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CONTACT: Robert Tayek
216-696-6525 Ext. 4460
rtayek@dioceseofcleveland.org

Superintendent of Toledo Catholic Schools chosen to lead Cleveland Catholic Schools
Christopher Knight assumes the role for Margaret Lyons who is retiring

Christopher M. Knight who has served as the senior director of Catholic education/superintendent of schools for the Catholic Diocese of Toledo, Ohio has been chosen to serve as the next secretary for catechetical formation and education, and superintendent of schools for the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland. The current secretary, Ms. Margaret Lyons, announced her retirement earlier this year after serving in this role for over 10 years. Ms. Lyons' retirement is effective at the end of the current school year.

A former teacher and principal in Catholic elementary and secondary schools, and superintendent of Catholic schools in Toledo since 2010, Knight brings significant experience to his appointment in Cleveland. "There are many challenges facing the field of Catholic education today. I look forward to using my depth of experience to ensure that our schools continue to be accessible and formational in the lives of our students," Knight said

A Toledo native and a product of Catholic primary and secondary schools, Knight earned his a bachelor of business administration degree from the University of Toledo. He went on to obtain a master's degree in educational administration from the University of Dayton.

"The future of our Catholic schools represents a major priority for our diocese," said the Most Reverend Richard Lennon, bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland. "I am pleased that Chris has chosen to help us continue to the good work of Margaret Lyons and further strengthen our schools in the teaching of core subjects and catechetical formation of students in our Catholic faith and tradition."

In assuming the leadership of the Diocese of Cleveland schools, Knight takes over a school system that has a day school enrollment of 45,919, ranking Cleveland fifth among Catholic dioceses in the United States, a position held since 2009. With the exception of Los Angeles, with a general population over 11 million and where the Catholic population is growing, Cleveland has out-performed every other top Catholic school system in maintaining Catholic school enrollment.

Knight and his wife, Brenda, have two adult children, Aaron and Ryan. He is expected to begin his new role in July.

About the Diocese of Cleveland:

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland was founded on April 23, 1847. Under the leadership of the Most Reverend Richard Lennon, bishop of Cleveland, it is the 23rd largest diocese in the United States. The diocese encompasses the counties of Cuyahoga, Summit, Lorain, Lake, Geauga, Medina, Wayne and Ashland. There are more than 692,000 Catholics in the diocese, and Catholic Charities-Diocese of Cleveland is one of the largest diocesan systems of social services in the world. There are 185 parishes, 114 Catholic schools, one pastoral center and one mission office within the diocese. The cathedral is the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, located in downtown Cleveland.