

After cerebral bleed, bishop-elect Paula Clark returns to work

by [Dawn Araujo-Hawkins](#) in the [March 23, 2022](#) issue



(Courtesy of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago)

Paula Clark returned to work on March 7 in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, following a cerebral bleed in April 2021.

In December 2020, Clark became both the first Black American and the first woman to be elected bishop of the Diocese of Chicago. Her ordination and consecration were postponed while she recovered.

In an open letter, Anne B. Jolly, president of the diocese's standing committee, said Clark will initially work only 20 hours a week, incrementally increasing her hours each month.

“As the Standing Committee and I have been talking with Paula and preparing for her return, I have come to admire her even more than I did on the day that we elected her,” Jolly continued. “Her unshakable faith in Jesus Christ, and the grace and determination that flows from it, are a powerful example to us all.”