

TOGETHER

a monthly bulletin insert from the archdiocese



ARCHDIOCESE
of DUBUQUE

Comments regarding this insert may be sent to communications staff by emailing contactus@dbqarch.org or by calling (800) 876-3546 and asking for the director of communications.

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This document is available as a PDF at www.dbqarch.org/together



Archdiocese of Dubuque to host cross-country pilgrimage over Memorial Day weekend

by Jill Kruse-Domeyer

The Archdiocese of Dubuque is honored to host the longest portion of a rare cross-country pilgrimage coming to Iowa this Memorial Day weekend. Deacon Brian Zeman, who is helping coordinate the archdiocese's portion of the national effort, said he believes the pilgrimage will offer a unique opportunity for local Catholics to celebrate their faith and draw closer to Jesus in the Eucharist. "There has never been anything like this before in our archdiocese," Deacon Zeman said, "and it is likely there never will be again."

"Our archdiocese is extremely blessed to be included on the route of the 2025 National Eucharistic Pilgrimage," said Deacon Zeman. "Only 21 dioceses between Indianapolis and Los Angeles were chosen for this honor to host the Blessed Sacrament on this monumental journey."

The eucharistic pilgrimage will begin with a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, May 18, in Indianapolis. It will continue on for more than 3,300 miles on a route named after American-born saint Katharine Drexel before reaching its conclusion in Los Angeles

on June 22, the feast of Corpus Christi. As the pilgrimage passes through the Archdiocese of Dubuque May 23-27, it will make stops at Catholic parishes in eight locations along the way: Dubuque, Dyersville, New Vienna, Petersburg, Cedar Rapids, Tama, Marshalltown and Ames.

On Friday, May 23, the Eucharist will arrive by boat at the Port of Dubuque in Dubuque at 4 p.m. A welcoming service and procession along the Mississippi Riverwalk will follow. The day will end with worship services at the Cathedral of St. Raphael in Dubuque, the newly-renovated mother church for the archdiocese. From there, the Pilgrimage will continue across the Archdiocese of Dubuque over the coming days.

"There will be so many wonderfully diverse events happening across the archdiocese," said Lynne Chapman, adult programs and disability inclusion manager for the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Chapman is working with archdiocesan coordinators, priests and parish representatives to organize hospitality for the local part of the pilgrimage. Chapman said, "The hosting parishes are planning a variety of events, including vespers, eucharistic adoration, morning and evening prayer, eucharistic processions, English and bilingual

Masses, a healing service, simple meals and sacred time spent together in community."

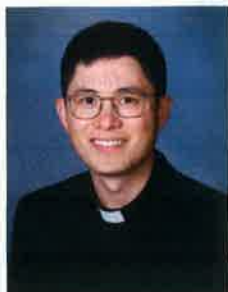
The public is invited to join in the journey as the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage passes through the Archdiocese of Dubuque. A full schedule of pilgrimage events in the archdiocese can be found at dbqarch.org/eucharisticpilgrimage. Registration for the pilgrimage events is helpful for planning purposes at hosting parishes, but it is not required. Registration information can also be found on the Archdiocese website at dbqarch.org/eucharistic-pilgrimage.



Newly Renovated Cathedral to Host the Ordination of Deacon Hùng Văn Lê to the Priesthood

By Cassie Bird

In May, the Archdiocese of Dubuque is celebrating the Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood. The Jubilee will culminate with the Ordination of Deacon Hùng Văn



Deacon Hùng Lê

Lê on May 24, in the newly renovated Cathedral of St. Raphael in Dubuque.

Deacon Hùng was born and raised in a devout Catholic family in northern Vietnam. After earning a bachelor's degree in religious studies in Ho Chi Minh City, he worked for a year before returning to his hometown. There, he spent four years assisting his pastor, which helped him become familiar with the Church's work and discern his vocation to the priesthood. In 2018, he came to the U.S. to enter priesthood formation. He spent three years in Dubuque learning English and studying Philosophy before going on to study Theology at Mundelein Seminary in Chicago, Illinois.

Deacon Hùng's final year of formation has been a rich blend of practical and spiritual growth. He has been serving in a parish, preaching twice a month at the teaching parish, which has helped him to connect theology to real-life ministry. Alongside that, he has continued his theological studies to deepen his understanding of our faith, paired with focused preparation for priestly ministry through sacrament practicums.

He has also worked on his pastoral skills and leadership abilities, learning from formation sessions at the seminary and the wisdom of trusted priests who have guided him. Above all, he has kept nurturing his human and spiritual formation, knowing that growing in holiness is essential to serve well as a priest.

All are welcome to attend Deacon Hùng's Ordination to the Priesthood on Saturday, May 24, or watch via the livestream at dbqarch.org/live-broadcasts.

Prayer for Priests

Gracious and loving God,
we thank you for the gift of our priests.
Through them, we experience your
presence in the sacraments.
Help our priests to be strong in their
vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your
people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding,
and strength they need to follow in the
footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your
Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread
the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their
ministry.

Help them to become instruments of
your divine grace.

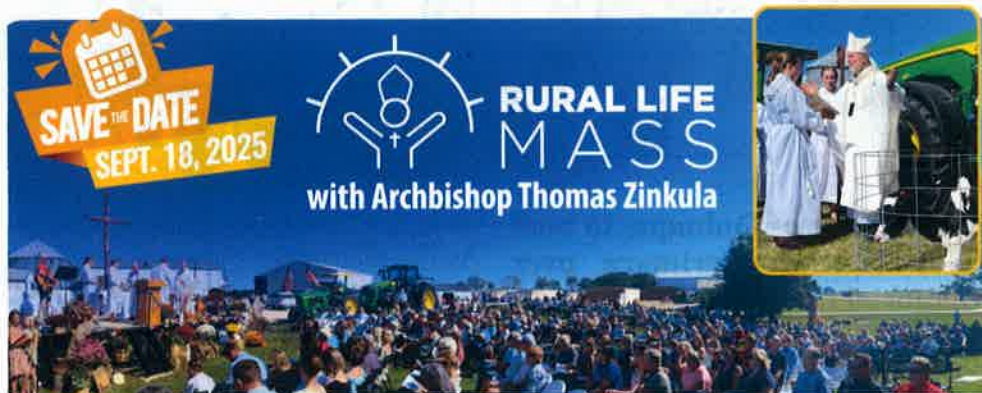
We ask this through Jesus Christ, who
lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

(Prayer for Priests, USCCB)

*Thank you for your prayers for Deacon
Hùng as he approaches Ordination to the
Priesthood.*

Important Archdiocesan Announcements



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

*TOGETHER Publication to be
discontinued as of June 2025.*

The June 2025 edition of *Together* will be the final issue. After careful consideration, the Archdiocesan Communications Office has decided to discontinue this printed bulletin insert and instead deliver the same content through email moving forward.

There are several reasons for this change:

1. Format limitations: The publication has been limited to a double-sided sheet in order to minimize the burden on parishes for printing and stuffing bulletins. This constraint limits how much we can share.

2. Unmeasurable reach: We are unable to accurately determine how many people are reading *Together* in

its current printed form.

3. Limited engagement: We've heard that the publication hasn't gained the traction we had hoped for.

4. Better digital reach: Email allows us to more effectively and directly reach households across the archdiocese.

While we recognize that not every household has an email address, the vast majority do—whether or not they consider themselves tech-savvy. Shifting to a digital format will allow us to share more content with a broader audience in a cost-effective, measurable way.

To receive the same content via email, please sign up at:
dbqarch.org/connect-with-us

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.