

# Habemus Papam

“We have  
a Pope!”



Compiled by the Office for Catechesis & Evangelization, Diocese of La Crosse, WI.  
Photos provided by Catholic News Service (CNS) and Vatican Media

# 133 Cardinal Electors participated in the Conclave:



# The “Room of Tears”

- After his election on May 8, Pope Leo XIV dressed in the “Room of Tears” —perhaps so-called because of the emotion of the moment.
- When he returned to the Chapel, a Gospel passage connected to the Petrine ministry was read, a brief prayer was given, and the Cardinals processed, one-by-one to the new Pontiff, congratulating him and promising their obedience.
- The Pope and the Cardinals sang the Te Deum together.”







# Pope Leo XIV

waves to the crowds in St. Peter's Square  
after his election as pope on May 8, 2025.

# Pope Leo XIV



- Born: September 14, 1955
- Ordained a Priest: June 19, 1982
- Ordained a Bishop: December 12, 2014
- Elevated to Cardinal: September 30, 2023
- Elected Pope: May 8, 2025



# His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV



# The 267<sup>TH</sup> Pope

With joy in our hearts and reverence in our voices, we share history in the making: a new pope has been elected.

**Habemus Papam!** The bells of St. Peter's Basilica ring out as Catholics around the world rejoice in the election of our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, formerly Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, O.S.A.

Cardinal Prevost is an American prelate born in Chicago in 1955. A member of the Order of Saint Augustine, he has served extensively in both the United States and Peru as a missionary, educator, and Church leader. After earning a doctorate in canon law in Rome, he held key roles in formation and ecclesiastical governance in Peru, including judicial vicar and seminary professor. He later served as Prior General of the Augustinians globally. Appointed bishop of Chiclayo, Peru in 2015, he went on to become a member of several Vatican congregations. In January 2023, Pope Francis named him Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops and President of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America.



Pope Leo XIV's  
excerpted Message  
to Rome  
and to the World  
May 8, 2025

**“Peace be with you all!...God loves us, God loves you, and evil will not prevail! We are all in God's hands. Therefore, without fear, united hand in hand with God and each other -- let us go forward. We are disciples of Christ. Christ goes before us.**

**The world needs His light. Humanity needs Jesus as the bridge to be reached by God and His love. Help us to build bridges, with dialogue, with encounter, uniting us all to be one people always at peace.” - Pope Leo XIV**



# Pope Leo XIV, the Vicar of Christ on earth



Pope Leo XIV is  
the successor of  
St. Peter –  
“the Rock” on  
which Jesus  
founded the  
Church

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The Statue of St. Peter in  
St. Peter's Basilica  
Vatican City





“We must seek together how to be a missionary Church,  
a Church that builds bridges, dialogue, always open to receive,  
like this square, with the open arms of “Mother Church;”  
Everyone, everyone needs our charity, our presence,  
dialogue and love.” -Pope Leo XIV







“Today is the day of Supplication to Our Lady of Pompeii. Our Mother Mary always wants to walk with us, be close, help us with her intercession and love.

So I would like to pray together with you for this new mission, for the whole Church, for peace in the world, and let us ask Mary, our Mother, for this special grace. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you...”

This represents the chair of St. Peter, the symbol of authority. The Pope is the successor of Saint Peter, upon whom Christ built His Church. This Apostolic Succession is the foundation for our unity as a Church because the Apostolic Succession has been unbroken since the time of the Apostles.





“Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God:  
the one Savior Who alone reveals  
the face of the Father.”

Pope Leo's homily at Mass with the cardinal electors May 9, 2025





## Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

*O God, who in Your providential design  
willed that Your Church be built upon  
blessed Peter,  
whom you set over the other Apostles,  
look with favor, we pray,  
on Leo our Pope  
and grant that he, whom you have  
made Peter's successor,  
may be for your people a visible  
source and foundation  
of unity in faith and of communion.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
Your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Collect of the Mass for the Pope  
The Roman Missal, Third Edition

Window in St. Peter's – symbol of God the Holy Spirit

