



Catholic Church

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February 4, 2019

Dear Members of Saint Olaf,

I have spoken to the Archbishop and with the Trustees of St. Olaf. I have shared with them my intention to retire this coming June. I will celebrate my 42nd anniversary of my ordination on June 4, 2019. It is time for me to step aside and let one of the younger generation of priests assume my position.

Some of you know, a year into my priesthood, I was appointed associate pastor here at St. Olaf. I served here for 4 years. My coming back as pastor in 2014, brought my priestly ministry full circle. We have accomplished a great deal together. While St. Olaf has its challenges, I believe it is poised to enter into a new chapter with new leadership who will create a renewed vision to serve the Catholic community and others in downtown Minneapolis.

The Comprehensive Assignment Board of the Archdiocese will begin searching for a new pastor in the next month. After consulting with parish leadership, they will make a recommendation to Archbishop Hebda. He will appoint the new pastor sometime this spring.

I have been grateful these last 42 years to meet many people and be involved in their lives through my ministry to them and their ministry to me. I have had the privilege to collaborate with talented and committed lay people who have ministered with me throughout my career. I will always hold them in high esteem for their service to the Church.

Until June, I will continue my work as pastor. Then, my successor will be appointed and begin his ministry at St. Olaf. Please join me during this time of discernment, in praying for the next priest who will be chosen to lead St. Olaf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick A. Kennedy".

Rev. Patrick Kennedy
Pastor