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Bishop Golka's statement on the election of Cardinal Robert Prevost as Pope Leo XIV

COLORADO SPRINGS. Bishop James Golka issued the following statement in response to the election of Cardinal Robert Prevost as Pope Leo XIV on May 8:

“I welcomed the news that the Chair of St. Peter is no longer vacant and that Cardinal Robert Prevost has been elected the 267th pope of the Catholic Church, taking the name Leo XIV. It is a truly historic and beautiful moment when a new Vicar of Christ is chosen to continue the unbroken line of apostolic authority that stretches back more than 2,000 years. It is also remarkable that he is the first pope from the United States. I am grateful to the 133 cardinals who participated in the conclave, and I trust that the grace of the Holy Spirit was at work during this process. I ask all the faithful to join me in praying for the new pope as he assumes the tremendous responsibility of the papal office. During this month of May, we also entrust our new pope to the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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