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Bishop Cistone to Ordain a new Priest for Diocese

WHAT: Deacon Robert Kelm will be Ordained a Priest

WHEN: 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 6

WHERE: Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption, 615 Hoyt Ave., Saginaw

SAGINAW — On Friday, February 6, the Most Rev. Joseph R. Cistone, Bishop of Saginaw, will ordain Deacon Robert Deacon Kelm to the priesthood. The ordination Mass will take place at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption, 615 Hoyt Ave., Saginaw.

"As my ordination approaches, I am looking forward to celebrating Mass," Deacon Kelm said. "I also look forward to 're-opening the gates of heaven' to people through the Sacrament of Reconciliation."

Deacon Kelm is currently assigned to Prince of Peace Parish in Linwood, Mich. Some of his many duties since being ordained a Transitional Deacon last August include visiting parishioners in hospitals, administering the Sacrament of Baptism, participating in funeral liturgies and writing a column in the weekly parish bulletin. Deacon Kelm received his priestly formation at Holy Apostles College and Seminary in Cromwell, Conn., and concluded his studies at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit, Mich.

Prior to becoming a seminarian for the Diocese of Saginaw, Deacon Kelm earned a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering from Penn State University and a master of business administration degree from Lewis University. He helped build nuclear power plants, worked with fuel cells and worked in other areas of engineering. As an engineer, he traveled to countries all over the world, including Sweden, Poland, Italy, Japan and India. Deacon Kelm is a native of Erie, Pa.

All are welcome and invited to attend the Mass of Ordination on February 6. Those interested in learning more about priestly vocations may contact Rev. Andrew Booms, director of priesthood vocations for the diocese at 989-752-8119 or via email at frandyb@gmail.com.

The Catholic Diocese of Saginaw was established by Pope Pius XI on Feb. 26, 1938. Today, it includes 6,955 square miles across Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Sanilac, Saginaw and Tuscola counties