



# MERCER

## School of Theology

Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

65 Fourth Street, Garden City, NY 11530

A Resource and Learning  
Center supporting  
One diocese One mission.

Spring 2018

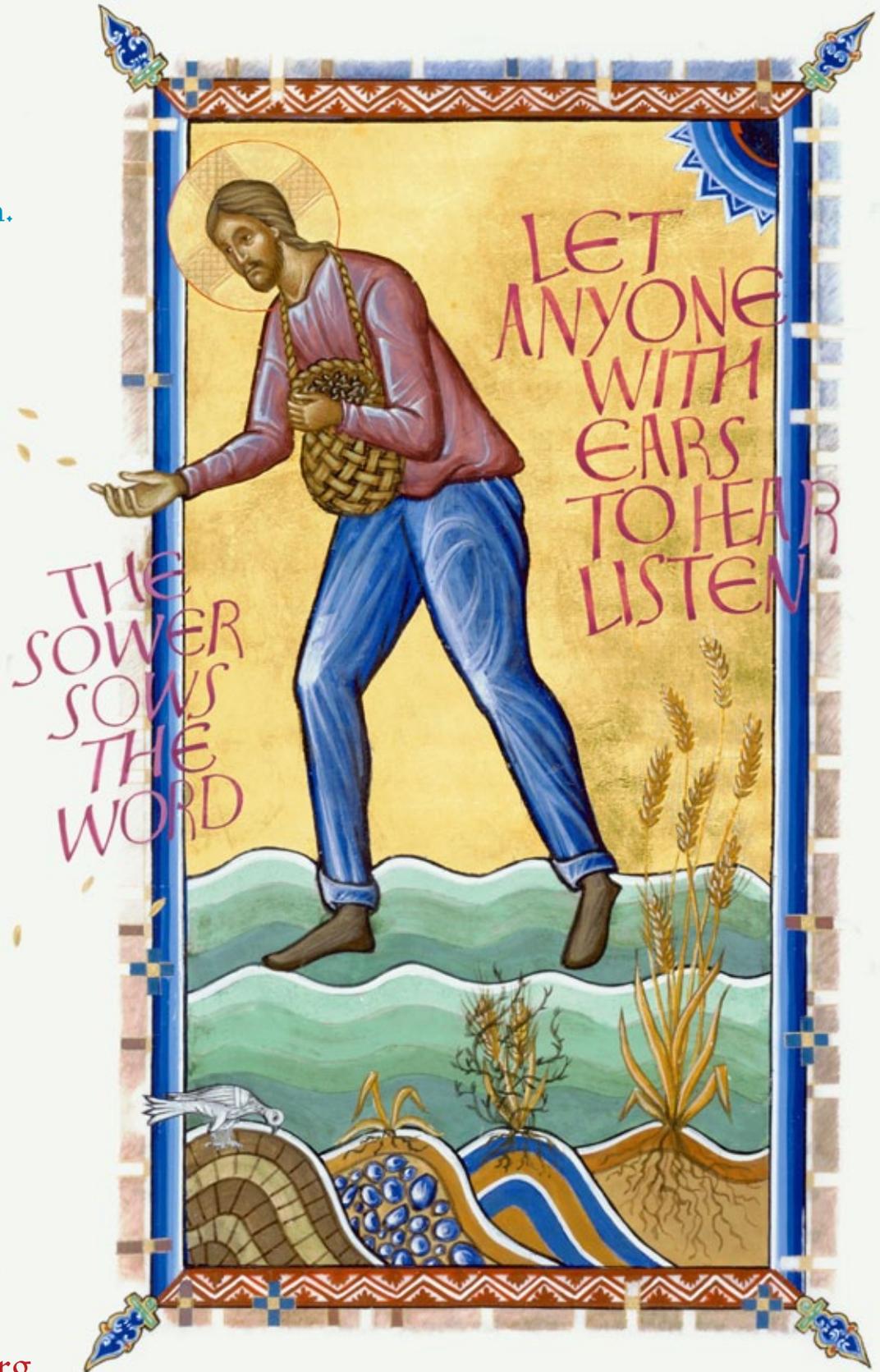
# Program Catalog

Workshops

Courses

Seminars

Lectures



[www.mercerschool.org](http://www.mercerschool.org)

## Welcome to the Mercer School of Theology, a Resource and Learning Center for the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island.

*It's time to teach and form Christians in serious engagement with scripture, with our traditions and the proper, holy use of right reason. We must learn better and teach better in order to witness better.* With these words, our Bishop challenged the Diocese of Long Island to commit to continuing education and lifelong learning. The courses, workshops, lectures, and other programs offered by Mercer in the 2018 Winter-Spring semester will provide opportunities for both clergy and laity to honor the Bishop's charge. Our School for Ministry ("S4M") will meet one Saturday each month from February through June, with a focus on two new areas. First, to support those preparing to enter ordination formation programs in fall 2018, we will offer three courses: Prayer Book/Worship; Philosophy for Theology; and Personal Spirituality. Second, for clergy recently ordained, a five-session course in Church Law will be provided, starting in mid-February. In addition to our usual workshops for Safe Church, Racial Awareness and Eucharistic Visitors, a new half-day workshop for Lectors will help those who proclaim lessons during public worship understand, structure, and vocalize their assigned readings. In response to suggestions that some programs be offered to interested laity in the daytime, for those who dislike nighttime travel, five sessions on the historical "backstory" of the Episcopal Church will take place from 12 Noon to 2 p.m. at Mercer on selected Tuesday mornings in Eastertide.

We continue to look ahead to an increased level of activity in 2018, as we approach the celebration of our sesquicentennial anniversary. As a follow-up to the successful launch of the first segment of a program to train Godly Play storytellers, the remaining two modules of the series will be offered in February and April by local parishes — one in Queens County, and one in North Nassau. Mercer will also provide additional offerings in spring 2018, to support new initiatives proposed by the Canon for Ministry Support and other departments in the Diocese.

Bishop Provenzano summarized the work ahead for us: *This year the Mercer School of Theology will provide opportunities for clergy and laity to develop teaching skills, engage in necessary continuing education, and begin to enhance and encourage programs of formation and education across the diocese.*



Ted Gerbracht  
Director of Academic Programs



Diane Muscarella  
Director of Operations

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### CONTACT INFORMATION:

The George Mercer Jr. Memorial School of Theology  
Address: 65 Fourth Street, Garden City, NY 11530  
Telephone: 516-248-4800, ext. 140  
Fax: 516-248-4883  
Email: [merceroffice@dioceseli.org](mailto:merceroffice@dioceseli.org)  
Website: [www.mercerschool.org](http://www.mercerschool.org)

The Right Reverend Lawrence C. Provenzano, Bishop of Long Island  
Dr. Ted Gerbracht, Ph.D., Director of Academic Programs (ext. 117)  
Mrs. Diane Muscarella, Director of Operations (ext. 140)  
Canon Charles Egleston,  
Historiographer/Librarian/Archivist (ext. 139)  
Mrs. Aissa Hillebrand,  
Media Specialist and Safe Church Coordinator (ext. 150)  
Mrs. Kristin Ochtera,  
Children's Faith Formation Advisor ([kochtera@dioceseli.org](mailto:kochtera@dioceseli.org))

### FALL AND SPRING OFFICE HOURS:

9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Tuesday through Saturday

### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Thursday  
and 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Friday,

Registration for all courses and workshops must be received no later than one week prior to the event. **To register, visit [www.mercerschool.org](http://www.mercerschool.org).** The Mercer School reserves the right to charge late fees or to cancel classes due to insufficient enrollment. Payment in full must accompany all registrations. No refunds will be given for non-participation.



# MERCER

## School of Theology

Episcopal Diocese of Long Island  
A community of learning and faith formation.

## Spring Semester 2018 Offerings

Generally the deadline for registration for events is one week ahead of the event.

When there is a fee for a program, credit card payments are processed when registering at our website. Checks and cash must be mailed in advance or presented at the door the day of the event.

### Trinity Institute 2018 “Values in Action” Video Conference [P]

Date: Friday, February 2, 2018 –  
Saturday, February 3, 2018.

Location: Mercer School in Garden City as a partner site with Trinity Wall Street

The Gospel calls us to reconciliation. A focus on values can help us reach beyond political and ideological divides so as to form partnerships for common goals that matter. Through values alignment, rather than prescriptive structures of behavior, we can gain a greater understanding of others with whom we might otherwise disagree. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will preach the opening sermon, and Michelle Alexander, author of The New Jim Crow, will be one of the speakers. People attending the program have the benefit of the entire program, along with the means to interact with each other and with the speakers.

For more information please go to <https://www.trinitywallstreet.org/education>

### For complete course description [www.mercerschool.org](http://www.mercerschool.org)

Course codes: [P] = OPEN to the PUBLIC  
[C] = CLERGY  
[LL] = LAY LEADERS  
[BI] = BY INVITATION

## February

### Godly Play Training Module II: Parables [P]

Date: Saturday, February 3, 2018  
Time: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm  
Location: St John’s Church, Cold Spring Harbor

The goal of this training is to equip persons to be Godly Play storytellers and door persons through an extended spiritual growth experience and an intensive professional training event.

Class space is limited and the price is right with financial support coming from our host churches. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to further enhance your storytelling skills.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

### NOTE: Module III: Liturgical Action

Date: Saturday April 14, 2018  
Location: Church of the Redeemer, Astoria

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

For more information, contact  
Kristin Ochtera at [kochtera@dioceseli.org](mailto:kochtera@dioceseli.org).

## ASH WEDNESDAY February 14

### Safe Church Training

[P]

Date: Saturday, February 10, 2018

Time: 9 am – 3:30 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

*This course repeats Saturday, April 7, 2018.*

Open to the public. Topics covered include the legal, ethical, and theological foundations for the prevention of sexual abuse or harassment and the development of safe working and learning places. New church employees and lay leaders are encouraged to register for these workshops. The training is required for vestry and church staff, including Sunday School teachers and all parishioners who work with children. Safe Church workshops are offered in English and Spanish throughout the academic year, both at Mercer School and throughout the diocese.

*Class size is limited. There is no fee for this event.*

*Lunch will be provided.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

**Interested in hosting your own  
Safe Church Training?  
More information on page 8**

### ECW Quiet Day for Lent

[P]

Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018

Time: 10 am – 3 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

“The Joy of Scripture” A day apart for reflection and prayer during Lent.

*For information and registration,  
contact Rosalyn.Brown1@yahoo.com.*

### School for Ministry

[LL/C]

Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018

Time: 10 am – 12 noon

Location: Mercer School of Theology

The Diocese of Long Island is committed to quality preparation of men and women for service to church and world as vocational deacons or as priests. This ordination formation community meets for learning and prayer throughout the year. Some School for Ministry courses, as noted in Mercer communications throughout the year, may be open to other interested learners. Reach out to Ted Gerbracht, Director of Academic Programs, 516-248-4800, ext. 117, for further information.

### Episcopal Church Polity, Constitution And Canons

In this course, we examine the discipline of the church, which is found in the Constitution and Canons and provides the underlying structure for church life and governance. Students will be familiarized with the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Long Island and with relevant New York State laws, and learn how they apply, both practically and technically, in the context of congregational ministry. This course fulfills the Title IV training requirement of the Ordination canons.

Course schedule: Saturdays, 10:30 – 11:45 a.m.  
February 17; March 17; April 21; May 12; June 9.

Instructors: Rev. David Sibley, Robert Fardella, Esq.

*5 sessions: Class size is limited.*

*Enrollment based on the approval of the Director of Academic Programs, contact tgerbracht@dioceseli.org.*

### Safe Church Training Bilingual (Spanish Language) Session

[P]

Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018

Time: 9 am – 3 pm

Location: Church of the Redeemer, Astoria

See the full description for this gathering under the date February 10.

*Class size is limited. There is no fee for this event.*

*Lunch will be provided.*

*Register by phone at St Mark's Church 718-639-8893 or  
Church of the Redeemer 718-278-8093.*

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## Turning Points: Clergy Circle

[C/BI]

Date: Tuesdays, February 20, March 20, April 17, 2018

Time: 10 am – 1 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

Each year the Diocese of Long Island provides a series of meetings to assist new clergy, as well as those new to the diocese, to prepare to minister well in New York State. The series meets on the third Tuesday of each month throughout the academic year. Inclusion in this group is by invitation.

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## Lenten Series:

### The Light of Christ in Saint John's Bible, led by Dean Sniffen

[P]

Date: Wednesday, February 28 – March 21, 2018

Four Wednesdays

Time: 7 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

Following a light meal in the refectory, the Very Rev. Michael Sniffen, Dean of the Cathedral of the Incarnation, will lead an in depth look at the images of Christ's journey to the Cross in The Saint John's Bible.



*For more information and to register, please email Cathedral@incarnationgc.org.*

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## Racism Awareness Program (RAP)

[P]

Date: Saturday, February 24, 2018

Time: 10 am – 4 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

This course repeats on May 19, 2018. Awareness of racism and response to it in our individual lives and in our communities remains as crucial as ever to the health of both Church and society. Participants will be led from an awareness of discrimination to an understanding of racism and other forms of oppression on the personal, interpersonal, institutional and systemic levels.

*Class size is limited. There is no fee for this event.*

*Lunch will be provided.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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## March

### Training for Lectors: The Word Was Made Flesh, And Dwells Among Us

[P]

Date: Saturday, March 3, 2018

Time: 10 am – 12 noon

Location: Cathedral of the Incarnation

This half-day workshop will focus on the responsibility and the role of the Lector in worship. Together we will explore preparation, pronunciation, projection, and the ministry of the Lector. This hands-on workshop is taught by the Rev. Michael Delaney, Canon Pastor at the Cathedral of the Incarnation and the Liturgical Coordinator for the Diocese of Long Island..

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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### Commission on Ministry - Discernment Day

[LL/C/BI]

Date: Saturday, March 3, 2018

Time: 9 am – 12 noon

Location: Mercer School of Theology

This day is for those persons exploring a call to ordained ministry. Pre-registration is required and no aspirant may attend without his/her parish priest.

*For information and registration, contact the Commission on Ministry through the Bishop's Office.*

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### Eucharistic Visitor Training

[P]

Date: Thursday, March 8, 2018

Time: 6 pm – 9 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

This workshop will prepare those nominated by their clergy to act as Lay Eucharistic Visitors to those hospitalized, or confined to rehabilitation and nursing institutions, as well as the homebound. Content will include Eucharistic theology, role-playing for Eucharistic visits, and required SHE training. Those who participate in this workshop, with their rector/clergy-in-charge's support, can then be licensed by the Bishop's Office as Lay Eucharistic Visitors.

*There is no fee for this event.*

*For registration, assure first that you are sponsored by your parish clergy, then contact the Mercer Office at 516-248-4800 Ext. 140 or mercerooffice@dioceseli.org.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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## Building Community Summit: Managing, Strengthening & Growing Volunteers [P]

Date: Saturday, March 10, 2018

Time: 9 am – 4 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

A church community can serve as a powerful force for change through the good works and creative efforts of the men, women and young people who are engaged in the life of the congregation. How those people are nurtured, supported and cared for as they work is as important as the impact of the ministry itself.

The Summit will explore strategies that can be used to help build flourishing volunteer communities that inspire ongoing commitment, personal learning and organizational excellence.

The morning session features Chad Brinkman, Program Officer with *Episcopal Relief & Development*, presenting the principles of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD.) Chad will go deeper into the underpinnings of the ABCD work and how it can be used to discern strengths, reveal opportunities and help illuminate the path toward building up your community and becoming a skilled “connector” for others.

Afternoon Workshop Offerings include:

**Building up Leaders,  
Inspiring & Managing Teams, Recruiting Others,  
Skills of Grassroots Organizing,  
Mapping Your Community,  
Creating a Culture of Mentoring**

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

**HOLY WEEK  
Palm Sunday, March 25 –  
Easter, April 1**

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## School for Ministry [BI]

Date: Saturday, March 17, April 21, May 12, June 9, 2018

Time: 8:30 am – 4 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

For those who will begin formal education in Fall 2018 to prepare for ordination as deacons or priests, the School for Ministry will offer four full-day Saturday preparatory sessions during our Spring 2018 semester. Three new courses will provide knowledge and skills helpful in navigating seminary life or the formation program of the Mercer School for Ministry. Each course will meet at the Mercer School of Theology for an hour and fifteen minutes; with reading and work assigned between the sessions.

The Spring semester offerings are:

### SACRAMENTS AND SEASONS

Instructor: The Rev. Michael Delaney

### PHILOSOPHY FOR THEOLOGY

Instructor: The Rev. John McGinty

### PERSONAL CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

Instructor: The Rev. Joseph Diele

*Class size is limited. Enrollment based on the approval of the Director of Academic Programs.*

Contact Dr Ted Gerbracht at [tgerbracht@dioceseli.org](mailto:tgerbracht@dioceseli.org).

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## Vestry & Wardens Day [C/LL]

Date: Saturday, March 17, 2018

Time: 9 am – 3 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

This day will engage church Wardens and Vestry members in a lively reflection on their responsibilities as office-holders at the church. A broadened perspective will seek to uncover new possibilities both for the local church and for those in leadership positions. The Rev. Jerry Keucher, priest-in-charge at Saint Mary’s Church, Brooklyn and formerly Treasurer of the Diocese of New York, along with Peter Robey and staff of the Diocese of Long Island Finance Office, will lead the day.

*Fee: \$20 including lunch. Space is very limited.*

*Please register by March 10.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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## April

### Safe Church Training [P]

Date: Saturday, April 7, 2018

Time: 9 am – 3:30 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

See the full description for this gathering under the date February 10.

This course repeats Saturday, June 16, 2018.

*Class size is limited. There is no fee for this event.*

*Lunch will be provided.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Episcopal Backstory Series: A New Diocese for Long Island [P]

Date: Tuesdays, beginning April 10, 2018

Five sessions until May 15. (No class on April 24.)

Time: 12 noon – 2 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

During Eastertide, the Mercer School will offer a weekday daytime program for interested laity (clergy are welcome too!) to help set the stage for our celebration of 150 years as a diocese of the Episcopal Church and member of the Anglican Communion. This program will cover the background, activities and significance of five critical periods in the history and tradition of the Episcopal Church.

Each session will meet promptly with lunch and Noonday Prayer at 12 noon and end by 2:00 p.m.

The dates and topics covered are:

April 10 – *A Catholic (Universal) Church*; April 17 – *A Reformed National Church*. May 1 – *An Episcopal Church for a New Nation*; May 8 – *The First Lambeth Conference*; May 15 – *A New Diocese for Long Island*.

Our only required “text” will be the *Book of Common Prayer* (1979); other materials will be provided.

The program leader is Dr. Ted Gerbracht.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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### Godly Play Training [P] Module III: Liturgical Action

Date: Saturday, April 14, 2018

Location: Church of the Redeemer, Astoria

See the full description for this gathering under the date February 3.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

*For more information,*

*contact Kristin Ochtera at [kochtera@dioceseli.org](mailto:kochtera@dioceseli.org).*

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### “The Church, Our Work and Ministry: An Ecclesiology Focused on Our World” Conversations with the Right Rev. Lawrence Provenzano [P]

Date: Wednesday Evenings in Eastertide

April 18, April 25, May 9, May 16 (no class on May 2)

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Mercer School or Theology

Some themes:

- An examination of the focus of the Early Church on the world of its time.
- Medieval Catholic & Reformed focus of the Church on the world.
- Post World War II focus of the Church and its co-opting by the world.
- The Church Today: politics, evangelism, and mission.

*Class size limited.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Episcopal Backstory Series: A New Diocese for Long Island [P]

Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Time: 12 noon

Location: Mercer School of Theology

See full description under the date April 10.

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## School for Ministry

[BI]

Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018

Time: 8:30 am – 4 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

See the full description for this gathering under the date of March 17.

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## Stewardship of Church Property

[LL/C]

Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018

Time: 9 am – 12 pm

Location: St Ann and the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn

A half day workshop for Parishes in Brooklyn and Queens

This workshop will prepare wardens and clergy for the complex tasks of stewarding parish property. Content will include an overview of what it means to steward parish property, with an overview of the four key aspects of managing real property: maintenance; capital improvements; leasing; and real estate development. We will also look at setting parish goals and objectives, managing parish expectations and communications, and managing interactions with developers, vendors, general contractors and other project stakeholders.

A separate workshop will be held for parishes in Nassau and Suffolk Counties on a future date.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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## Commission on Ministry Opening Event for Seekers

[BI]

Date: Thursday, April 26, 2018

Time: 6 pm – 8:30 pm

Location: Mercer Library

The evening is the next step in discernment for those exploring a call to ordained ministry. Seekers and their companions meet with the Commission on Ministry for orientation and scheduling of the year's journey.

*For more information contact the Bishop's Office.*

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## May

### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Episcopal Backstory Series: A New Diocese for Long Island

[P]

Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2018

Time: 12 noon

Location: Mercer School of Theology

See description under the date April 10.

### Clergy Conference 2018

[C]

Date: May 1-3, 2018

The annual Clergy Conference of the Diocese of Long Island invites the deacons, priests, and bishops serving in the Diocese to gather for prayer, learning, and fellowship. The location of the Conference and information on theme and leader(s) will be provided to all clergy in a timely manner. Registration information will also be provided at that time. The Conference provides a unique moment annually of enrichment and celebration for those who serve the Church as ordained leaders.

*For information, contact the Bishop's Office.*

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### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Episcopal Backstory Series: A New Diocese for Long Island

[P]

Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Time: 12 noon

Location: Mercer School of Theology

See description under the date April 10.

## The Annual Robert Farrar Capon Lecture [P]

Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018  
Time: 6 pm Reception; 7 pm Lecture  
Location: Mercer School of Theology

### Science & Faith in Harmony: Creation, Science, and The Saint John's Bible,

Presented by Anton M. Koekemoer, Ph.D.,  
Hubble Astronomer

Dr. Koekemoer is a research astrophysicist with the Hubble Space Telescope and has been on its scientific staff for over 20 years. His main research interests include the formation and growth of galaxies and black holes in the early universe and across cosmic time. He is also a committed Christian whose faith plays a central role in his life, and he considers the universe to be one of the ways in which God has chosen to reveal His glory to humankind, so that is possible for our Christian faith to be reconciled in harmony with our scientific understanding of the universe.



For more information, visit  
[www.incarnationgc.org/grow/adult-ed](http://www.incarnationgc.org/grow/adult-ed)

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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## School for Ministry [BI]

Date: Saturday, May 12, 2018  
Time: 8:30 am – 4 pm  
Location: Mercer School of Theology  
See the full description for this gathering under the date of March 17.

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## 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Episcopal Backstory Series: A New Diocese for Long Island [P]

Date: Tuesday, May 15, 2018  
Time: 12 noon  
Location: Mercer School of Theology  
See description under the date April 10.

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## Racism Awareness Program (RAP) [P/C]

Date: Saturday, May 19, 2018  
Time: 10 am – 4 pm  
Location: Mercer School of Theology

See the full description for this gathering under the date of February 24.

*Class size is limited. There is no fee for this event.  
Lunch will be provided.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

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## Ministry Resource Day Two part workshop to build skills in Stewardship and Discipleship [C/LL]

Date: Saturday, May 19, 2018  
Time: 9:30 am – 4 pm  
Location: Mercer School of Theology

A two-part workshop to build up clergy and congregational leaders. Each session will be given twice during the day.

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

## Building Your Stewardship “A” Team

The Rev. Suzanne M. Culhane

Leadership is as fundamental to Stewardship as Bread and Wine are to the Holy Eucharist. Come for a lively session on identifying and cultivating the right Stewardship leaders for the spread of the Kingdom of God. Learn to recruit, empower, and equip your team for both institutional and spiritual success. Focusing on annual giving, we will walk through the critical areas of relationship with money, living in abundance, leadership by example, responsible goals setting, and top best practices. Please come with an open heart and prepared for active participation!

## Invite Welcome Connect

The Rev. Canon Claire Woodley and the IWC Team

Build a pro-active missional approach to discipleship and church growth. The training invites imagination and community engagement as it covers how to build a church culture that invites seeking people, deeply incorporates a welcome ministry into your church life, assists new folks in getting connected to a meaningful relationship with God, and nurtures them as new church members. Come ready to practice, dream and plan!

## Baccalaureate Service "Mass on the Grass"

Date: Saturday, May 19, 2018

Time: 11 am

Location: Cathedral of the Incarnation

Please join the entire diocese in recognizing and blessing our high school seniors as they prepare to transition to their next phase of life. This will be an opportunity to thank our seniors for their gifts, talent and service in their parishes and our diocesan ministries. Seniors will have time to connect with friends from across the diocese and learn about campus ministries and our Episcopal ministries for young adults.

*For more information, contact Canon Myra Garnes, Director of Youth Ministry at 516-248-4800, ext. 118 or [mgarnes@dioceseli.org](mailto:mgarnes@dioceseli.org).*

## June

### School for Ministry

[BI]

Date: Saturday, June 9, 2018

Time: 8:30 am – 4 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

See the full description for this gathering under the date of March 17.

### Safe Church Training

[P]

Date: Saturday, June 16, 2018

Time: 9 am – 3:30 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

See the full description for this gathering under the date of February 10.

*Class size is limited. There is no fee for this event.*

*Lunch will be provided.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

### Parish Administrators Day

[BI]

Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Time: 9:30 am – 3 pm

Location: Mercer School of Theology

Parish administrators and bookkeepers are once again invited to join together for fellowship and appreciation. This day, which is repeated by popular demand, will help the attendees to step back to allow God to speak and nourish their souls. Provided with gratitude for the commitment, skill, and daily effort of parish administrators across the Diocese of Long Island.

*Lunch will be provided.*

[TO REGISTER CLICK HERE](#)

*For information visit the Mercer website or call 516-248-4800, ext. 140.*

## How to Host a Safe Church Training at Your Parish?

There are instances in which trainings may take place off-site of the Mercer School Campus. There are a number of trainers authorized by the Diocese of Long Island to travel to your parish and lead an onsite training session. In total, trainings usually last between 4-5 hours accommodating no more than 40-50 people. The trainer's fee is \$400. Parishes may not charge participants for these sessions, so you may want to partner with a neighboring parish to share the cost. During sessions, a member of clergy, staff, or vestry should be available for pastoral purposes or if any questions or concerns regarding your specific parish context arise.

Parish training sessions will be listed online on the diocesan and Mercer website's calendars, and are open to all members of the diocese. Host parishes handle the registration process, and may give priority to their own parishioners.

*If you are interested in this option, please email Safe Church Coordinator Aissa Hillebrand at [ahillebrand@dioceseli.org](mailto:ahillebrand@dioceseli.org)*

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## THE REV. J. CLARENCE JONES LIBRARY

### of the Mercer School of Theology

The Mercer School is the home of the Jones Library and the Diocese of Long Island Archives. Named for the Rev. James Clarence Jones, a beloved presbyter in the diocese from 1890 to 1942, the collections of the library are particularly strong in exegesis and church history, and they are the finest for the study of the Anglican Communion in the New York metropolitan area. There are two library catalogs: one for general materials ([Mercer.tlcdelivers.com:8080](http://Mercer.tlcdelivers.com:8080)) and another for ebooks and audiobooks ([Mercerebooks.lib.overdrive.com](http://Mercerebooks.lib.overdrive.com)). Reference materials and special collections do not circulate, but most materials can be borrowed. Subject to the closure of the library space for meetings, the Jones Library is generally open and staffed when the Mercer School offices are open. Circulation is by application to the Librarian, and it is subject to the conditions agreed upon by those who apply to circulate.

New to the Jones Library in 2017, the Archives collects documents pertaining to the Episcopal Church on Long Island from the 17th century to the present, with specific emphasis on the churches, ordinaries, clergy, and laity of the Diocese of Long Island. Of particular note in the archives are 18th and early 19th century books and documents associated with various persons and churches in the diocese and an extensive collection of periodicals published by the diocese from the 19th century to the present. Researchers should note that, although processing is underway, at this time most archival collections are closed or are unprocessed, and so not available for consultation. Use of the archives is by appointment with the Historiographer.

Canon Charles Egleston  
Librarian and Historiographer  
516-248-4800 ext. 139  
Email: [cegleston@dioceseli.org](mailto:cegleston@dioceseli.org)

**Check the Mercer School  
website calendar for updated  
info and events.**

**[www.mercerschool.org](http://www.mercerschool.org)**

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## WORSHIP AND STUDY

### The Chapel of the Good Shepherd

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd lies at the heart of the Mercer School. Attendance at Chapel services is a vital expression of the corporate life of the Mercer community as well as a means of assisting each individual in his or her spiritual formation. It is hoped that all who study at Mercer will avail themselves of the Chapel and its services and will assist in their conduct.

The Chapel of the Good Shepherd is always available for quiet meditation and prayer and is open to groups wishing to gather together to pray morning/evening or other prayer services.

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## INCLEMENT WEATHER

Since members of the faculty and students at Mercer come from many locations throughout the Diocese, occasions when the weather is threatening or hazardous will vary within the area. Each instructor will have the responsibility of deciding whether or not to cancel his or her class in the event of inclement weather and the instructor will make every effort possible to contact students in the event that such a cancellation takes place.

Note that whenever the Bishop's Office is closed due to poor weather, Mercer School will close as well.

When cancellation becomes necessary Mercer School will make every attempt to communicate the news to all those registered for any affected gathering. Please assure that in registering, your contact information is provided and is correct and up-to-date.



*O God, who created all peoples in your image, we thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of fellowship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

— Prayer for the Diversity of Races and Cultures,  
Book of Common Prayer (1979)