

Senior Priests Status



As you approach your transition in status from Active Priest to Senior Priest, there are specific time sensitive steps you will need to complete.

MEDICARE PART A



If you have not already enrolled in Medicare Part A, this is the **first step** to complete and must be done prior to Senior Priest Status. Medicare Part A covers hospital care and is premium free for enrollees.

You can enroll in Medicare Part A by going to the local Social Security office or online at www.medicare.gov. Medicare Part A will be effective on the 1st of the month following your application.

When you enroll to begin your Social Security benefit, it is mandatory to sign up for Medicare Part A.

MEDICARE PART B



Approximately 2-3 months prior to reaching Senior Priest Status, you should enroll in Medicare Part B by going to the local Social Security office or online at www.medicare.gov. Your Medicare Part B effective date should coincide with your senior status effective date.

When transitioning to senior status, Social Security/Medicare requires confirmation notice signed by the Diocese attesting you were continually covered under the Diocesan Health Plan since your 65th birthday.

Medicare Part B covers doctor visits and diagnostics in addition to **charging a premium**. This **was not required** as an Active Priest due to having coverage through the Diocesan Health Plan.

IMPORTANT NOTE: ONCE YOU'VE APPLIED FOR MEDICARE, PLEASE FORWARD YOUR MEDICARE NUMBER TO SAFS SO WE CAN ENROLL YOU IN THE DIOCESAN SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH PLAN (THE HARTFORD BENISTAR).

SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH PLAN

Senior Priests will also be enrolled in The Hartford Benistar supplemental health plan that provides secondary insurance to Medicare with prescription drug coverage. If you have questions on this, please contact St. Ambrose Financial Services.



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