



**Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017**

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

**The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts**

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org)

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**Episcopalians urged to support storm relief via ER&D**

Episcopal Relief & Development is partnering with dioceses throughout the affected areas in Texas and Louisiana as they assess the ongoing impact of Hurricane Harvey and act in response. Donations in support of ongoing response can be made online via [www.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-harvey-response](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-harvey-response).

“As you know, our brothers and sisters in Texas now need our help. Our support of Episcopal Relief & Development is a tangible, practical, effective and reliable way to do that, not just in the short term, but for the long haul. Thank you for whatever you can do for together we are the human family of God,” Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry said in a post-storm appeal. Read more [here](#).

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**Diocesan Convention resolutions, nominations due this week**

*Plan to attend a pre-convention forum in October.*

All resolutions, nominations for diocesan elections, proposed constitutional and canonical amendments and committee reports are due in the Office of Convention and Council by **Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.** Find materials, information and updates at [www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2017](http://www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2017).

The 232nd annual Diocesan Convention takes place on Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Pre-convention forums in October will offer an important opportunity for learning and discussion about the issues and business to come before the convention, including resolutions and the proposed budget. Forums are scheduled to take place from 7 to 9 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.

*FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).*

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**Farewell celebration for Bishop-elect Romero on Oct. 1**

St. Peter’s Church-Iglesia San Pedro (24 St. Peter Street) in Salem will host a farewell celebration for the Rev. Silvestre Romero as he prepares to depart as the bishop-elect of the Diocese of Guatemala. The celebration takes place on *Sunday, Oct. 1 at the 11 a.m. service*, followed by a 12:30 p.m. reception. All are welcome.

*FOR INFORMATION: St. Peter’s Church-Iglesia San Pedro (978-745-2291).*

[Visit the Events calendar here.](#)

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### **Annual Clergy Day is Oct. 3**

Diocesan clergy are invited to attend the annual fall Clergy Day, to be held on *Tuesday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Register online by Sept. 26 [here](#).

*FOR INFORMATION: Diane Pound, Office of the Bishop (617-482-4826, ext. 407 or [dpound@diomass.org](mailto:dpound@diomass.org))*

### **New Title IV intake officer appointed**

A new intake officer has been named to serve in support of the clergy disciplinary process for the Diocese of Massachusetts. The Rev. Thea Keith-Lucas, Episcopal chaplain at MIT, will succeed the Rev. Rainey Dankel, who has been serving as intake officer together with Starr Anderson since September 2015.

The intake officers can be reached as follows: Starr Anderson at 978-352-2147 or [starrkanderson@gmail.com](mailto:starrkanderson@gmail.com) or the Rev. Thea Keith-Lucas at 617-458-1253 or [revthea@gmail.com](mailto:revthea@gmail.com).

Under Title IV all matters are reported to an intake officer, initiating a process toward resolution through pastoral care; mediation; an agreement with the bishop; an investigation that may lead to a hearing; or any combination of these. Anyone may contact one of the diocesan intake officers to report concerns about the behavior of a member of the clergy (bishops, priests, deacons). More information about the process is available [here](#).

### **NOTES:**

- **Episcopal Divinity School (EDS) is holding additional book sales**, *Tuesday-Friday, Sept. 5-8 and Monday-Friday, Sept. 11-15, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day*, in the Tyler Room of the Burnham Building on the 99 Brattle Street campus in Cambridge. Books will be priced at \$10 per bag. General reference books are available, as are books on history, social science, education, literature, law, science, technology and bibliography. EDS is moving to Union Theology Seminary in New York City, and the Union and Columbia University library have extensive holdings in these areas. Find the event page [here](#).

- A **gathering for those engaged in ministry with elders** will be held on *Tuesday, Sept. 19, 1-2:30 p.m.*, at the Church of the Holy Nativity (8 Nevin Road) in South Weymouth. This is a follow-up meeting to one held earlier in the summer for lay and clergy members of the diocese to talk about the various ways they are engaged in caring for the aging population and what a wider diocesan elder care ministry might look like. Those gathered shared their gifts and talents which included working in advocacy, housing, transitions, dementia care, pastoral care, pet therapy and others. All who are interested or engaged in this ministry are invited to join the conversation.

*RSVP/ FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Colette Wood (617-922-9664 or [colettewood@comcast.net](mailto:colettewood@comcast.net)).*

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- Registration closes soon for the **Church Pension Group's overnight "Planning for Wellness" conference** for active members of the clergy and their spouses and partners, to be held *Wednesday-Thursday, Oct. 4-5* (starting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday and concluding at 1 p.m. on Thursday) at the Holiday Inn (31 Hampshire Street) in Mansfield. The conference will focus on managing finances (with one-on-one financial discussions available on a first-come, first-served basis), improving well-being through exercise, nutrition and stress management; and maximizing Church Pension Group plan benefits, including information about plan revisions that will become effective in January 2018.

The fee to attend is \$75 for clergy members or \$100 per couple, which includes the overnight stay and meals. (There is a reduced rate for those staying off-site).

**A similar program for church lay employees** and their spouses and partners will be offered at no cost on *Tuesday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at the Holiday Inn, Mansfield.

Child and elder care costs for all participants can be subsidized up to a certain amount. To register or learn more, visit [www.cpg.org/pfw](http://www.cpg.org/pfw) or contact [admissions@cpg.org](mailto:admissions@cpg.org) or 888-274-2828.

- **Episcopal City Mission's 2017 Annual Meeting of the Corporation** takes place on *Saturday, Oct. 14, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*, at St. Cyprian's Church (1073 Tremont Street) in Roxbury. The annual meeting is intended for all members of the Episcopal City Mission corporation—specifically, Episcopal City Mission parish delegates and all canonically resident clergy working in the Diocese of Massachusetts. Visit [www.episcopalcitymission.org](http://www.episcopalcitymission.org) and join ECM's e-mailing list for more details.

- **Small churches gathering:** Clergy and lay leaders from any and all small churches—self-defined, but often those with less than full-time clergy leadership—are invited to gather and talk about their joys, gifts and challenges and to explore ways of focusing on mission and ministry rather than merely survival. Sponsored by the Consultants for Tomorrow's Church, Today!, this gathering will be held on *Sunday, Oct. 15, 2-4:30 p.m.*, at Christ Church (12 Quincy Avenue) in Quincy.

*FOR INFORMATION: Jennifer Garrett, Events Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or [jgarrett@diomass.org](mailto:jgarrett@diomass.org)).*

- **"Anglo-Catholicism: Uncovering Roots":** The Church of the Advent (30 Brimmer Street) in Boston will host this mini-conference, *Wednesday-Thursday, Nov. 15-16*, on the eve of the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion. It will delve into this broad tradition in a bid to remember and retrieve the best of the past for a faithful future. Find more information and a registration link [here](#).

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**CHURCHWIDE:**

- Applications are being accepted until *Friday, Sept. 15* for a provincial delegate and up to 20 churchwide delegates to **represent the Episcopal Church at the 62nd Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW)** in New York City, N.Y., March 12-23, 2018.

Applications are open to an adults or youth (age 15-18) of any gender who can speak to the priority theme—“challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls”—and are willing to participate in advocacy at UNSCW. Delegates will be responsible for their own travel, housing, program expenses and fundraising. More information and the application form are available [here](#).

- Every year, the Episcopal Church provides **grants to assist currently designated Jubilee Ministries** in their work. These grants are intended to help ministries in their mission to create a more just society and confront structures that promote cycles of poverty and inequality. More than 700 ministries across the Episcopal Church have achieved Jubilee status as recognized by the Executive Council. All currently designated Jubilee Ministries are eligible. Application information is available [here](#). The submission deadline is Sept. 29.

*FOR INFORMATION: Meghan Ritchie, Jubilee Ministries (212-716-6067 or [mritchie@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:mritchie@episcopalchurch.org)).*

- Registration is open for the *Oct. 15-24* session of **Episcopal Latino Ministry Competency**, a nine-day intensive course designed for diocesan staff, clergy, lay leaders and seminarians to learn cultural competency for Latino ministry. Offered by the Episcopal Church Office of Latino/Hispanic Ministries, the course will be held at St. James Cathedral in Chicago. The course will be taught by seminary faculty, lay church leaders and clergy with extensive experience in Latino and intercultural ministry. The course will be conducted in English. Bilingual faculty will interpret as needed. The registration deadline is Sept. 29. Find information [here](#).

- Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry has invited Episcopalians to join the more than 25 partners presenting the **Good Book Club**, a churchwide program for reading the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles during the Lent and Easter seasons in 2018. Led by Forward Movement, the Good Book Club readings begin the Sunday prior to Ash Wednesday (Feb. 11, 2018) and finish on Pentecost (May 20, 2018). Find resources at [www.goodbookclub.org](http://www.goodbookclub.org).
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## **Upcoming youth ministry events:**

Questions about these events may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617/482-4826, ext. 215 or [hmsmith@diomass.org](mailto:hmsmith@diomass.org)).

- **Applications for the 2017-2018 Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) program are now available.** YLA is a yearlong program for young people entering 9th and 10th grades. The program is based on three pillars: leadership development, spiritual formation and service in community. Beginning in the fall, participants learn new skills, challenge themselves as community organizers and put their discipleship in action—all while having a lot of fun. Through YLA, participants create and lead a self-chosen project to connect their home parish and the wider community, and at the end of the year, the group raises money for and goes on a mission pilgrimage. Applications, available [here](#), are due *Wednesday, Sept 6*.

- **Youth ministry local networking conversations:** The Office of Youth Ministry is co-hosting two local conversation gatherings as opportunities for those involved in youth ministry to encourage building more relationships among youthworkers across the diocese as we all continue to imagine new models of ministry for our time. The sessions will be offered on: *Tuesday, Sept. 26, 12-2 p.m.* (with lunch) at St. Andrew's Church (79 Denton Road) in Wellesley; and *Thursday, Oct. 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m.* (with dinner) at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth.

These gatherings are intended for full-time and part-time youth ministers, paid and volunteer, clergy and lay, seasoned and freshly anointed. Interested to find out what others in the area are doing in youth ministry? Have an idea for collaborating with neighbors on a program or project? Want to gather great ideas and be encouraged by the camaraderie of others doing similar work? Join one another for one of these fall get-togethers for those doing youth ministry. Advance registration is requested, available [here](#), so that there will be enough food.

If these dates don't work or there is interest in co-hosting a gathering in another location, contact the Rev. H. Mark Smith (see above left).

- Registration is now open for the **2017 Middle School Retreat** weekend, *Friday-Sunday, Nov. 17-19*, taking place at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Led by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend features small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, music by a live band, and some much needed time away from the rush of everyday routines in order to pay more attention to the Spirit of God in our lives. Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation. Registration closes when capacity is reached, or on Nov. 13. Register online [here](#).

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## **TRAINING & LEARNING:**

- Last chance to register for the annual diocesan **Stewardship Leaders Training**, to be held *Saturday, Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Join new and experienced leaders from across the diocese as they “Journey to Generosity”— The Episcopal Network for Stewardship’s narrative series on which this year’s training will once again be based. The topics for the day will include training in principles and tools, coaching stewardship speakers and time to compare notes with other congregations in the diocese. This no-cost event will be helpful for those who need a jumpstart to their fall stewardship campaign or those who need a refresher on fundamentals and best practices. Please come to pray, learn and share. Register [here](#). *FOR INFORMATION: Lynd Matt, Office of Development (617-482-4826, ext. 515 or [lmatt@diomass.org](mailto:lmatt@diomass.org)).*

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on *Saturday, Sept. 16, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Find more information and register online [here](#). Eucharistic Visitors are lay people who have been trained to give the Holy Eucharist to those who are unable to attend church services. This training provides the needed licensing to be a Eucharistic Visitor in the Diocese of Massachusetts.

- Two **Antiracism Training** sessions will be hosted this fall, offering participants opportunities to share experiences, reflect on current issues and develop tools for change. Sessions will be offered *Friday-Saturday, Sept. 22-23* at St. Paul’s Church (39 East Central Street) in Natick, and *Friday-Saturday, Sept. 29-30* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Find more information and register online for the Natick training [here](#) and the Boston training [here](#).

Other formats (including Spanish language) and additional training dates can be requested.

*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Karen Montagno, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 413 or [kmontagno@diomass.org](mailto:kmontagno@diomass.org)).*

- Upcoming fall **Safe Church Training** sessions include *Saturday, Sept. 23* at the Church of St. John the Evangelist (410 Washington Street) in Duxbury (register online for Duxbury [here](#)) and *Saturday, Oct. 28* at the Church of the Holy Spirit (525 River Street) in Mattapan (register online for Mattapan [here](#)). Each runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This training is designed to increase awareness regarding sexual misconduct and abuse of power, to outline steps toward preventing abuse, to offer ways to intervene when misconduct occurs and to equip anyone in a position of parish leadership with ways of healing and rebuilding the body of Christ.

*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Karen Montagno, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 413 or [kmontagno@diomass.org](mailto:kmontagno@diomass.org)).*

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- **Seminar on strategic planning, business practices and real estate planning:** Coordinating and aligning resources and actions with mission, vision and strategy are foundations for brave change. The diocese's Congregational Consultants and the Real Estate Advisory Committee are co-sponsoring a comprehensive seminar on *Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. It aims to give congregational leaders an opportunity to explore principles of planning for the future, sound business practices and efficient use and maintenance of real estate. Find more information and register online [here](#).

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## **GRANTS & LOANS:**

- Applications for **2017 deanery (Sending Serving and House of Mercy) grants** are available [here](#). They are due by *Monday, Oct. 16*.

*FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or [lzook@diomass.org](mailto:lzook@diomass.org)).*

- The deadline to apply for **clergy sabbatical grants for 2018** is *Monday, Oct. 16, 2017*. Application information is available [here](#). Notifications of grant awards will be sent out on Nov. 16, 2017.

*FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Michael Hodges (978-475-0529 or [mhodges@christchurchandover.org](mailto:mhodges@christchurchandover.org)) or The Rev. Kate Ekrem (781-862-6408 or [kate@our-redeemer.net](mailto:kate@our-redeemer.net)).*

- Applications are being accepted monthly for **Mission Tithe Matching Grants**, with separate applications available for pilgrimages and for second and third year grants for work with the same mission partner as a previous grant. Concept papers and applications from congregations with previously approved concepts are due on the 15th of each month for review at the end of the same month. Staff assistance with congregational discernment and document preparation is available. All application materials are available [here](#).

*FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Mission Projects (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or [lwalta@diomass.org](mailto:lwalta@diomass.org)).*

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## **DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:**

**Next Diocesan Council Meeting:** *Saturday, Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*, at the Society of St. Margaret (50 Harden Hill Road) in Duxbury.

*FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or [lsimons@diomass.org](mailto:lsimons@diomass.org)).*

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## **JOB POSTINGS:**

Go to [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org)  
(Resources for Congregations & Clergy > [Employment](#)).

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: [administrative assistant to the bishop suffragan](#), a position on the diocesan staff; [event sexton](#) at Emmanuel Church in Boston; [parish administrator](#) at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn;

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[director of development](#) at Esperanza Academy in Lawrence; [children's formation teacher](#) at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Watertown; [music director](#) at St. Elizabeth's Church in Sudbury; [director of youth ministry](#) at St. Mark's Church in Southborough; [Sunday school teacher](#) at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Waban; [office manager](#) at Christ Church in Waltham; [minister of music](#) at St. Mark's Church in Westford; and [Christian education coordinator](#) at St. Andrew's Church in Methuen.

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## **CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:**

*Communication regarding deployment and parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or [jbntagengwa@diomass.org](mailto:jbntagengwa@diomass.org)).*

### **CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:**

BOSTON, Trinity Church  
CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church  
TAUNTON, St. Thomas's Church

### **CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:**

DUXBURY, Church of St. John the Evangelist  
MEDFORD, Grace Church  
VINEYARD HAVEN, Grace Church

### **CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:**

COHASSET, St. Stephen's Church  
FALMOUTH, St. Barnabas's Church  
WALTHAM, Christ Church

### **CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:**

*None at this time.*

### **CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:**

FRANKLIN, St. John's Church  
HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church

### **OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:**

*None at this time.*

### **CLERGY CHANGES:**

The Rev. Rich Bardusch has been called as rector of St. Timothy's Church in Herndon, Va., starting in September.  
The Rev. Elise Feyerherm has been called as associate rector of St. Paul's Church in Brookline starting in November.  
The Rev. John Njoroge Gitau has been appointed priest-in-charge of Bristol Trinity Episcopal Church in North Easton starting in October.  
The Rev. Harry Walton has been called as rector of Trinity Church in Stoughton where he has been serving as priest-in-charge.

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## **NEXT *fyi*:**

*fyi* is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the Oct. 4 issue is **Wednesday, Sept. 27 at noon**. E-mail submissions to [tjs@diomass.org](mailto:tjs@diomass.org).

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