

NEWS RELEASE

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Cathedral to break ground this summer for new academic building, housing a chapel, community room, science, engineering, and visual arts.

The Campaign for Cathedral has reached an important milestone! With \$1.4 million yet to raise for Cathedral's \$16.5 million new academic building addition, the school has received approval to begin building this summer. A groundbreaking date has been set for Sunday, August 11th after Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, with construction beginning in early-to-mid August 2019.

In May, members of The Cathedral High School Corporation, with the consent of the Diocesan Finance Council, approved moving ahead with construction of the \$16.5 million new academic building, the first new building for the Cathedral campus in over 50 years.

At this historic groundbreaking announcement today, Bishop Donald J. Kettler said, "The Holy Spirit is working through each of us as we strengthen our St. Cloud area Catholic Community Schools. I am so proud to be standing here today to offer my blessing."

Built between and connecting Cathedral's Historic Center Building and the North gym, this academic building will provide a new chapel and state-of-the-art 21st-century programming spaces for the visual arts, sciences and engineering programs. This building will become the primary entrance to the Cathedral campus on 7th Avenue North St. Cloud and will have views to the Mississippi from a community room and outdoor patio facing 6th Avenue North.

"One of the most common questions surrounding The Campaign for Cathedral over the past two years has been, 'Is it really happening?' It is my profound pleasure to answer this question today with an absolute and resounding YES!" said Cathedral High School Board Chair, Fr. Tom Knoblach '79.

Superintendent of Catholic Community Schools, Lynn Grewing, added, "As we celebrate this incredible announcement, we give thanks to the amazing community that surrounds Cathedral and all of our Catholic Community Schools. You have turned this dream into a concrete vision. Some thought it couldn't be done - I'll admit, there were days when I thought it couldn't be done! - and yet here we are. Thank you, and God bless you all."

Completion of the new academic building is scheduled for August of 2020.

The Campaign for Cathedral seeks to raise \$18.0 million overall, with \$16.5 million designated for the new academic building and \$1.5 million for the eight elementary schools within the St. Cloud Catholic Community Schools (CCS)* system. Upon raising the final \$1.4 million for the new academic building, The Campaign will raise the final \$1.5 million for the elementary schools.

*CCS member schools include: All Saints Academy, St. Cloud; Cathedral; Holy Cross, Pearl Lake; Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Cloud; Saint Francis Xavier, Sartell; Saint Joseph Catholic School, St. Joseph; Saint Katharine Drexel, St. Cloud; Saint Mary Help of Christians, St. Augusta; and Saint Wendelin, Luxemburg.

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