praesidium Academy (those who do not have an account should contact the Safe Church administrator at their church or, if non-parochial or retired, Jennifer Garrett at jgarrett@diomass.org), and to authorize a nationwide public records check.

FOR INFORMATION: Martha Gardner, Missioner for Networking and Formation (mgardner@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 403).

- **Confirmation services for 2022** have been scheduled and are posted on the diocesan website at www.diomass.org/resources/confirmation-services. Registration opens in January. Churches from all deaneries are welcome at any of the gatherings. The size and final plans for the services will depend on the course of the pandemic and will be adjusted in accord with diocesan protocols. *FOR INFORMATION/TO REGISTER: Brad Rothrock, Administrator, Cathedral Church of St. Paul (brothrock@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 221).*

- The Diocesan Youth Council (DYC) is hard at work developing **two youth retreats for the spring:**
 - *Friday-Sunday, March 18-20:* Middle & High School Weekend
 - *Friday-Saturday, April 1-2:* Pre-Confirmation Retreat (with optional Saturday overnight).

Both of these are currently planned as in-person events at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Details to come as they are available.

- **The Life Together 2022-2023 application is live:** [Life Together](#) is inviting young adults who are committed to social justice and looking for a year of spiritual and vocational discernment to apply to join Life Together's next cohort.

Life Together shares a common application with churchwide Episcopal Service Corps programs, and will accept applications until all its fellowships are filled. Visit www.lifetogethercommunity.org/apply or e-mail any questions to apply@diomassintern.org.

Life Together strives to create a supportive space for the next generation of prayerful and prophetic leaders to grow and thrive. An initiative of the Diocese of Massachusetts and a member of the Episcopal Service Corps, Life Together is a 10-24 month fellowship that matches young adults (21-32 years of age) with mission-based nonprofit organizations, schools and churches in the greater Boston area. Fellows live in intentional communities, receive training in shared leadership and community organizing, participate in facilitated conversations on racial justice and take part in diverse spiritual practices. Life Together is a queer- and trans-affirming community committed to dismantling white supremacy and oppression.

FOR INFORMATION: Jocelyn Collen, Life Together Associate Director of Training and Recruitment (jocelyn@diomassintern.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 216).

GRANTS & LOANS:

The diocesan committee entrusted with the stewardship of Congregational Development Grant (CDG) funds seeks to ensure that recipients have followed through with the plans that served as the basis for receiving a grant.

Recipients of CDG funds in 2021 are asked to complete a grant report form, [here](#). This report is due by *March 1*. Grant-recipient congregations become eligible for further CDG funds upon submitting this report.

Recipients of a 2021 deanery House of Mercy or Sending Serving Grant need to submit a brief year-end report on their ministries, required before they are eligible to receive deanery grant funds in subsequent years. Recipients should use this opportunity to showcase their project and good stewardship of funds. The report form is available [here](#) and is due by *Oct. 1*.

FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Assistant for Congregations & Event Coordinator (jgarrett@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 421).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

The actions from the December Diocesan Council meeting will be reported in the February FYI.

Next Council Meeting: *Friday-Saturday, Jan. 14-15*, retreat at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.

FOR INFORMATION: Chelsea Smith, Assistant for Governance and Administration (csmith@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 406).

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Dan Collier began as supply priest at Christ Church in Medway on Dec. 12.

The Rev. Tim Crellin has been called as rector of St. Paul's Church in Gardner, in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, and will begin in January.

The Rev. Marc Eames has been called as rector of St. John's Church in Vernon, Conn., and will begin in January.

The Rev. Manny Faria retired from St. Peter's Church in Beverly on Dec. 31.

The Rev. John Gitau has been called as rector of Bristol Trinity Church in North Easton as of Nov. 1.

The Rev. T. James Kodera retired from St. Luke's Church in Hudson on Dec. 31 and will continue as professor of religion at Wellesley College.

The Rev. Isaac Martinez will complete his strategic curacy through June 2022 under diocesan supervision as he plants a congregation for queer and trans people of color in Allston. He has served since July 2019 as strategic curate at St. Paul's Church in Brookline.

The Rev. Helen Moore began as interim priest at St. Andrew's Church in Hanover on Oct. 18.

The Rev. Terry Pannell will retire from the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor in Provincetown on Jan. 31.

The Rev. Ginger Solaqua began as interim priest at the Church of Our Redeemer in Lexington on Dec. 15.

The Rev. Dee Woodward began as bridge priest at St. James's Church in Groveland on Dec. 5.

Central Region

Regional Canon Carol Gallagher
cgallagher@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BOSTON, St. Stephen's Church
CAMBRIDGE, St. Bartholomew's Church
MEDFIELD, Church of the Advent
ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES**CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

WESTWOOD, St. John's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: (Apply directly to parish.)

None at this time.

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

MEDWAY, Christ Church, *part-time*

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

None at this time.

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:

CAMBRIDGE, Christ Church: [Assistant Rector](#)

Northern and Western Region
 Regional Canon Martha Hubbard
mhubbard@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BEVERLY, St. Peter's Church
 GROVELAND, St. James's Church
 HUDSON, St. Luke's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

GLOUCESTER, St. John's Church
 WAKEFIELD, Emmanuel Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

CHELMSFORD, All Saints' Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: *(Apply directly to parish.)*

None at this time.

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

TOPSFIELD, Trinity Church

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

METHUEN, St. Andrew's Church (updated to half-time)

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

None at this time.

Southern Region
 Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell
koconnell@diomass.org

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church
 HOLBROOK, St. John's Church
 MARSHFIELD, Trinity Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

ORLEANS, Church of the Holy Spirit *full-time*

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: *(Apply directly to parish.)*

[BRIDGEWATER, Trinity Church](#) *half-time*

[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) *half-time*

[SOUTH WEYMOUTH, Church of the Holy Nativity](#) *half-time*

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

None at this time.

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

PROVINCETOWN, Church of St. Mary of the Harbor

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the February issue is **Wednesday, Jan. 26 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.