

Procedures for Visiting Clerics and for Faith and Morals Speaker Approval

Priests/Deacons/Lay Catholic faith speakers from other dioceses are welcome in the New Ulm Diocese, whether for a single event (i.e., to witness the marriage of a friend or relative; give a presentation) or a lengthy substitution. Prior to beginning ministry or presenting, they must be given permission by the Bishop of New Ulm. The visiting priest/deacon/religious is requested to make his/her request for permission as soon as possible but preferably at least one month prior to the first date the individual will be providing a service or ministry in the diocese. Speakers who are being considered to give a presentation on faith and morals on church property are to be approved prior to the invitation being extended. Catholic parishes and schools cannot promote or sponsor a speaker unless he or she (or the group) is approved, even if the presentation is not being given on church property. (Preliminary contacts, checking availability, etc. are allowed.)

*Note: In the exercise of some ministries, as in a visiting priest/deacon witnessing a marriage, the pastor **must also** give his delegation in addition to obtaining the Bishop's permission. Permission for simple con-celebration can be given at the discretion of the pastor.*

Procedure for Visiting Cleric—Sacramental and Procedure for Mission Co-op Speakers (Clerics, Religious, and Laity)

A request for the approval of permission for a visiting cleric to minister in the diocese is to be made to the diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator as indicated in the introductory paragraph. The approval request form is available online at www.dnu.org and in the forms section of the diocesan Safe Environment Web pages. The diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator makes the initial review of the request, followed by the Bishop's Delegate in Matters Pertaining to Sexual Misconduct, with final approval given by the Bishop. This procedure is not applicable for visiting cardinals and bishops in communion with the Holy See.

1. The visiting cleric or the entity sponsoring the visiting cleric or mission work/efforts presenter is to complete the Approval Request Form for Visiting Clerics and Mission Coop Presenters.
2. A Letter of Good Standing, a testimonial statement, from the bishop/superior of the place of incardination or the organization is to be attached to the Request Form.
3. Mail, fax, or email to the Diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator. Contact information is available at the www.dnu.org Web site.
4. The individual is expected to review the diocesan Safe Environment Policy 13 and Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children and Young People, available online at www.dnu.org.
5. A list of requests along with the accompanying documentation will be reviewed by the diocesan Safe Environment Coordinator, the Bishop's Delegate in Matters Pertaining to Sexual Misconduct, and then submitted to the Bishop for his review.
6. Permission to minister and/or speak on mission work/efforts will be offered or denied, with email notification or a telephone call to the hosting diocesan office/AFC/parish.

Approval for ministry in the Diocese of New Ulm will be for a specified period of time, to be determined in the communication giving approval—typically twelve months or as indicated on letter of good standing.