



The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

TO: All Clergy and Convention Delegates
FROM: Leon A. Brathwaite II, Secretary of Convention
DATE: October 7, 2010
RE: Arrangements for the 225th Diocesan Convention,
Saturday, November 6, 2010



The 225th Annual Diocesan Convention will take place at St. Stephen's Memorial Church, Lynn, Massachusetts, on November 6, 2010. For a full schedule, please refer to the Delegate Handbook. The following information is offered to help you plan for Convention:

REGISTRATION: In order to make appropriate arrangements, we ask all Convention attendees to pre-register by going to www.diomass.org and clicking on the Convention link on the home page. The registration fee, in the amount of **\$20 per person**, will cover a portion of the costs for coffee, lunch and the materials that you will receive during the course of Convention. Please complete this process no later than **Friday, October 29, 2010**.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: For those who would like to arrive to the area the night before Convention, which will start early on Saturday, arrangements have been made for accommodations Friday night at the Sheraton Colonial Hotel, One Audubon Road, Wakefield 01880. **To make your reservations please call 888-627-7205** or copy and paste the following link into a web browser <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1005203629&key=A1A8>. Remember, **you must ask for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts Annual Convention special group rate of \$99+tax**. The registration deadline for this group rate is October 15, 2010.

CHILD CARE AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: We are offering child care for children ages 4 and under, and a children's program for kids ages 5-12 again this year. You may register your child for these programs as part of your Convention registration process. All children who participate **must be pre-registered**. No walk-in registrations will be accepted. For questions, please call Ms. Amy Cook (617-482-4826 x645) or email her (acook@diomass.org).

PRE-CONVENTION DELEGATE FORUMS: Please plan to attend one of the following pre-Convention delegate forums. These meetings will include a presentation on the proposed operating budget for 2011, as well as an opportunity to discuss resolutions and other Convention issues. The forums will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. on:

- **Tuesday, Oct. 19** at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston;
- **Wednesday, Oct. 20** at Trinity Church (124 River Road) in Topsfield;
- **Wednesday, Oct. 27** at St. Mary's Church (258 Concord Street) in Newton Lower Falls; and
- **Thursday, Oct. 28** at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth

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CLERGY CERTIFICATION DEADLINE: In accordance with Diocesan Canon 1, Sec. 3, all clergy desiring to vote at Diocesan Convention must be canonically resident two weeks prior to the start of Convention. Clergy in the process of becoming canonically resident please contact Ms. Clare Moffitt (617-482-4826 x495) to complete this process by **Friday, October 22, 2010**.

CHANGES IN LAY DELEGATES: Delegate changes should be reported by mailing or faxing (to 617-482-8431) the enclosed substitute delegate form to Ms. Lois Murphey in the Convention Office. Names of alternate delegates will be accepted in the Convention Office **until Friday, October 29, 2010**. After that date, the alternate must bring to Convention the substitute delegate form, or a letter stating the alternate's name and address and the name of the delegate being replaced, indicating whether this is a permanent replacement or for this convention only. This letter must be signed by a warden or the clerk of the vestry. Without written documentation, the delegate must wait for Convention's approval to be allowed seat, voice and vote.

CONVENTION HANDBOOK: Enclosed is the Convention Delegate Handbook with the agenda, nominations, resolutions and other materials for Convention. The Compensation and Benefits Report was not available in time to be included in the Handbook. It will be sent electronically as soon as it is received. Please read the Handbook carefully and inform your congregation about the issues to come before Convention. **BE SURE TO BRING THE HANDBOOK TO CONVENTION.**

CONVENTION ORIENTATION VIDEO: An orientation video for new delegates as well as others who would like a preview of what to expect at Convention is available at www.diomass.org in the Diocesan Convention 2010 section.

REPORTS AVAILABLE ONLINE: Reports for the 2010 Journal of Convention are available by going to www.diomass.org and clicking on Diocesan Convention 2010. There will be a vote to receive these during the opening business portion of Convention. Please call the Convention Office if you need a paper copy of these reports.

QUESTIONS may be directed to Ms. Lois Murphey in the Convention Office, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111; 617-482-4826 x 406; Fax: 617-482-8431; e-mail: loism@diomass.org. If you have **questions after October 29, 2010**, please leave a message at 617-482-4826 x516 and your call will be returned.