



Statement of the Right Reverend Patrick McKinney Bishop of Nottingham upon the election of Pope Leo XIV

Thursday 8th May 2025

The College of Cardinals has elected Cardinal Robert Prevost as the 267th Pope. He has taken the name Pope Leo XIV in succession to Pope Leo XIII who was known for his social teaching and keen interest in social issues.

Pope Leo XIV greeted Rome and the world from St Peter's balcony this early evening, on 8th May 2025, in both Italian and Spanish. Smiling warmly at the huge crowds in St Peter's Square he wished everyone the peace of Christ and encouraged the Church to build bridges between people and to work for dialogue and peace. This reminded the crowd of themes that Pope Francis often spoke of, and his words were greeted with warm applause

Following the election of Pope Leo XIV, Bishop Patrick McKinney, Bishop of Nottingham, issued the following statement:

"I am overjoyed to hear of the election of Pope Leo XIV, the first American Pope, but also a missionary religious, an Augustinian, who has spent many years ministering in Peru and travelling widely. I wish to assure the new Pope of my prayers and good wishes, and that of Catholics throughout the Diocese of Nottingham, as he begins his ministry as the successor of St Peter. His rich and varied experience will be a huge blessing to the Catholic Church and to the wider world. May God bless and guide him."