



# Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

## *Archbishop of Adelaide*

9<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
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Dear sisters and brothers,

### **RE: Election of our New Pope – His Holiness Pope Leo XIV**

Grace and peace, I hope this note finds you well.

Early today Pope Leo XIV emerged from the Balcony of St Peter's Basilica signifying the beginning of a new Papacy with the words "Peace be with you."

The new Pope, Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost OSA is an American Cardinal of the Catholic Church, born on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1955 in Chicago, Illinois. He is a member of the Order of Saint Augustine (OSA), and was ordained a Priest in 1982. Pope Leo XIV has a background in canon law and has served in various international roles, including as a Missionary and Bishop in Peru, where he was appointed Bishop of Chiclayo in 2015.

In 2023, Pope Francis appointed him Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, placing him in charge of overseeing the selection of Bishops worldwide. He was made a Cardinal on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023.

Our prayer today in the Archdiocese of Adelaide is one of thanksgiving to God for providing a good Shepherd for us all. He will be a Shepherd who walks before us and with us helping us to bring the joy of the Gospel to all people especially those on the margins of our society.

I met the new Pope several times at the Synod on Synodality last year. He has a vast experience of working in many parts of the world and a profound knowledge of the Church and a deep Augustinian spirituality that will guide the Church in faith, hope and love.

To assist Parishes and Communities with marking this occasion information has been forwarded from Dr Simone Brosig for liturgical celebrations.

We take this opportunity to pray for our new Pope Leo XIV and for the Universal Church.

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful,  
look favorably on your servant Pope (name),  
whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd;  
grant, we pray, that by word and example  
he may be of service to those over whom he presides so that,  
together with the flock entrusted to his care,  
he may come to everlasting life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

*(Collect For the Pope, RM p. 1304)*

God bless Pope Leo XIV and his ministry of communion.

In Domino,

+ Pat O'Regan

+Patrick O'Regan

**Archbishop of Adelaide**