



Wednesday, June 4, 2025

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org
617-482-5800 / 617-482-4826

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Join diocesan witness at June Pride celebrations

Join Diocese of Massachusetts Episcopalians in a witness for love and joy during Pride celebrations this month.

Bishop Julia Whitworth will lead the delegation at the **Boston Pride for the People Parade** on *Saturday, June 14*, riding in a convertible. Parish banners are welcome, and there will be DioMass T-shirts! (Meet-up is at 10:30 a.m. near Copley Square). Those who would like to cheer on the 11 a.m. parade from the sidelines are invited to join a watch party hosted by Trinity Church in Boston on its Clarendon Street porch and lawn.

The diocesan planning team has been compiling a growing list of **Pride celebrations outside of Boston** where a witness for love and joy can be made together in community. Planning team volunteers also have created **publicity resources** for congregations and groups to use in organizing their participation, and abundant **Episcopal Church Pride resources** are available online. For links, sign-up and details, visit www.diomass.org/pride-2025. E-mail the Rev. Liz Steinhauser with questions at lsteinhauser@diomass.org.

New deacon, transitional deacons and priest to be ordained June 7

Everyone's prayers and presence are invited for the Service of Ordination on *Saturday, June 7, 10:30 a.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. Those to be ordained by Bishop Julia Whitworth include: **Robert Christian**, to the diaconate (sponsored by the Church of the Good Shepherd, Reading), and to the transitional diaconate, **Jocelyn Collen** (St. Paul's Church, Brookline), **Mary Curlew** (St. Paul's Church, Bedford), **Eva Dalzell** (Church of Our Saviour, Milton), **Julia Matallana Freedman** (St. James's Church, Cambridge) and **Aidan Stoddart** (Episcopal Chaplaincy at Harvard). **The Rev. Aaron Ross** also is to be ordained at this service, to the priesthood (sponsored by Christ Church in South Hamilton). *FOR SERVICE INFORMATION: Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston* (cathedral@diomass.org).

Diocesan Convention resolutions process is open

The resolutions submission process for Diocesan Convention is now open—earlier this year to facilitate wide participation. Guidelines and the resolution submission form are available [here](#).

The submission deadline is *Friday, Sept. 5 by 5 p.m.* However, if a resolution is expected to have budgetary implications, submission by *July 31* is encouraged to allow for the possibility of 2026 diocesan budget funding should the resolution be adopted.

The annual Diocesan Convention will be held *Friday-Saturday, Nov. 14-15* at the Boston Marriott Burlington Hotel in Burlington. Questions may be directed to convention@diomass.org.

NEWS & EVENT NOTES:

- The diocesan Office of Immigration and Multicultural Ministries is joining the Beloved Community Team of St. Stephen's Church in Lynn to sponsor a **Juneteenth Celebration**, open to all, on *Sunday, June 22 at 10 a.m.* at St. Stephen's Church. The Rev. Bernadette Hickman-Maynard will preside. All are welcome to join for worship, followed by a free, fun and interactive meal as those gathered explore the ways Black culture has sustained and nurtured the pursuit of freedom across generations through music and song. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa, Canon for Immigration and Multicultural Ministries (jbntagengwa@diomass.org).*

- **Keep up with diocesan youth and young adult programs** by following on Facebook (www.facebook.com/diomassyouth) and Instagram (@diomassyaya). Planning is underway for next school year, and updates will be going out via these channels as well as by e-newsletter ([sign up here](#)). Questions or suggestions for youth and young adult programming and events are welcome to the Rev. Shannon Kelly, Interim Missioner for Youth and Young Adult Formation (skelly@diomass.org).

- This spring, the Evangelism Working Group of Diocesan Council hosted four Zoom sessions of **New Models of Episcopal Evangelism**, “real not ideal” conversations about how congregations in the diocese are practicing creative ways of sharing the Gospel in their communities. The **recordings are now available** in a playlist on the diocesan YouTube channel, [here](#), to view and share. The Evangelism Working Group hopes to continue the series in the fall.

- **Continue to be aware of online scams targeting churches and church leaders:** Phishing scams continue to proliferate and evolve—including recent ones directed at congregational treasurers and other leaders, with the intent to redirect electronic payments or gain control of electronic accounts.

With the increasing sophistication of cyber threats, particularly phishing scams and e-mail fraud, being vigilant and proactive in protecting congregational data and financial assets is more critical than ever. Some best practices for all congregations to adapt for use in their particular ministry settings:

- Be cautious with e-mails requesting changes to financial transfers or login information—even if they appear to come from trusted individuals.
 - Verify suspicious requests through a separate communication channel (e.g., call the sender directly).
 - Use strong, unique passwords and enable two-factor authentication where possible.
 - Avoid clicking on links or opening attachments from unknown or unexpected sources.
 - Keep software/systems updated with the latest security patches.
 - If you believe your system may have been compromised, report it immediately to your IT provider and financial institutions.
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- **Cyber security for people of faith and congregations:** [Episcopal City Mission](#) (ECM) is co-sponsoring a workshop on ways to keep communities' information digitally secure, **especially for those working with people most at risk in this moment**. It will be co-led by The Electronic Frontier Foundation and CB Beal, a faith-based consultant focused on equity, justice and creating safer spaces for marginalized communities within congregations.

"Digital Security 201 for Congregations and Leaders" will be offered on *Tuesday, June 10, 6-7:30 p.m.* on Zoom, for people managing lists and data at the institutional level (such as a congregation), focused on creating effective digital security policies and systems. Sign up [here](#).

- The **Ministry Discernment Day** being planned for *Saturday, Sept. 27* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston **is for anyone discerning God's call in their life**. Everyone interested in discerning calls to ministry in the church and in the world, both lay and ordained, are invited to save the date for this gathering.

Jointly hosted by the Commission on Ministry and the St. Paul Center for Theology and Prayer, the gathering will feature panel discussions with people serving in a variety of Christian vocations, and an introduction to resources for individual reflection, communal discernment in congregations and churchwide discernment programs. People who want to learn about the ordination process in the Diocese of Massachusetts are especially encouraged to attend, along with their sponsoring clergy, potential parish discernment committee members and family members.

Registration will open in August.

- **Save the date for Clergy Day, Oct. 1:** Diocese of Massachusetts clergy are invited to save the date for the annual Clergy Day gathering on *Wednesday, Oct. 1, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston. This year's guest speaker will be Bishop Robert Wright of the Diocese of Atlanta on the topic "Christian Witness and Leadership in a Time of Christian Nationalism." Details and registration information will be available soon. *FOR INFORMATION:* Jennifer Garrett, Administrator and Event Coordinator (jgarrett@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 421).

- **Energy efficiency incentives for houses of worship:** MassSave offers incentives, including 75 to 100 percent off the cost of insulation and air sealing, for houses of worship. Those who are interested are invited to contact Jim Nail at Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light (by e-mail to jnail@massipl.org), providing him with congregation name and address, and a contact name with e-mail address and phone number. He has developed a set of relationships that allow him to navigate the MassSave process and get quality contractors to sites quickly to do assessments, file for incentives with MassSave and then get the work done. Steve Abdow, Property Stewardship Consultant, is also available to help with questions (sabdow@diomass.org).

CHURCHWIDE:

- **Enrollment is open** for [An Episcopal Path to Creation Justice](#) for the fall of 2025. Worshiping communities that are looking to deepen their engagement around climate justice; have a committed group of at least three people; and are able to commit to monthly meetings between October 2025 and May 2026 are invited to explore how the Path may be of support. The program is open to all Episcopal communities in the dioceses of Province I. Those eager to offer support to other communities and who would like to join the Path's cohort of companions are also invited to be in touch. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Rachel Field, Project Manager, and Deb Baker, Project Coordinator (episcopalcreationpath@gmail.com).*

- **Seeking tools to help your congregation with effective Latino ministry?** Combine academic learning with hands-on experience at the Episcopal Latino Ministry Competency Course, offered Aug. 9-16 by The Episcopal Church's Office of Latino Ministries and taught by seminary faculty, clergy and lay leaders with extensive experience in Latino and intercultural ministry. The Rev. Jack Clark and the Rev. Edwin Johnson of the Diocese of Massachusetts will be among the presenters.

The course is designed for diocesan staff, clergy, lay leaders and seminarians to gain practical knowledge and cultural competency for Latino ministry. It starts in Atlanta, then continues at the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn. Continuing education units are available upon course completion. Registration includes tuition, lodging, meals and transportation to/from the airport. Learn more and register [here](#) by July 6.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its May 15 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

- Heard updates from Bishop Whitworth.
- Ratified the following bishop's appointments to the Library and Archives Board: The Rev. Dr. Matthew Cadwell, Celia Bailey-Ochoa, The Rev. Daphne Noyes, Thomas Lester and Sarah Demb.
- Voted to approve an assessment adjustment for Christ Church in Harwich Port.
- Heard a report from the Reparations Fund Committee.
- Heard an update from the Evangelism Working Group.
- Reviewed and approved meeting norms and expectations for members of Diocesan Council.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, June 26, 6 p.m., via Zoom.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Margaret Lias, Coordinator for Governance and Grants (mlias@diomass.org or 617-482-4826, ext. 229).

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

Please direct inquiries about this report to the [regional canons](#).

Supply Priest List: To request the most up-to-date Supply Priest List, or to be added to it, e-mail David Ames, Administrator for Clergy and Transitions, at dames@diomass.org.

Central Region

Regional Canon
Marissa Rohrbach
mrohrbach@diomass.org

Northern and Western Region

Regional Canon Gregory Perez
gperez@diomass.org

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. John Beach concluded his ministry at St. John's Church in Saugus on May 1.

The Rev. Paul Dalzell began as bridge priest at St. John's Church in Saugus on May 1.

The Rev. Anne Perrot began as bridge priest at All Saints of the North Shore Church in Danvers on May 1.

The Rev. Chip Seadale concluded his ministry as rector of St. Andrew's Church in Edgartown on April 27. **The Rev. Cynthia Hubbard** began as interim priest there on May 1.

The Rev. Catherine Vankatesh resigned as priest-in-charge of St. Paul's Church in Malden on March 1.

The Rev. Jennifer Zogg began her ministry as rector of St. Christopher's Church in Chatham on June 1.

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

BEDFORD, St. Paul's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

SHARON, St. John's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: (Apply directly to parish.)

[NORWOOD, Grace Church](#) 40 percent time

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

DORCHESTER, Parish of All Saints, Ashmont

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

BURLINGTON, St. Mark's Church half-time

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: Contact the regional canon.

None at this time.

CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:

LAWRENCE, Grace Church (bilingual: Spanish/English)

SOUTHBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church

RECTOR SEARCHES

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

None at this time.

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES: (Apply directly to parish.)

[READING, Church of the Good Shepherd](#) 3/4 time

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

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*Continued from page 5***PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*

DANVERS, All Saints Church of the North Shore 1/2 time

LYNN, St. Stephen's Memorial Church 3/4 time

ROCKPORT, St. Mary's Church 1/2 time

SAUGUS, St. John's Church 1/2 time

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS:*None at this time.***Southern Region**

Regional Canon Kelly O'Connell

koconnell@diomass.org**CHURCHES INITIATING DISCERNMENT PROCESS:***None at this time.***RECTOR SEARCHES****CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

SWANSEA, Christ Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:*None at this time.***CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:** *(Apply directly to parish.)*[BUZZARDS BAY, St. Peter's Church](#) 1/2 time**CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:***None at this time.***PRIEST-IN-CHARGE APPOINTMENTS:** *Contact the regional canon.*

FALL RIVER, St. Luke's Church 1/8 time

INTERIM PRIEST APPOINTMENTS: *Contact the regional canon.*

ATTLEBORO, All Saints' Church 1/2 time

NEXT fyi:*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of the month. The deadline for the July issue is **Wednesday, June 25 at noon.** E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.Find the newsletter deadline schedule for 2025 [here](#).