



Cathedral Church of the Nativity
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September 21, 2021

Dear Friends in Cathedral Land,

I am writing to let you know that I have communicated to the wardens and vestry and have asked our Bishop to approve my prayerful decision to take retirement as offered through the Church Pension Group (I became eligible after 30 years of service this summer). This decision therefore means that I will resign from my duties as the Dean and Rector of this wonderful Cathedral community. My last Sunday will be November 28th.

Those closest to me in life know that this is a discernment that has been in my prayers and planning for some time and part of my "CREDO PLAN", (A Church Pension Group vocational retreat resource I was pleased to serve on faculty for many years). The scriptures remind us that "for everything there is a season", and for this next season of my vocation and life, I look forward to developing and offering my skills to help non-profits discern, strategize, and implement their goals. I begin that work in December.

Serving this Cathedral community for the majority of my ordained life has been the greatest privilege of my professional and spiritual journey. The last 14 years you have been amazingly faithful, imaginative, and dynamic. You have re-imagined the mission of the Cathedral, pursued and lived out ministry that changes people's lives, and have brought immeasurable joy to one another and all. What you do now of course is to continue. Continue on meeting the stranger, feeding the hungry, offering hospitality to the needy, pursuing the vision for our campus, and making Christ known! I will also grieve greatly no longer working so wonderfully with the amazing staff of this Cathedral, because we have become a family. You, together with them, are an amazing team of faithful disciples.

Felicia, Dillon, Bella, and I have been blessed many times over and we will remain joyous in our hearts for our time with you. As our pastoral relationship ends and we take leave, please understand the professional standard of separation that allows for new vision and leadership to emerge. In the immediate, please know that our hearts will be yours always, and from afar we will be loving you and praying for your next Dean.

Bishop Kevin has reached out in support not only to me but to our wardens and will soon meet with the vestry to prayerfully and carefully provide pastoral presence and resource for next steps in Cathedral leadership. Please join me in giving good thanks to the Bishop for his pastoral leadership in this time. Richard Sause and Karen Boksan, your vestry wardens, lead a dedicated, faithful, and competent vestry. They will need your prayers, support, and encouragement in the days ahead. You will be hearing more from them soon.

I have nothing but love in my heart for all of you. Please know this is bittersweet for my family and me yet filled with goodness and love for our many years together, as we have celebrated the love, grace and mercy of God through Jesus Christ.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left from the top of the first letter.

The Very Rev. Anthony R. Pompa
Dean and Rector