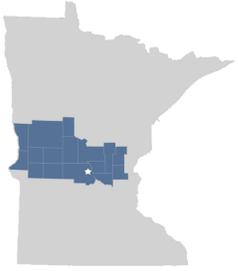


# Bishop Patrick Neary's Ordination



## About the Diocese of St. Cloud

- The Diocese currently includes 131 parishes, divided into shared pastoral ministry within 29 different Area Catholic Communities, with a combined Catholic population of about 125,000.
- There are 27 Catholic elementary schools, 2 Catholic high schools, and 2 Catholic Colleges (St. John's and St. Benedict's) with one Catholic graduate school (St. John's School of Theology.)
- Men and women of 11 different religious communities serve the diocese in its mission.

## About the Bishop

- The Bishop of a Diocese is the pastoral and legal (Church Law) head and representative of a Diocese.
- Bishop Donald Kettler was installed as the the Bishop of the Diocese in November of 2013.
- Bishop Kettler submitted his resignation to Pope Frances on his 75th Birthday, as is the norm for Bishops, on November 26, 2019.
- Bishop-Elect Patrick Neary, C.S.C., will serve as the 10th Bishop of the Diocese of St. Cloud, and will be ordained a Bishop on February 14, 2023.
- Bishop-Elect Neary is a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross, whose desire is, "to make God known, loved and served."

## Discussion and Reflection Questions

During a Bishop's ordination, he is asked a series of questions. These questions are about his guidance of the Church as Bishop, prayer life, obedience to Christ and the Church. He will answer with a simple, "I do" after each one. His last answer will be, "I do, with the help of God." The Bishop ordaining him will reply: "May God who has begun the good work in you bring it to fulfillment."

These discussion or reflection questions for you are adapted from the promises that he makes during his ordination.

- What are the ways in which I/we (as a school community) follow the Holy Spirit in our daily lives?
- How am (are) I/we building up the Body of Christ and the Church?
- How do I/we encourage those around us toward a life of faith and service?

- In what ways do I/we reach out in kindness and mercy to the poor, to strangers, and to all of those in need?
- How do I/we seek out those in my/our community who are lost or in need of attention?
- In what ways do I/we pray?