DIOCESE of NEW ULM
Office of the Bishop

1421 6th Street North
New Ulm MN 56073-2071
Tel: (507) 359-2966
Email: bishop@dnu.org

April 18, 2026

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today I am announcing a special *Called by Name* campaign to identify faithful young men in our diocese who, through God's providence, could have a vocation to the priesthood. The campaign will take place on April 25-26, 2026.

As you know, our diocese has a great need for "more workers for the harvest." I firmly believe that our future priests will come from our own parishes and schools, but we need the entire Church to identify them, so that we can accompany them as they discern their vocations.

I invite all Catholics to submit the names of young men that they would like to honor. Note that these men do not need to have expressed a desire to be priests. They simply need to love Christ and the Church, exhibit a strong faith, and have a heart for service.

I will send each one of these young men a letter of congratulations and encouragement, as well as invite them to a special event in the summer. In addition, our Vocation Team will offer support as they discern their vocations, especially by inviting them to join small "discernment groups" and attend various events.

This initiative is near to my heart, and I ask you to participate thoughtfully. And please join me in praying that the Lord will raise up many new shepherds for the Church!

With prayerful best wishes, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

+ Chad W. Zielinski

Most Rev. Chad W. Zielinski
Bishop of New Ulm

plf