

2021 Convention Workshops

In advance of the 184th Annual Diocesan Convention, the following workshops will be offered via Zoom. These learning opportunities are presented by volunteer organizations of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

Please note: simultaneous interpretation in Spanish will be provided for all three events, and recordings will be made available following the convention.

Tuesday, November 2 at 7 pm – Peace & Justice Committee

The Journey for Justice in our Conflict-Ridden World

Members of the Peace & Justice Committee will discuss committee priorities, including honoring the voices of Indigenous Peoples in the United States, the work of the Poor People's Campaign (a revitalization of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Poor People Campaign in 1968), and the struggle for justice for Palestinians and Israelis. Use this link to register for the Zoom meeting.

Thursday, November 4 at 7 pm. – Commission on Global Ministry

Modes of Mission: Incarnate Presence in a World Community

Episcopalians engage in world mission through increasingly diverse means. Education, sending, hosting, short-term pilgrimage, diocesan companionship, and granting are major modes needing reflection and support. This reflects our Episcopal/worldwide Anglican conviction that God's mission is fulfilled primarily through incarnational presence. What does this mean for your church, for yourself?

In this workshop, Jackie Kraus and Gary Martin, members of the Commission on Global Ministry, will present the history of the Diocese of Chicago's companion relationships with the Dioceses of Renk, South Sudan, and Southeastern Mexico and Commission members from across the diocese will share global ministry experiences from other parts of the world. Use this link to register for the Zoom meeting.

Tuesday, November 9, 7:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Diocese Taskforce

The Current Status of Detainees, Undocumented Immigrants, Refugees and Asylum Seekers: How Can we Work for Positive Change?

In 2019, the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago's convention approved Resolution F-182, "On Becoming a Sanctuary Diocese." The Sanctuary Task Force connects with other local and national sanctuary communities and institutions, immigrant rights groups and coalitions, and engages in educating, organizing, advocacy and direct action to ensure the safety and security of the undocumented community.

This workshop will provide current information and share ways to support and advocate for undocumented immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, with information provided by Task Force members and partners:

- Fred Tsao, the Senior Policy Counsel at the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (“ICIRR”), will discuss pending federal immigration legislation, the status of immigration detention centers and how we can engage in advocacy.
- Sister Bernadine Karge, OP, will discuss the crisis facing asylum seekers at the southern border. Shana Wills, the Executive Director/Founder of Refugee Education & Adventure Challenge (REACH), will speak about the current Afghan refugee crisis, the history of the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program in general, and ways in which churches/congregations can be more involved in hosting and/or assisting refugee and asylum-seeking newcomers.
- The Rev. Miguel Briones, Deacon, St. Mark Episcopal Church, will serve as Spanish translator.
- The Rev. Primo Racimo, Vicar, St. Margaret of Scotland Episcopal Church, will give the opening and closing prayers.
- The Rev. Sandra Castillo, assisting priest, Santa Teresa de Avila Episcopal Church, will introduce the workshop, speakers and moderate the Q & A session. Use this link to register for the Zoom meeting.