

TO: Clergy and Lay Delegates to Convention
FROM: Leon A. Brathwaite II, Secretary of Convention
DATE: October 5, 2017
RE: Arrangements for the 232nd Diocesan
Convention, November 4, 2017



The 232nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Massachusetts is a one-day convention, taking place on Saturday, **November 4, 2017**, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston, MA. For schedule details, please refer to page H-3 of the Handbook. The following information is offered to help you plan for Convention:

CONVENTION MATERIALS: Hard copies of Convention materials, including the handbook and the budget book, will be available at each pre-convention hearing as well as on the day of Convention. All materials can also be accessed online at <http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2017>.

REGISTRATION: In order to make appropriate arrangements, we ask all Convention attendees to pre-register online here: <http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2017>

The registration fee, in the amount of \$30 per person, will cover a portion of the costs for coffee, lunch and the materials you will receive during the course of Convention. **Please complete this process no later than Monday, October 30.** If you are paying by check, please mail in your check to avoid long lines at Convention check-in.

CREDENTIALS CHECK-IN will be open on Saturday, November 4, from 7:00 am to 10:30 am in Lower Sproat Hall. **You will not be able to vote without your credentials, so please check in before voting.**

ELECTRONIC VOTING: This year, voting for positions to be filled by election will be done electronically. Voting stations will be set up in Lower Sproat Hall and volunteers will be on site to help you through the process. Voting will be open from 7:00 am until 1:00 pm. Clergy and Lay Delegates are welcome to vote any time during this period.

EUCCHARIST: The Convention Eucharist will begin on **Saturday morning at 8:15 am and will include the bishop's address.** Please plan to arrive early so you can check-in prior to the start of Eucharist.

LUNCH: A variety of box lunches (including vegetarian and gluten free) will be provided for everyone. The cost of the lunch is included in the registration fee.

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 diocesan budget for 2017, the new electronic voting system, as well as an opportunity to discuss resolutions, hear from nominees and discuss other Convention business. **Hard copies of the enclosed Convention materials will be available at each hearing.** Forums are scheduled to take place from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on:

- Wednesday, Oct. 18 at the Church of the Good Shepherd (74 High Street) in Wareham;
- Thursday, Oct. 19 at Emmanuel Church (5 Bryant Street) in Wakefield;
- Tuesday, Oct. 24 at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; and
- Wednesday, Oct. 25 at St. Elizabeth's Church (1 Morse Road) in Sudbury.

CHILD CARE: Due to space and staffing limitations, we are not able to provide child care onsite for this year's Convention. If you need support with child care, please be in touch with the Convention office by Monday, October 30.

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. Diane Pound (617-482-4826 x407 or dpound@diomass.org) to complete this process by **Friday, October 20, 2017**.

CHANGES IN LAY DELEGATES: Delegate changes should be reported by mail, email or fax (lsimons@diomass.org or 617-482-8431) on the enclosed substitute delegate form to Ms. Laura Simons in the Convention Office. Names of alternate delegates will be accepted in the Convention Office **until Monday, October 30, 2017**. 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.

QUESTIONS may be directed to Ms. Laura Simons:

617-482-4826 x406

Fax: 617-482-8431

Email: lsimons@diomass.org

Questions after October 31:

617-482-4826 x687

Email: convention@diomass.org