

# **Canon for Safe Churches**

## **ADOSC Diocesan Council – February 12, 2026**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warm greetings to you! Thank you for taking the time to hear about the work your Canons are doing on behalf of ADOSC.

Since our last meeting (in December 2025), the office of Safe Churches has continued to work with our remaining churches to ensure all annual compliance letters have been submitted. Also, churches are continuing to train their clergy, vestries, employees and volunteers using the Praesidium videos. It is encouraging to see churches working proactively on this.

Our Child and Youth Protection Policy Manual has undergone significant changes over the past year; as a result, we have notified every church that the manual is being reissued in its entirety. Everyone who currently has a manual should remove and discard all pages of the original manual, and then print the new manual and cover and insert it in your binder.

In late February, I will be spending a few days in the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic, reviewing my activity there from 2025 and training a team of DOMA clergy and lay investigators to pick up some of the work in their area.

Currently, I am working on 2 investigations in DOMA and 1 investigation in ADOSC. Additionally, I regularly receive calls and emails from ADOSC clergy and parishioners requesting guidance for issues that occur at our churches. Thank you for your continued prayers and support as this office continues to evolve in 2026. I look forward to working with all of you!

Blessings,

Laura+

The Rev. Canon Laura B. Bowman

Canon for Safe Churches

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