

Joyful Announcement

The Society of the Divine Savior is happy to share that Fr. Michael C. Neeland SDS was ordained a Salvatorian priest this summer at St. Pius X Church in Wauwatosa, Wisc. Fr. Michael celebrated his first Mass the following day before travelling to his home town parish of St. John the Baptist in Alden, NY, to share his first Mass back home.

Prior to discerning life as a Salvatorian priest, he had been in a L'Arche Community in Tacoma, Wash. where he spent two years living among individuals with, and without, disabilities, in accordance with the beatitudes. "It's life-changing to live alongside people who are different...who society turns its back on," said Neeland. "You begin to see Christ in them. People are broken and saying to you 'come into my life.' You learn unconditional love."

Ten years ago a priestly vocation was not even on Fr. Michael's radar. He had served as a volunteer firefighter/EMT and had worked as a social worker for a nonprofit in Buffalo, N.Y. "It's impossible for me to explain my 'call' but I fought it for a long time," he shared. "I would look at situations and feel something." He sensed God's persistence, and in time answered the call to become a Salvatorian priest. Fr. Michael has been assigned to serve in Campus Ministry at Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) in Melbourne, Fla starting this summer. "My prayer is a prayer of action. I'm looking forward to jumping into my ministry at FIT!"



Fr. Michael C. Neeland SDS Ordained May 27, 2017



Newly ordained Fr. Mike Neeland SDS offers his first blessing to The Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Milwaukee, WI