



VERY REVEREND GODFREY MULLEN, OSB, has been elected Diocesan Administrator of the Diocese of Belleville. In that role, he will be responsible for leading the diocese until Pope Leo XIV appoints the tenth Bishop of Belleville.

The College of Consultors, a diocesan body composed of eight priests, gathered May 9 to elect a diocesan administrator to lead the diocese after the departure of Archbishop Michael McGovern.

Archbishop McGovern had served as administrator from March 31, 2025, when Pope Francis announced his appointment as archbishop of the Archdiocese of Omaha, until May 7, when he took possession of that Archdiocese.

Father Godfrey was raised in the Diocese of Belleville in the town of Salem. He entered the Benedictine monastery of Saint Meinrad Archabbey in 1988 and has served the Diocese of Belleville since 2022. Currently he is the Rector of the Cathedral of St. Peter, the Director of the Office of Worship, pastor of Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady Queen of Peace Parishes, and Moderator of the Curia. He served briefly as the Vicar General of the Diocese in 2025.

Let us pray with and for Father Godfrey. May God grant him wisdom, strength, and the gift of humble service in his prayer and work. Let us pray also for our next Bishop, whoever he may be.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

*May 9, 2025*