

COURTESY RESOLUTION
The Reverend Canon James Harlan

WHEREAS, James Harlan began his service as Canon for Evangelism of the Diocese of Southern Virginia in 2021; and,

WHEREAS, he brought to our diocese a wealth of experience, having served as parish priest in several dioceses, a board member of Forward Movement, adjunct faculty member at Iliff Theological Seminary, chaplain in the Naval Reserve, and a variety of positions in the dioceses in which he was resident prior to his ministry in Southern Virginia; and,

WHEREAS, James assisted congregations and vestries with various aspects of congregational development, including strategic planning, leadership development, and Mutual Ministry Reviews; and,

WHEREAS, he was a great resource to assisting our bishop in the launch of The Diocesan Congregational Development Institute, a formation initiative aimed at training clergy and lay teams from a congregation to undertake a two-year journey to learn and develop new skills for church leadership as well as personal and professional growth; and,

WHEREAS, he brought great energy, expertise, and enthusiasm to his work and ministry; and,

WHEREAS, he was a wonderful colleague to fellow diocesan staff members and clergy; and,

WHEREAS, he was supported in his work by his faithful wife Elizabeth; and,

WHEREAS, in 2023 he accepted a call to serve as the Dean of the American Cathedral in Paris, a giant step toward fulfilling a dream of one day living in retirement in France; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia offers its deep thanks to James Harlan for his dedication and service to our diocese; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be given to James as a gesture of appreciation for a job well done.

COURTESY RESOLUTION
The Reverend Canon Roy Hoffman

WHEREAS, Roy Hoffman began his service as Canon to the Ordinary of the Diocese of Southern Virginia in 2019; and,

WHEREAS, he ably served first Bishop Jay Magness, then Bishop Susan Haynes in this capacity; and,

WHEREAS, he began his time with us during a period of leadership transition followed closely by the immense challenge of navigating the rocky waters of the COVID pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, he served as a Navy Chaplain for 20 years prior to coming to our diocese; and,

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Roy assisted more than sixty congregations in their searches for new clergy leadership; and,

WHEREAS, the significant shortage of clergy seeking a new call has made the ministry of transition increasingly challenging, Roy, along with our bishop and diocesan staff, created a culture where our diocese is perceived across the country as being a very positive and healthy place to live into one's ordination vows; and,

WHEREAS, he dealt skillfully with matters of clergy discipline while at the same time provided invaluable support and guidance to clergy and congregations experiencing various degrees of conflict; and,

WHEREAS, Roy was highly valued by his colleagues on the diocesan staff; and,

WHEREAS, in 2024, Roy transitioned himself to the phase of ministry known as 'retirement'; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this 133rd Annual Council of the Diocese of Southern Virginia offer its deep thanks to Roy Hoffman for his dedication and service to our diocese; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be given to Roy as a gesture of appreciation for a job well done.