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Saint Benedict's Abbey Abbot Election Friday

(KAIR) -- For the first time in 18 years, Saint Benedict's Abbey in Atchison will elect a new Abbot Friday.

This comes as Father Barnabas Senecal has reached his term limit to retire.

(Play Audio) RT: :15

That's Father Jeremy Heppler, who is involved in the election process.

He says in electing a new Abbot, candidates must meet a few qualifications.

(Audio Continues) RT: :14

Eligible voting members even have some worldwide flavor, including priests from the abbey's house in Brazil.

Father Jeremy says the Abbot is the basic superior of the monastery.

(Audio Continues) RT: :28

Heppler says preparations for the vote began Thursday evening with a straw ballot and candidate discussion, and then the voting begins Friday morning.

(Audio Continues) RT: :13

Heppler hopes voters will be able to select a new Abbot by Friday afternoon.

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