

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN NORTHERN ILLINOIS

THE DIOCESE OF CHICAGO

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Office of the Bishop

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CELEBRATING
AND SHARING
OUR FAITH

Dear Friends,

After two days of careful and prayerful deliberation, at our meeting on September 18th, the House of Bishops acted to consent to the deposition of Robert Duncan as Bishop of Pittsburgh. We did so with a deep awareness of the weightiness of such an action and with concern for the people of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Our decision was based on the evidence presented to us of actions taken over recent months and years that constitute what our church canons describe as "abandonment of the communion of this church," actions which have sought to remove the Diocese of Pittsburgh from the Episcopal Church. It is important to say that the deliberations of the House of Bishops on this matter were conducted with respect for one another and with expressions of care for all involved, including in particular Robert Duncan and his family.

The mission of our church is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the good news of God's love at all times and in all places, even in the midst of painful decisions and consequences. I invite your prayers for all God's people in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and for the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church.

In Christ,

Jeffrey D. Lee
Bishop of Chicago