



Ordination of new Catholic Bishop next week

The Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-elect Greg Bennet as the tenth Catholic Bishop of Sale will take place next Tuesday 8 December at 11am.

The ceremony will be held at St Mary's Cathedral Sale within the current COVID-19 restrictions.

Principal consecrator will be Most Reverend Peter A. Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne assisted by Co-consecrators Most Reverend Denis Hart, Emeritus Archbishop of Melbourne and Most Reverend Patrick O'Regan, Archbishop of Adelaide.

Diocesan Administrator Father Peter Slater said the Diocese would like to have invited more guests and had more clergy participate in the ceremony being COVIDSafe is a key priority at this time.

"Plans are in place for what we hope be a safe, special and memorable occasion for Bishop-elect Greg and the people of the Diocese of Sale," he said.

The livestream will commence at 10.45am with a 'Diocesan welcome' video followed by the ceremony at 11am on the 'Catholic Diocese of Sale' YouTube channel and via the Diocesan website –

www.cdsale.org.au/bishop-ordination-bennet

"I encourage people to watch the livestream and follow along with the ceremony booklet which be available from the Diocesan website."

The current COVIDSafe per metre density allowance caps the gathering to 70 people within the dimensions of St Mary's Cathedral.

There will also be limits on the number of clergy and others involved in the ceremony who can be on the sanctuary at any one time.

The ceremony will have a very small choir compared to previous ordinations, with singers being socially distanced.

Bishop-elect Greg Bennet has served as a priest in a variety of Senior roles in the Archdiocese of Melbourne, including in the role of Vicar General.

He was appointed by Pope Francis to Sale on 27 June 2020 following the previous Bishop of Sale, Patrick O'Regan's appointment to the Archdiocese of Adelaide.

Ends.

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