

June 14, 2013

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity Cathedral,

“I was glad when they said to me, ‘Let us go to the house of the Lord.’” (Psalm 122:1)

Nearly ten years ago, I was exceedingly glad to be called to go and lead God’s people in the particular house of the Lord that is Trinity Cathedral. As some of you may already know, my tenure as your Provost will conclude on June 30th. Bishop McConnell has asked me to work with him on the diocesan staff in a newly created position as the Canon Missioner, starting July 1st.

Although I am quite excited to begin this new ministry with our diocese, I have very mixed emotions about leaving the wonderful friendships, pastoral relationships, and various ministry efforts that have been the crux of our time together. Throughout these nine and a half years we’ve shared together, the Holy Spirit has been working in obvious and subtle ways to form and fashion us more and more into the people that God desires us to be in following Jesus Christ as his disciples. You have blessed me in countless ways in my spiritual and professional development. I will always be grateful for the privilege I’ve had in sharing many significant moments in your lives – the really good and joyful times of births, baptisms, and marriages and the more challenging times of illness, difficulties, and deaths.

Corporately we’ve journeyed together through the cleaning of our building, the final phase of the burial ground restoration, the formation of a partnership with Shepherd’s Heart to address some of the needs of the homeless, the transition back to full parish status, the adoption of our ‘Special Resolution’ to navigate through the tragic split in our diocese and finally, our decision to fully re-affirm our place with The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. We have shared laughter and tears, hard work and easy conversations, and God has been in our midst through it all. I’m convinced that much that has happened in our time together has been deep and significant, some of it perhaps even eternally.

I will continue to serve as Provost until the end of this month. Fr. Tim Hushion will then take over the helm as Priest-in-Charge. Be assured of my continuing prayers for you in the weeks and months ahead and know that I am very thankful for your prayers and support for me and Trinity during this time of transition.

May Christ Jesus bless, guide, and prosper us and our beloved Trinity Cathedral!

Yours in Christ’s love,

The Rev. Canon Dr. Catherine M. Brall