



Simla Chandigarh Diocese

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Circular-Information

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings!

This was the moment filled with grace and reverence when Pope Leo XIV - (Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost) was elected the 267th Pope to succeed late Pope Francis in Rome.

His election marks a series of firsts: he is the first American and the first member of the Augustinian order to ascend to the papacy. Born in Chicago in 1955, Cardinal Robert's journey to the Vatican's highest office reflects a life dedicated to service, humility, and cross-cultural ministry.

His message was clear: The Church must be a beacon of dialogue and charity in a divided world.

Pope Leo XIV recalled the words of St Augustine: "For you I am a bishop; but with you I am a Christian." Pope Leo XIV also directed a few words to the Church of Rome, now his new pastoral home, and expressed gratitude to his former diocese in Chiclayo, Peru, where he served before his election. He led the congregation in prayer, beginning with the Ave Maria, invoking Mary's intercession for the Church and the world.

In a powerful message, the Pope Leo XIV expressed his desire that peace would "enter your hearts, to reach your families and all people, wherever they are." Offering a moving tribute to Pope Francis, he urged the faithful to "move forward, without fear, united, hand in hand with God and with each other."

We pray through Mother Mary's intercession for the Holy Spirit to enlighten, guide, strengthen and console him as he shepherds the Church.

Important update for the Episcopal Ordination on 13th May 2025:

We are going ahead with the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-Elect Sahaya Thatheus Thomas on Tuesday, 13.05.2025 at 10.00am at Yesu Daya Sagar Prarthana Bhawan, Kauli. I request all the Parish priest to encourage your parishioners to pray for the new bishop. I also encourage everyone to pray that the celebration may go on peacefully. Priests will vest in the Portico of Prarthana Bhawan by 9.45am. Religious sisters are requested to be seated at 9.45am in the Prarthana Bhawan.

Diocesan Priest Ruby Jubilarians and Silver Jubilarians will be felicitated along with the Bishops.

Because of the instructions from the Civil authorities of Patiala District, Parishes in Patiala Deanery are allowed to bring roughly around 25-35 laity with youth and the parishes from other deaneries are encouraged to bring roughly 5-10 laity with youth.





Please forward the number of participants by tomorrow Sunday, 11.05.2025 evening to both Fr. Raxon (7904633376) and Fr. Robert (9872955587).

Priests are expected to come in cassocks and albs will not be provided.

Parking for priests and religious will be in Yusuf Sadan and all other vehicles follow the directions of the Ushers.

Thank you laity, religious and priests for everything. God bless you all.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+Ignatius Mascarenhas
Apostolic Administrator

