



# FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

*The nonpartisan public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Florida*

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops Joyfully Welcomes Pope Leo XIV

**TALLAHASSEE, FL** – The College of Cardinals has elected the 267th successor of St. Peter the Apostle. Cardinal Robert F. Prevost, who has taken the name Leo XIV, was elected May 8, 2025.

The following is a statement from Michael Sheedy, executive director of the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops:

“Thanks be to God for calling Pope Leo XIV to lead the Church of our time. It is thrilling to see an American named pope. We promise our prayers that the Lord will guide and support the Holy Father throughout his pontificate. God bless and sustain Pope Leo XIV and, through his service, the whole Church and the world.”

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*The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops is an agency of the Catholic Bishops of Florida. It speaks for the Church in matters of public policy and serves as liaison to the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government. The archbishop and bishops of the seven (arch)dioceses in Florida constitute its board of directors.*