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# Grounded in Christ Growing Anew!

August 26, 2025

## A Letter from the Bishop about an Upcoming and Significant Staff Transition

Dear friends,

I write to inform you of an upcoming and significant transition on the diocesan staff, which will happen at the end of this year. After a very long period of reflection, conversation, and discernment, the Rev. Canon Kimberly “Kim” Karashin will be stepping away from her position on the diocesan staff. The journey that has led her to make such an important decision is best expressed through her own words, which you can read below.



It is difficult for me to find the numerous and appropriate words needed to express my deep gratitude to Canon Kim for her faithful service to our diocese. Hence, I will not attempt to do so at this time. Later, however, I will ask you to join me in offering her our thanks and best wishes. For now, I simply commend you Canon Kim’s letter.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read '+ Ketlen A. Solak'.

The Rt. Rev. Ketlen A. Solak, D.Min.  
IX Bishop of Pittsburgh

Dear friends,

Earlier this summer, I shared with Bishop Ketlen my desire and intention to step away from my position as Canon to the Ordinary for Transitions and Clergy & Congregational

Care at the end of this year. This was the culmination of a years-long period of discernment, aided by my spiritual directors and a few close friends.



As some of you know, I joined the diocesan staff while still a layperson, nearly 10 years ago, and I have spent the entirety of my ordained ministry thus far serving in the Bishop's Office. I have learned much during this time, and I hope that I have made some meaningful contributions to the life and work of the Diocese.

I have sensed a strong call, though, to experience my priestly ministry, and to live it out, in a different way. I'm not yet sure what that will look like. It has been difficult, while supporting so many parish and clergy transitions, to peer that far into the future of my own transition. But I will be watching and listening for God's guidance in the months ahead and am confident that God will lead me where God wants me to be.

In the meantime, I remain committed to serving the Diocese well through the remainder of this year. Further, I will be working closely with Bishop Ketlen and Canon Joann to ensure that those parishes I have begun guiding through a period of transition will continue to receive a high level of support beyond year's end.

I am humbled and grateful that Bishop Ketlen – and Bishop Dorsey before her – saw fit to entrust to me a role on the diocesan staff. I am also grateful to have had the opportunity to work with so many incredible people – from my colleagues in the Bishop's Office, to members of our governing bodies, to lay and ordained leaders across our footprint. I look forward to continuing to serve the Diocese, albeit in a different way, and I ask for your prayers as my husband Jerry and I move forward into this season of change and uncertainty.

Faithfully,

*Kim +*

The Rev. Canon Kimberly Karashin

