



July 17, 2020

The Very Reverend James A. Kowalski, former Dean of the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, has reached an Accord with the Right Reverend Ian T. Douglas, Bishop of Connecticut, regarding allegations of inappropriate sexual contact with a young woman under his pastoral care and oversight. The charges enumerated in the Accord include Sexual Misconduct and Conduct Unbecoming a Member of the Clergy. The behaviors which led to the allegations, the disciplinary process, the investigation, and the Accord all occurred more than thirty years ago, when Dean Kowalski was a young priest serving parishes in the Diocese of Connecticut. During the fifteen years that he served as the Dean of the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine, no allegations against him of inappropriate sexual behavior were ever received by the Board of Trustees of the Cathedral, nor by the Bishop of New York. We remain proud of his exemplary performance as Dean of our cathedral, and of the spirit with which he cooperated with the investigation in the Diocese of Connecticut.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andrew M L Dietsche", with a small cross symbol to the left of the first letter.

The Right Reverend Andrew M L Dietsche
Bishop of New York
Chairman of the Board of Trustees, the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine