



## **Bishop-Elect Elias R. Lorenzo, O.S.B. Archdiocese of Newark**

The son of the late William Elias and Mae Theresa Lorenzo, Bishop-elect Elias R. Lorenzo, O.S.B., was born on October 6, 1960, in Brooklyn, NY. He attended St. Agatha Parish Elementary School (Sunset Park) and Cathedral Prep (Fort Green) before pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Don Bosco College Seminary in Newton, NJ.

He entered Saint Mary's Abbey, Morristown, New Jersey, in 1983, making his first monastic profession on March 21, 1985. He was ordained a priest on June 24, 1989. Bishop-elect Lorenzo holds a Master's degree in Liturgical Theology from St. John's University in Collegeville, MN, a Master's degree in Counseling Psychology from Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ, and a Licentiate in canon law from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

Bishop-elect Lorenzo has more than 30 years of experience in secondary school education and administration at Delbarton School, serving as director of campus ministry, teacher and chairman of the Religious Studies Department, member of the Board of Trustees, and Vice President for Development. In his role as educator, he also was engaged with Operation Smile International and served on its advisory board for ten years, traveling on multiple medical missions with Delbarton students to Bolivia, China, Honduras, India, Kenya, Nicaragua, and the Philippines.

In the monastery, Bishop-elect Lorenzo served as Director of Liturgy, Prior of the Abbey and Rector of Church. During this same time, he served as a member and chairman of the Paterson Diocesan Liturgical Commission for twelve years. Following his service as Prior, he was appointed Vicar for Religious in the Diocese of Metuchen. Thereafter, he worked as canonical counsel for Praesidium, Inc. in the development of national safe environment standards and protocols. He currently serves on Praesidium's advisory board.

For the global Benedictine Confederation, Bishop-elect Lorenzo served at Sant'Anselmo, the international Benedictine university in Rome, as Prior of the College. In addition, he worked as Procurator General for the Benedictine Order in Rome. Bishop-elect Lorenzo is a founding member of the International Commission for Benedictine Education, a global association of 180 secondary schools in 36 countries, and to date has served as its President. In this role, he has visited Benedictine schools throughout the United States, Western Europe, South America, Latin America, Africa, Australia, and the Philippines.

In 2016, he was elected Abbot President of American Cassinese Congregation, an association of Benedictine monasteries. Erected by Pope Pius IX in 1855 under the patronage of the Holy Guardian Angels, this monastic Congregation includes 25 monasteries in the United States, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, and Taiwan with 650 monks. The Benedictine monasteries of the American Cassinese Congregation sponsor 9 colleges and universities and 14 secondary schools in North and South America and serve in pastoral ministry in many dioceses in six countries.

As Abbot President of the Congregation, Bishop-elect Lorenzo is a member of the Union of Superiors General, which meets bi-annually in Rome, and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men, which meets bi-annually in various regions of the country and at a national assembly each year.

On February 27, 2020, His Holiness, Pope Francis named Abbot Lorenzo to serve as an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark.