

# SOLEMN INSTALLATION

*OF*

THE MOST REVEREND

**MICHAEL M. PHAM**

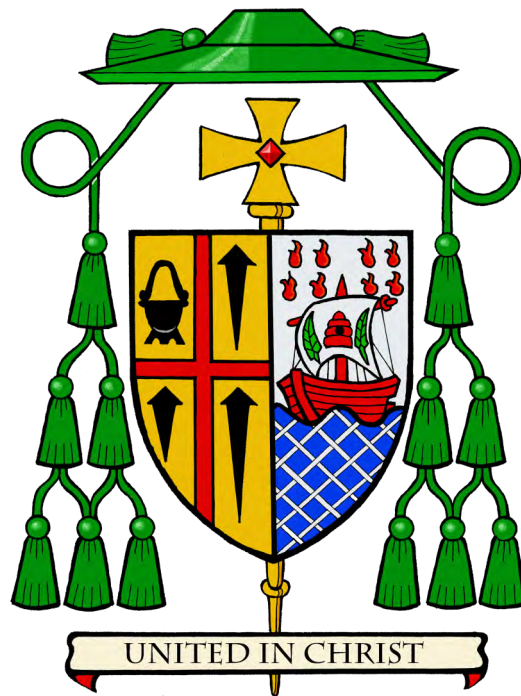
*AS*

**SEVENTH BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO**

*BY*

**THE MOST REVEREND JOSÉ H. GÓMEZ**

**ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES**



THE SEVENTEENTH OF JULY  
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FIVE  
ONE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

SAINT THÉRÈSE OF CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH  
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

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# MINSTERS OF THE LITURGY

HIS EXCELLENCY

**THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL M. PHAM**  
BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO

+++

HIS EXCELLENCY

**THE MOST REVEREND JOSÉ H. GÓMEZ**  
ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES

+++

HIS EMINENCE

**CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE**  
APOSTOLIC NUNCIO TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

+++

HIS EMINENCE

**ROBERT CARDINAL McELROY**  
ARCHBISHOP OF WASHINGTON

+++

HIS EMINENCE

**ROGER CARDINAL MAHONY**  
ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS OF LOS ANGELES

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THEIR EXCELLENCIES

**CONCELEBRATING BISHOPS**

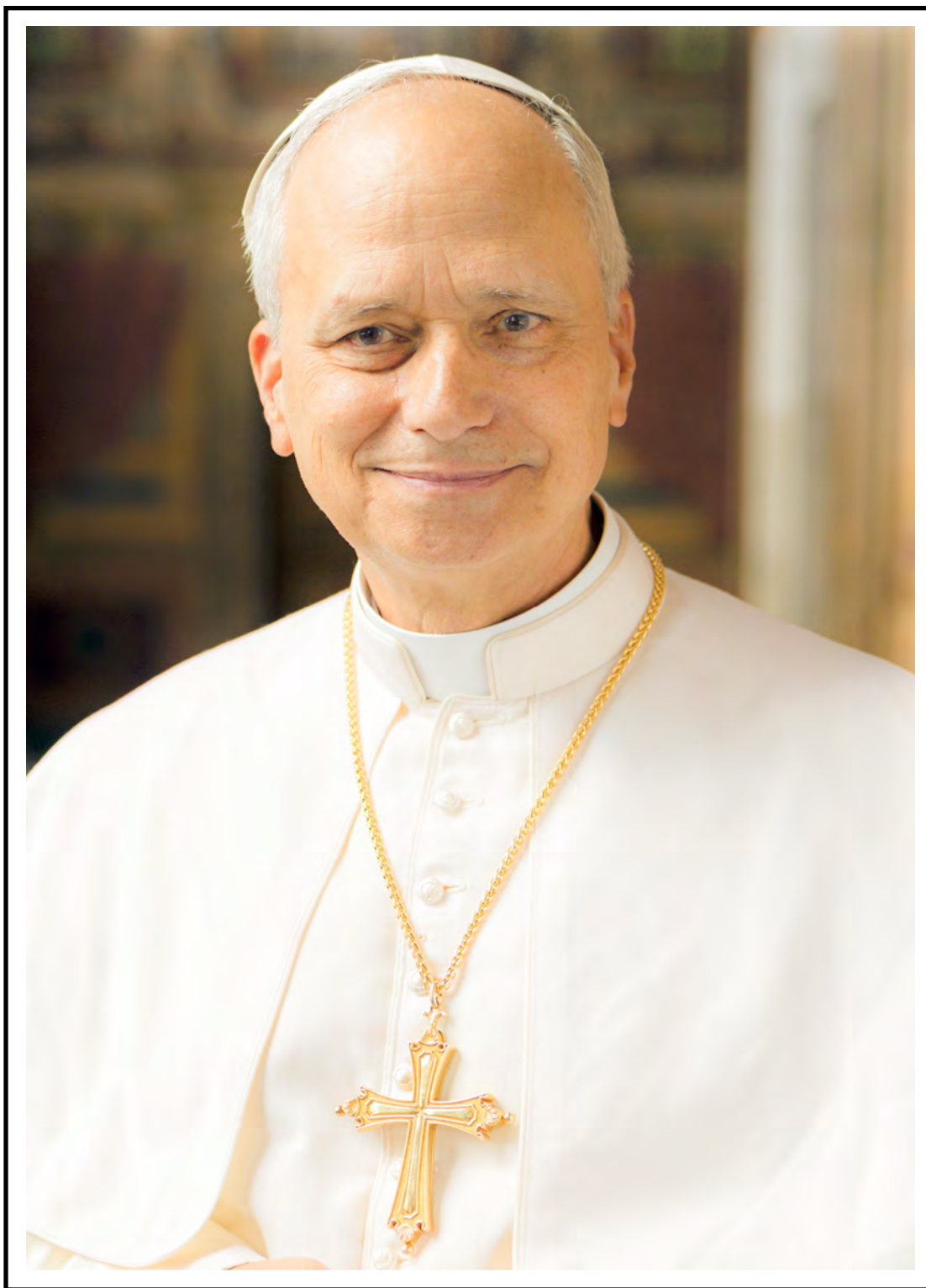
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**CONCELEBRATING PRIESTS**

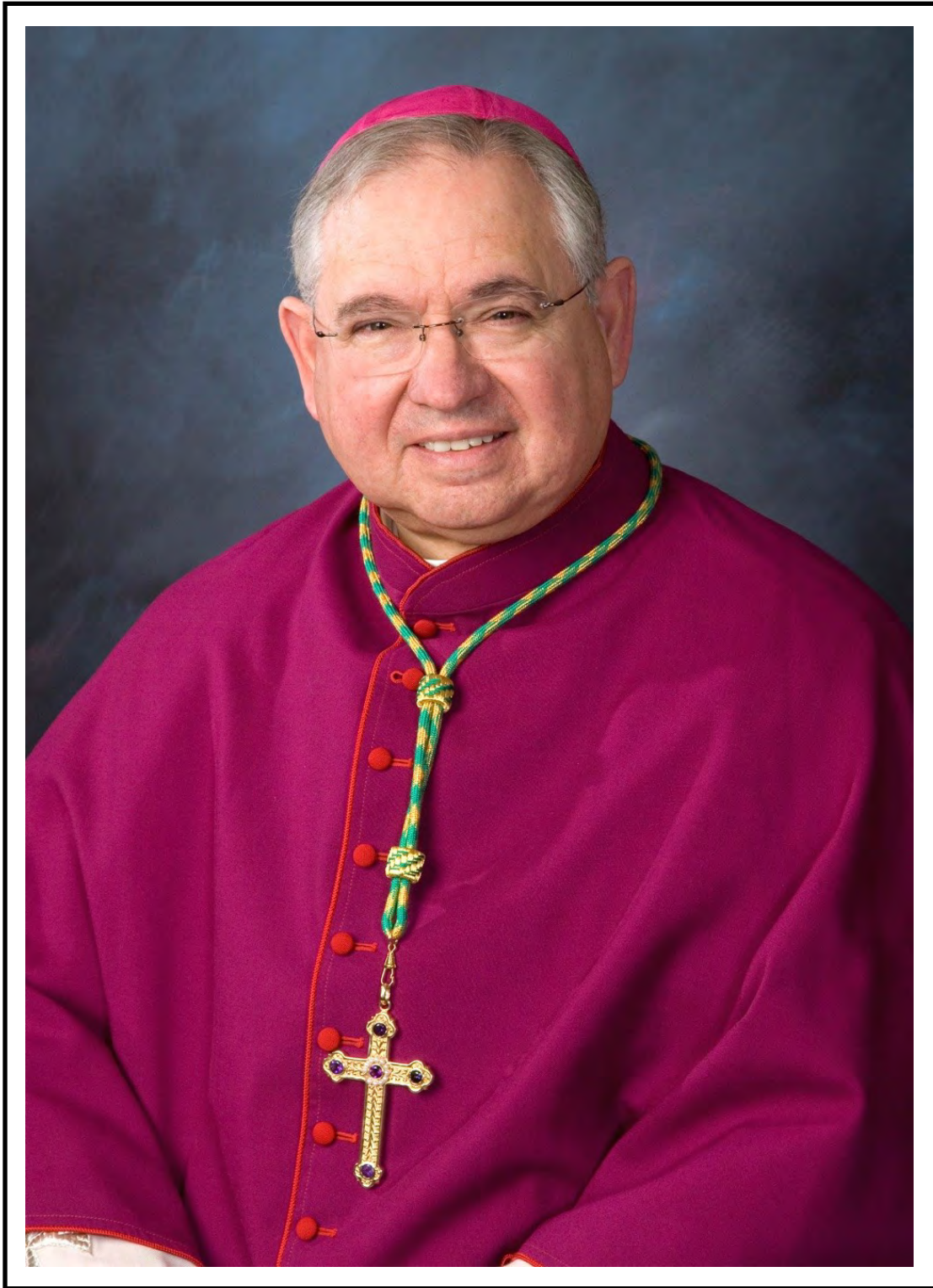
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**ATTENDING DEACONS**





HIS HOLINESS  
**POPE LEO XIV**



HIS EXCELLENCY  
**THE MOST REVEREND JOSÉ H. GÓMEZ**  
ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES





HIS EMINENCE  
**CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE**  
APOSTOLIC NUNCIO TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



HIS EXCELLENCY  
**THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL M. PHAM**  
SEVENTH BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO



## PRELUDE

Ven al Banquete

BOB HURD AND PIA MORIARTY

Sa 'yo Lamang

MANOLING FRANCISCO, SJ

Cao Vời Khôn Ví (The Melody of Fragrant Incense)

HÙNG LÂN

## PROCESSION BEFORE MASS

RIGUADON

ANDRÉ CAMPRA

ECUMENICAL AND INTER-RELIGIOUS LEADERS

KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF PETER CLAVER

KNIGHTS AND DAMES OF MALTA

KNIGHTS AND DAMES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE

ATTENDING DEACONS

CONCELEBRATING PRIESTS

This liturgy is being photographed and videoed by professional photographers. To maintain a spirit of reverence and solemnity, please silence all electronic devices and refrain taking photos or videos during the liturgy. Thank you for your cooperation.

Esta liturgia será fotografiada y filmada por fotógrafos profesionales. Para mantener un espíritu de reverencia y solemnidad, por favor, silencie todos los dispositivos electrónicos y absténgase de tomar fotos o videos durante la liturgia. Gracias por su cooperación.



# THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

## ENTRANCE HYMN

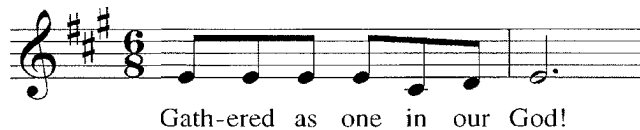
GATHERED AS ONE

DEANNA LIGHT AND PAUL A. TATE

*Cantor:*

1. Many the faces, the young and the old,
2. Many the pilgrims, sharing at feast,
3. Many the voices, raised up in song,

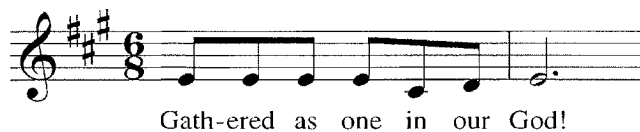
*All:*



*Cantor:*

1. Throughout hist'ry the story's retold,
2. All are welcome the greatest and least,
3. In one fam'ly where all can belong,

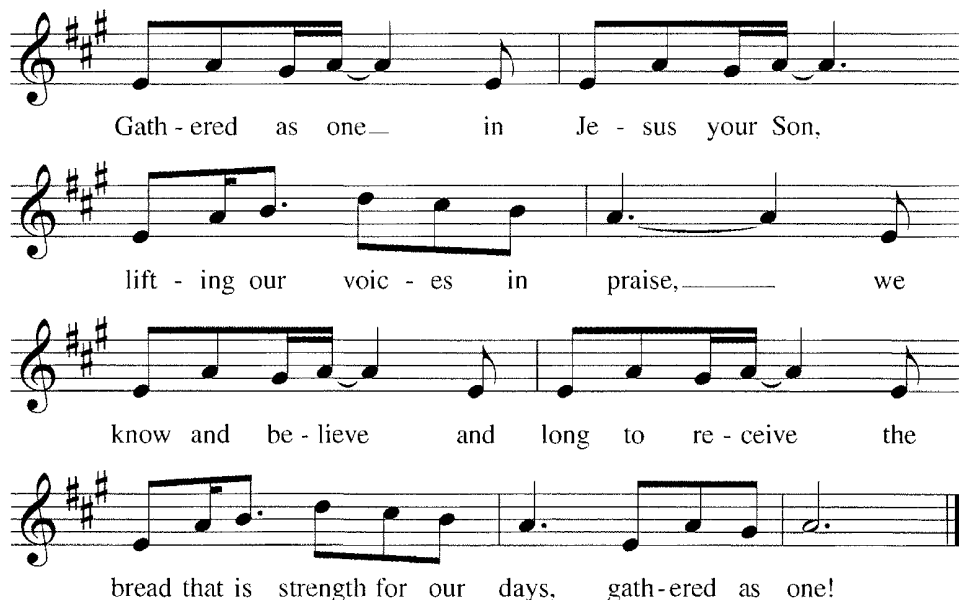
*All:*



*Cantor:*

Like those come before us, we listen and learn.  
We remember the promise and await your return.  
So without hesitation a new generation proclaims the salvation of God!

*All:*



## GREETING

THE MOST REVEREND JOSÉ H. GÓMEZ  
ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES

## SALUTATION

ROBERT CARDINAL MCELROY  
ARCHBISHOP OF WASHINGTON

## RITE OF CANONICAL POSSESSION

### PROCLAMATION OF THE APOSTOLIC MANDATE

THE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO, CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE,  
PUBLICLY READS THE APOSTOLIC MANDATE.

### ACCEPTANCE OF THE APOSTOLIC MANDATE

THE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO ASKS THE BISHOP-DESIGNATE IF HE IS  
WILLING TO ACCEPT THE SEE OF SAN DIEGO, AND HE REPLIES.

ALL RESPOND, "THANKS BE TO GOD."

### PRESENTATION OF THE APOSTOLIC MANDATE

THE COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS INSPECTS THE APOSTOLIC  
MANDATE, CHANCELLOR MARÍA OLIVIA GALVÁN CERTIFIES THE  
INSPECTION, AND THEN THE MANDATE IS PRESENTED TO  
THE PEOPLE.



## SEATING OF THE BISHOP

BISHOP PHAM IS SEATED BY CARDINAL PIERRE AND ARCHBISHOP GÓMEZ AND PRESENTED WITH HIS CROZIER, THE SIGN OF HIS PASTORAL OFFICE, AS THE SEVENTH BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO.

ALL INDICATE THEIR JOY WITH APPLAUSE.

## GREETING OF THE BISHOP BY DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

BISHOP PHAM IS WELCOMED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS, AND LAITY OF THE DIOCESE AND BY RELIGIOUS LEADERS OF OTHER FAITH COMMUNITIES.

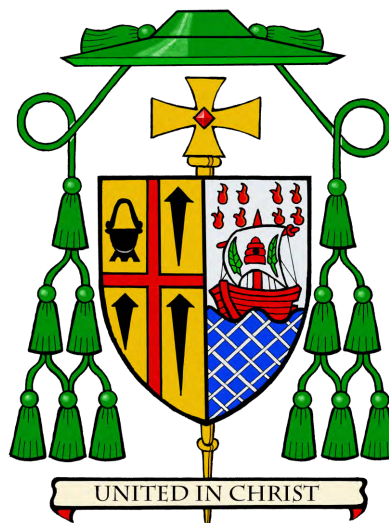
## MOTETS AT THE GREETING OF THE BISHOP

UBI CARITAS

MAURICE DURUFLÉ

I GIVE TO YOU A NEW COMMANDMENT

PETER NARDONE



# GLORIA

MASS OF SAINT ANN, ED BOLDUC

## REFRAIN

Glo-ry! Glo-ry to God in the high-est. Glo-ry! Glo-ry to  
God in the high-est, and on earth peace to peo-ple of good will. *To Verses*

## VERSE 1

1. We praise you, we bless you, we a-dore you, we glo-ri-fy you,  
1. we give you thanks for your great glo - ry, Lord God,  
1. heav-en - ly King, O God, al- might-y Fa-ther. *To Refrain*

## VERSE 2

2. Lord Je-sus Christ, On-ly Be-got-ten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
2. Son of the Fa - ther, you take a - way the sins of the world,  
2. have mer-cy on us; you take a - way the sins of the world,  
2. re - ceive our prayer; you are seat - ed at the right  
2. hand of the Fa-ther, have mer-cy on us. *To Refrain*



VERSE 3

3. For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the

3. Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

3. with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.

FINAL REFRAIN

Glo-ry! Glo-ry to God in the high - est.

Glo-ry! Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and on

earth peace to peo-ple of good will. A - men.

COLLECT



# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING

HECHOS 2, 1–11

WHEN THE TIME FOR PENTECOST WAS FULFILLED, THEY WERE ALL IN ONE PLACE TOGETHER. AND SUDDENLY THERE CAME FROM THE SKY A NOISE LIKE A STRONG DRIVING WIND, AND IT FILLED THE ENTIRE HOUSE IN WHICH THEY WERE. THEN THERE APPEARED TO THEM TONGUES AS OF FIRE, WHICH PARTED AND CAME TO REST ON EACH ONE OF THEM. AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND BEGAN TO SPEAK IN DIFFERENT TONGUES, AS THE SPIRIT ENABLED THEM TO PROCLAIM.

NOW THERE WERE DEVOUT JEWS FROM EVERY NATION UNDER HEAVEN STAYING IN JERUSALEM. AT THIS SOUND, THEY GATHERED IN A LARGE CROWD, BUT THEY WERE CONFUSED BECAUSE EACH ONE HEARD THEM SPEAKING IN HIS OWN LANGUAGE. THEY WERE ASTOUNDED, AND IN AMAZEMENT THEY ASKED, “ARE NOT ALL THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE SPEAKING GALILEANS? THEN HOW DOES EACH OF US HEAR THEM IN HIS NATIVE LANGUAGE? WE ARE PARTHIANS, MEDES, AND ELAMITES, INHABITANTS OF MESOPOTAMIA, JUDEA AND CAPPADOCIA, PONTUS AND ASIA, PHRYGIA AND PAMPHYLIA, EGYPT AND THE DISTRICTS OF LIBYA NEAR CYRENE, AS WELL AS TRAVELERS FROM ROME, BOTH JEWS AND CONVERTS TO JUDAISM, CRETANS AND ARABS, YET WE HEAR THEM SPEAKING IN OUR OWN TONGUES OF THE MIGHTY ACTS OF GOD.”

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

SALMO 88/89: CANTARÉ ETERNAMENTE

MARY FRANCES REZA

Can - ta - ré e - ter - na - men - te

las mi - se - ri - cor - dias del Se - ñor. For ev - er I will

sing the good - ness of the Lord.

To verses Final



## SECOND READING

1 CÔRIN-TÔ 12, 3B–7.12–13

BROTHERS AND SISTERS: NO ONE CAN SAY, “JESUS IS LORD,” EXCEPT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. THERE ARE DIFFERENT KINDS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS BUT THE SAME SPIRIT; THERE ARE DIFFERENT FORMS OF SERVICE BUT THE SAME LORD; THERE ARE DIFFERENT WORKINGS BUT THE SAME GOD WHO PRODUCES ALL OF THEM IN EVERYONE. TO EACH INDIVIDUAL THE MANIFESTATION OF THE SPIRIT IS GIVEN FOR SOME BENEFIT. AS A BODY IS ONE THOUGH IT HAS MANY PARTS, AND ALL THE PARTS OF THE BODY, THOUGH MANY, ARE ONE BODY, SO ALSO CHRIST.

FOR IN ONE SPIRIT WE WERE ALL BAPTIZED INTO ONE BODY, WHETHER JEWS OR GREEKS, SLAVES OR FREE PERSONS, AND WE WERE ALL GIVEN TO DRINK OF ONE SPIRIT.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*MASS OF SAINT ANN, ED BOLDUC*



## GOSPEL

JOHN 10:11–16, 27B–30

## HOMILY

THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL M. PHAM  
BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO



# UNIVERSAL PRAYER

DAO-KIM NGUYEN AND RUFINO ZARAGOZA, OFM



FOR THE CHURCH: THAT THROUGH THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE MAY ENLARGE THE SPACE OF OUR TENT TO WELCOME THE DIVERSE FACES OF CHRIST IN OUR COMMUNITY.

FOR OUR HOLY FATHER, POPE LEO XIV: THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL FILL HIM WITH GOOD COUNSEL TO LEAD THE CHURCH AS THE SUCCESSOR OF PETER AND THE VICAR OF CHRIST ON EARTH.

FOR BISHOP PHAM, THE SEVENTH BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO: THAT HE MAY BE FILLED WITH EVERY GRACE AND BLESSING AS HE BEGINS HIS MINISTRY AS OUR COMPASSIONATE, GOOD SHEPHERD.

FOR WORLD LEADERS: THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL FILL THEM WITH THE FEAR OF THE LORD TO PROMOTE WORLD PEACE AND UNITY AMONG ALL NATIONS.

FOR OUR NATION: THAT WE WILL BE FILLED WITH THE GIFTS OF UNDERSTANDING AND FORTITUDE TO ADVOCATE FOR THE PROTECTION AND DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE FROM CONCEPTION TO NATURAL DEATH.

FOR IMMIGRANTS, REFUGEES, AND THOSE FLEEING PERSECUTION: THAT THROUGH THE WISDOM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE MAY WELCOME THEM AND OFFER THEM A PLACE AT THE TABLE.

FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM NATURAL DISASTERS, ILLNESS, ANXIETY, INCARCERATION, LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT OR SHELTER, AND FOR THOSE WHO MOURN: THAT THE MERCY OF GOD WILL BRING THEM COMFORT, HEALING, AND RESOLVE.

FOR AN INCREASE IN VOCATIONS: THAT THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, WE WILL SEEK TO HEAR AND ANSWER THE UNIVERSAL CALL TO HOLINESS.

FOR ALL THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US IN FAITH: THAT THEY MAY BE WELCOMED AT THE HEAVENLY BANQUET.



# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

ANG KATAWAN NI KRISTO

RICKY MANALO, CSP

Verses



1. In the pres - ence of our God, as we gath - er here in  
We have come to break the bread; we have come to share our

2. When we gath - er in our homes, through our prayers and our  
In the house - hold of the Lord, where we come to share the

3. In the pres - ence of our God, by the jus - tice that is



1. Christ, feel the Spir - it breathe up - on us, the  
lives. Let us bring these fruits to the ta - ble, the

2. meals, we are fed and nour - ished to - geth - er, our  
meal, we are fed the words of our Sav - ior, one

3. shown, we will build a king - dom to - geth - er; the



1. breath of life, graced and di - vine. 1. mine!  
love of God, yours and 2. healed.  
2. fam - i - lies, bro - ken and blessed. 3. all!  
fam - i - ly, strength - ened and  
3. love of Christ giv - en to

Refrain



Ang ka - ta - wan ni Kris - to, ang ka - ta - wan ni Kris - to.



Be - hold, the Bod - y of Christ! Je - sus, our Sav - ior and Life!



Re - joice, O Peo - ple of God! We are the Bod - y of

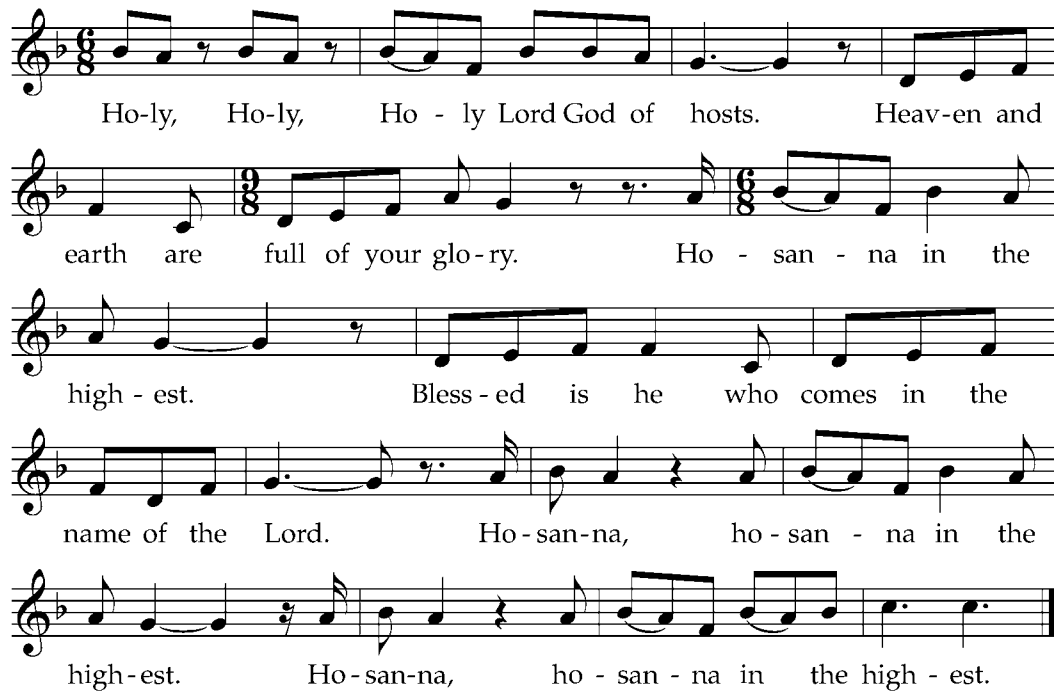


Christ! Christ! Be -



# SANCTUS

MASS OF SAINT ANN, ED BOLDUC



Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and  
earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na, ho-san - na in the  
high-est. Ho-san-na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

# MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

MASS OF SAINT ANN, ED BOLDUC



We pro-claim your Death, O Lord, and pro-fess your Res-ur-rec-tion  
un-til you come a - gain, un-til you come a - gain.

# AMEN

MASS OF SAINT ANN, ED BOLDUC



A - men, a - men, a - men.  
A - men, a - men, a - men.



# COMMUNION RITE

LORD'S PRAYER

SIGN OF PEACE

AGNUS DEI

*MASS OF SAINT ANN, ED BOLDUC*

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the  
world, have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a-way the sins of the world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

UBI CARITAS

BOB HURD

U - bi ca - ri - tas est ve - ra, est ve - ra:  
De - us i - bi est, De - us i - bi est.



# Tâm Tình Hiến Dâng

OANH SONG LAM

Refrain



English What re - turn could I make? Could I ev - er re - pay? With my  
 Vietnamese Biết lấy gì cảm mến. Biết lấy chi báo đền hồng ân  
 (Biet luh-ee zee cahm mehn. Biet luh-ee chee bah-oo dehn huh-ohm uhn  
 Spanish ¿Có - mo pue - do pa - gar al Se - ñor su bon-dad? E - se a-  
 life, O God, may I love as you have loved!  
 Chúa cao vời Chúa đã làm cho con.  
 Choo-uh cah-oo vuh-ee Choo-uh dah lahm chaw kaw-n.)  
 mor que Dios da, a - bun - dan-te y sin i - gual.



## Vietnamese Verses

1. Thương con từ ngàn xưa, một tình yêu chan chứa và chọn con đi làm đuốc sáng chiếu soi trần gian. Cho con say tình mến và này con xin đến. Một đời trung trinh làm muối đất ướp cho mặn đời.
2. Trao cho con lời Chúa. Dù đời con hoen úa, nguyện đời con đem Lời chân lý đến cho mọi nơi. Ra đi đây nguyện ước và này con gieo bước. Nguyện đời con đem nguồn yêu mến đến cho mọi người.
3. Chân đi đạp đổ non, biển đời bao sóng gió. Người đỡ nâng con dù nguy hiểm vẫn ở cùng con. Yêu thương làm hành trang, ngọn đèn tin thấp sáng. Một đời vui như đàn chim hót suốt reo đầu ngàn.
4. Xin cho con bình an, và đầu cao mắt sáng, cuộc đời con đi làm chứng tá Chúa trên trần gian. Xin cho con nghèo khó cuộc đời bao nguy khó. Đời hạnh phúc con là chính Chúa gia nghiệp trọn đời.

## Spanish Verses

1. Desde antes que naciera yo me has amado y llamado para alumbrar, pues permite que me dedique a ti: ser la luz para el mundo y su sal.
2. Aunque sea yo pecador, oh Dios, ilumíname con tu palabra y verdad, y pueda sembrar en la tierra tu mensaje de justicia y de paz.

## English Verses

1. From the ancient days you had chosen me as your torch of light and love throughout the world. Be my guide, my flame as I step in faith, and lay down my life as salt for all the earth.
2. Though my life is marred I've received your Word, to proclaim to all the world your love and truth. This desire and dream frames the path I walk; may I sow your Gospel seed along the road.
3. As the sea of life pounds with waves and storms, you will hold and lift me high from every harm. Love sustains my soul to endure by faith; my heart sings, with every bird, a joyful song.
4. Grant your servant peace, for I'm summoned now; as your witness, make my life a gift of love. On this weary path, grant me poverty; you alone are my inheritance and joy.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION



# CONCLUDING RITES

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

SOMOS EL CUERPO DE CRISTO

JAIME CORTEZ AND BOB HURD

Refrain: All

So-mos el cuer-po de Cris-to. We are the bod-y of  
So-mos el cuer-po de Cris-to. We are the bod-y of

Christ. He-mos o - í - do el lla - ma-do; we've an-swered  
Christ. Tra - e - mos su san-to men - sa - je. We come to

1 2 to Verses Final  
Cantor Cantor

"Yes," to the call of the Lord.  
bring the good news to the world. 3. Que world.

Verses  
Cantor All

1. Dios vie-ne al mun-do a tra - vés de no-so-tros.  
mun-do a cum-plir la mi-sión de la I-gle-sia,  
2. Ca - da per - so - na es par-te del rei-no;  
To - das las ra - zas que ha-bi-tan la tie-rra,  
3. nues-tras ac - cio - nes re - fle-jen jus-ti - cia;  
Va - mos al mun-do a cui - dar su re-ba - ño. } So-mos el cuer-po de

Cantor

1. God is re-vealed when we love one an-oth - er.  
Bring-ing the light of God's mer-cy to oth - ers,  
1-3. Cris-to. } 2. Put - ting a stop to all dis-crim - i - na - tion,  
All are in - vit - ed to feast in the ban-quet.  
3. Stop-ping a - buse and re - liev-ing the hun - gry,  
Serv - ing each oth - er we build up the king-dom;

All 1 2 to Refrain  
Cantor Cantor

1-3. We are the bod - y of Christ. } 1. All  
2. Christ.  
3. Christ.

## POSTLUDE

NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

SIGFRID KARG-ELERT



THE MOST REVEREND  
**MICHAEL M. PHAM**  
SEVENTH BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO



BIRTHDATE:	JANUARY 22, 1967
BIRTHPLACE:	DA NANG, VIETNAM
SEMINARY:	SAINT PATRICK'S SEMINARY, MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA
ORDAINED:	JUNE 25, 1999, DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO
APPOINTED AUXILIARY BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO:	JUNE 6, 2023
CONSECRATED:	SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
APPOINTED BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO:	MAY 22, 2025

Born in 1967 in Da Nang, Vietnam, Bishop Pham and his family experienced many challenges and hardships during the Vietnam War and, subsequently, as refugees. In 1975, when he was eight years old, his family boarded a rice cargo barge to flee the advancing North Vietnamese Army. They spent several days at sea, with neither food nor drinking water. He experienced terrible seasickness and saw many bodies on the floor of the barge. “I thought they were sleeping,” he said, “but I came to realize that they were dead.” Bishop Pham considers it “a moment of grace” that his entire family made it safely. The day after they docked, the family learned that the North Vietnamese Army was on the cusp of taking over the city. So, almost immediately, they headed even farther south. They lived in a small town called Lam Son. His father was a fisherman but struggled to provide for their large family. The parents decided to flee the oppressive regime of Vietnam.

In 1980, with his older sister and a younger brother, he fled to Malaysia aboard a small boat packed with more than 115 passengers. He was 13 years old. At sea for three days, the boat was pursued by authorities of the Communist government, pummeled by massive waves and even boarded by pirates. A collision with the pirate ship damaged the refugees’ boat, splitting the bow almost in half. Miraculously, the family survived.

He, along with a sister and brother, lived in a refugee camp in Malaysia for about seven months before they were sponsored by an American family and relocated to Blue Earth, Minnesota, in 1981. They were joined there a few months later by another sister. In 1983, his remaining four siblings and parents arrived. The family moved to San Diego in 1985, attracted by the warmer weather they had experienced during a visit to relatives there.

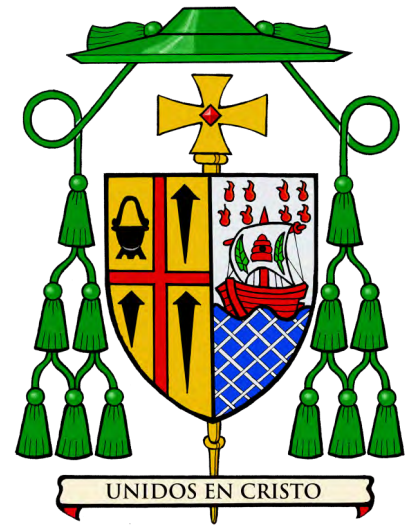
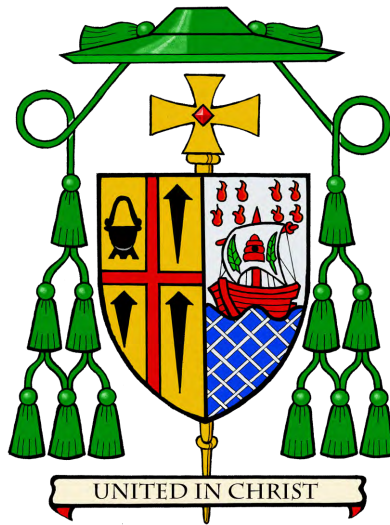
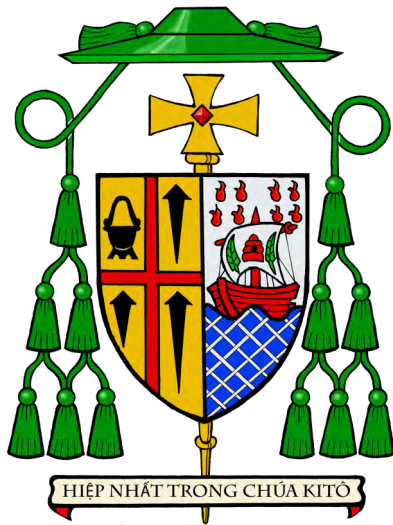
He graduated from San Diego High School and San Diego State University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering in 1992. While in his junior year of college, he took a philosophy class that inspired him to think more deeply about the purpose of life and what was most important. After graduating and beginning a career as an aerospace engineer, he felt like “something was missing” in his life. But he experienced joy and peace as a volunteer catechist at his parish, Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Mira Mesa.

He began his priestly formation at Saint Francis Center, located on the campus of the University of San Diego, and completed his theological studies in 1999 at Saint Patrick’s Seminary in Menlo Park, California, earning a Baccalaureate degree in Systematic Theology and a Master of Divinity. He was ordained to the priesthood on June 25, 1999. He completed a Master of Science in Psychology in 2009. In 2020, he completed his Licentiate degree in Sacred Theology, with a specialization in New Evangelization.

Bishop Pham has served as associate pastor of Saint Mary Star of the Sea Parish in Oceanside; diocesan vocations director; and pastor of Holy Family Parish in Linda Vista, Saint Therese Parish in Del Cerro, and Good Shepherd Parish. He has also served as vicar for clergy; vicar for ethnic and intercultural communities, a role in which he developed the multilingual Pentecost Mass for All Peoples, held annually since 2018; and as a vicar general of the diocese, a position that authorized him to act as the bishop’s representative in diocesan administration. He was appointed an auxiliary bishop of San Diego on June 6, 2023. In March 2025, after Robert Cardinal McElroy left for the Archdiocese of Washington, Bishop Pham was elected to serve as diocesan administrator until a new bishop was named.

Pope Leo XIV, in his first United States appointment, on May 22, 2025, named Bishop Michael M. Pham as the Seventh Bishop of San Diego, the first Vietnamese-American bishop to lead a diocese.





## COAT OF ARMS OF THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL M. PHAM SEVENTH BISHOP OF SAN DIEGO

**BLAZON:** Arms impaled. In the dexter: Or, a cross throughout Gules between in the dexter chief quarter a Spanish stew pot and in the other three quarters a nail all Sable (San Diego) In the sinister: Per fess wavy Argent and Azure; in base fretty Argent; in chief a fishing boat Gules with a sail unfurled Argent charged with a beehive Gules flanked by two palm branches to dexter and sinister Vert; in chief eight tongues of fire all Gules. Shield ensigned with an episcopal cross Or behind the shield and a bishop's galero Vert cords and twelve tassels disposed in three rows of one, two and three all Vert. On a scroll below the shield the motto: “Hiệp Nhất trong Chúa Kitô”.

**EXPLANATION:** The Bishop's coat of arms, is composed of a shield upon which there are symbolic charges, a motto and the external ornaments of rank. The shield which is the most important feature of any heraldic device is blazoned (i.e. described) in heraldic language from the point of view of the bearer with the shield being held on his arm. Thus, where it applies, the term “dexter” (right) and “sinister” (left) are reversed as the device is viewed from the front.

By heraldic custom observed in North America, the arms of a diocesan bishop are “impaled” side by side on the same shield to the arms of his jurisdiction, in this case, the Diocese of San Diego. This signifies that the diocesan bishop is “married” to the See. The same method of impalement is employed in the coat of arms of two married people who are armigerous.

The coat of arms of the See of San Diego is composed of a gold (yellow) field and symbols of San Diego (Saint Didacus in Latin), the diocesan patron saint. Diego was born to poor Spanish parents shortly before the year 1400. His love of poverty never left him. As a Franciscan brother he was a selfless servant of the poor and was known to heal the sick with the Sign of the Cross, the central charge of the diocesan coat of arms. The Spanish stew pot in the upper left quadrant indicates Diego's boundless charity and tireless efforts to feed the hungry. San Diego had a special devotion to the Lord in his Passion, symbolized by the three nails in the other three quadrants. Diego died on November 12, 1463, at the Franciscan monastery in Alcalá, Spain, pressing a

crucifix to his heart and repeating the words of the Good Friday chant: “Dulce lignum, dulce ferrum, dulce pondus sustinet” (Precious the wood, precious the nails, precious the weight they bear).

The personal coat of arms assumed by Bishop Pham when he was made Auxiliary Bishop in 2023 combines symbols that are meaningful to him. The shield is divided horizontally to depict a silver (white) sky above a blue wavy ocean. The ocean is criss-crossed by diagonal lines in order to create a pattern suggestive of a fisherman’s net. It represents that after 1975 while still living in Vietnam the bishop’s father became a fisherman to provide for his family. In addition, the net indicates not only the task of an apostle (or a successor to an apostle) of being a “fisher of men” but it also alludes to the New Evangelization where we are exhorted to put out into the deep (Duc in Altum). This symbolizes both the bishop’s priestly and episcopal ministry.

In the upper part of the shield the boat also alludes to the work of a fisherman. In addition, a boat, in heraldry, is often used as a symbol of the Church itself, often referred to as the barque of Peter, who was himself, a fisherman. On the sail of the boat in the center is a red beehive flanked by two green palm branches. The beehive is a symbol of Saint John Chrysostom, the bishop’s baptismal patron saint who was renowned for his inspiring preaching. So, he was known as a “honey-tongued” preacher. The palm branches are an ancient symbol of martyrdom. The bishop’s family comes from the first diocese in the north of Vietnam where his ancestors were among the first martyrs for the faith in that part of the world.

On either side and above the boat are eight red tongues of fire. They are symbols of the Holy Spirit which descended on the Apostles as tongues of fire at Pentecost. This was the beginning of their ministry to go out into the world to preach the Gospel so it is another symbol of Evangelization. Several flames represent a diversity of communities. Bishop Pham strengthened the cultural communities found in the diocese and shared them with the larger Catholic community. He has served as Episcopal Vicar of the Office of Ethnic and Intercultural Communities. So, symbols of the Holy Spirit were seen to appropriately reflect this ministry. It also reflects how, on Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended, people from different places, languages and cultures heard the Apostles speaking in their own languages. The red of the boat, the beehive and the tongues of fire is a further allusion to the blood of the martyrs.

The motto below the shield is, “Hiệp Nhất trong Chúa Kitô” which means “United in Christ” in Vietnamese.

The shield is also ensigned with the external ornaments of a bishop. The gold (yellow) cross is placed vertically behind and extending above and below the shield. This is often mistakenly thought to be a processional cross like those used in liturgical processions which is not correct. In former times archbishops, and later all bishops, had a cross mounted on a staff carried immediately in front of them while in procession or on solemn occasions. This cross was a symbol of their rank as bishop. While such an episcopal cross is no longer used practically it has been retained heraldically. In fact, other clerics make use of the ecclesiastical hat with its many tassels but the one true heraldic emblem of a bishop, and the only essential one, is the episcopal cross placed behind the shield.

Above the shield is the ecclesiastical hat, called a galero which replaces the martial helmet, mantling and crest. “The hat with six pendant tassels (green, purple or black) on each side is universally considered in heraldry as the sign of prelacy. It, therefore, pertains to all who are actually prelates.” (Heim, Bruno B., *Heraldry in the Catholic Church*, 1978, page 114) The galero is green with green cords pendant from it and twelve green tassels arranged in a pyramid shape on either side of the shield. At one time in history bishops and archbishops wore green before adopting the Roman purple we see today. In heraldry the green hat and tassels was retained for prelates with the rank of bishop according to the Instruction of the Secretariat of State, “Ut Sive” of March, 1969.

The armorial bearings of Bishop Pham were originally designed in 2023 and have also now been marshaled to the arms of the See of San Diego and blazoned and rendered again by the Rev. Guy Selvester a priest of the Diocese of Metuchen, New Jersey.

June, 2025



# FORMER BISHOPS OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

1936 – 1966	MOST REVEREND CHARLES F. BUDDY
1966 – 1969	MOST REVEREND FRANCIS J. FUREY
1969 – 1990	MOST REVEREND LEO T. MAHER
1990 – 2013	MOST REVEREND ROBERT H. BROM
2013 – 2014	MOST REVEREND CIRILO FLORES
2015 – 2025	ROBERT CARDINAL MCELROY



## COAT OF ARMS OF THE DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

The usual Symbol of San Diego (Saint Didacus) is the Spanish *caldera* or stew-pot, to indicate his boundless charity, the Saint having often denied himself food in order to feed the poor and hungry. This cooking pot appears frequently in Spanish heraldry, and is familiar in the arms of the Guzman (Saint Dominic's) family.

Saint Didacus had a special devotion to the Passion of Christ and died repeating the words of the chant: “Dulce lignum, dulce ferrum, dulce pondus sustinet” (Sweet the wood, sweet the nails, sweet the weight they bear). This characteristic of the Saint is symbolized by the three nails of the Passion.

## ESCUDO DE ARMAS DE LA DIÓCESIS DE SAN DIEGO

El símbolo generalmente usado para el santo patrón de esta diócesis, San Diego de Alcalá, es una caldera que indica su caridad sin límites; muchas veces se privaba de alimentos para dar de comer a los pobres y necesitados. Esta caldera aparece con frecuencia en blasones españoles, y es familiar en el de la familia de Santo Domingo de Guzmán.

San Diego de Alcalá tenía especial devoción a la Pasión de Cristo y murió repitiendo las palabras del himno: “Dulce lignum, dulce ferrum, dulce pondus sustinet” (Dulce madera, dulces clavos, dulce el peso que sostienen). Esta característica del santo está simbolizada por los tres clavos de la Pasión.

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DEACON OF THE WORD	DEACON JIM VARGAS
DEACON OF THE EUCHARIST	DEACON JOHN VU
MASTER OF CEREMONIES	REVEREND EFRAÍN BAUTISTA
ALTAR SERVERS	ZENY DIOMINO NICHOLAS DUNN VOIE GABRIEL NOREEN MCINNES JOHN MURCKO MIGUEL SOLIS CAROLYN STURZ
LECTORS	MARIOLY GALVÁN HUONG PHAM
GIFT BEARERS	MEMBERS OF THE PHAM FAMILY
MUSIC MINISTRY	CATHERINE MARSHALL, DIRECTOR EMMA WHITTEN, ORGANIST LUPE RIOS, PSALMIST AND CANTOR CARLOS DE ALBA, CANTOR MATTHEW IGNACIO, CANTOR VI PHUNG SALAZAR, CANTOR SAINT THÉRÈSE OF CARMEL CHOIR VIETNAMESE CHOIR MEMBERS OF SAN DIEGO
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YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO GREET BISHOP PHAM  
AT A RECEPTION IN SAINT THÉRÈSE OF CARMEL PARISH HALL  
FOLLOWING THE SOLEMN INSTALLATION.

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