

CR-3 The Ven. Jeffrey “David” Curtis

Whereas, Ven. David Curtis has served as Archdeacon of the Diocese of Virginia from 2019-2023; and

Whereas, Ven. Curtis was instrumental in ensuring Deacons assigned to parishes in the Diocese of Virginia, beginning in January of 2022, were able to receive compensation at the rate of \$25 a month and applicable assessments to the Church Pension Group (CPG) making Deacons eligible to access benefits through CPG, benefits such as CREDO conferences that address spiritual, physical, and financial well-being, life insurance, and resettlement compensation, which previously had been denied Deacons; and

Whereas, Ven. Curtis demonstrated effective and pastoral responses during the COVID pandemic, dedicating himself to the needs of the Community of Deacons ensuring there were virtual opportunities to gather together for fellowship, prayer and worship, and encouraging folks to continue to serve the needs and concerns of the world while sharing the hope and love of God in new and unprecedented ways; and

Whereas, Ven. Curtis demonstrated wisdom in understanding the needs of Deacons and those they serve in their parish setting, guiding priests and lay ministers through the discernment and placement process of a deacon in their midst; and

Whereas, Ven. Curtis encouraged the continuing formation of deacons and promoted strength in unity by gathering the Community of Deacons together for liturgical days of learning and fellowship, and was instrumental in the creation of the first Deacons’ Handbook in the Diocese of Virginia; and

Whereas, Ven. Curtis’ passion for raising up the diaconate in Virginia inspired him to create the annual Day of the Deacon, an opportunity for all interested to gather for a day of learning about the diaconate, hearing from deacons about their ministry in the church and the world, and guiding folks through the life of a deacon from discernment through retirement; and

Whereas, Ven. Curtis modeled the prophetic call of the Deacon through actions of witness, in particular organizing the Community of Deacons to stand together in solidarity at the microphone of Annual Convention when The Rev. Christine Garcia, Deacon amplified the hopes, needs, and concerns of those who are incarcerated and called the Diocese into action; and

Whereas, the Community of Deacons will miss his wise counsel and his sense of humor while Archdeacon, they will remain grateful for his care and compassion, and for his inspiration to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus in the public square; now therefore, be it

Resolved, that the 229th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia honors and thanks Ven. Jeffrey “David” Curtis for his ministry as Archdeacon; and

Be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be provided to Ven. Curtis and that it be recorded in the minutes of the 229th Annual Convention.

Submitted by The Ven. Holly Hanback, Archdeacon of the Diocese of Virginia on behalf of the Community of Deacons