



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski, Archbishop of St. Louis,
statement on the election of Pope Leo XIV:**

“Give thanks to the Lord for God is good! Habemus Papam!

Today, I join Catholics around the world in celebrating the election of Pope Leo XIV. It is clear that the College of Cardinals considered earnestly the crossroads at which we stand, and their selection speaks to the need for communion among all children of God. As we navigate this change of era, we look to Pope Leo for spiritual leadership, pastoral care of the Church and Her people, and steadfast commitment to the most vulnerable. I pray in a special way that Pope Francis’s legacy of compassion for the forgotten continues to inspire us to view the stranger as Christ.

I am profoundly grateful to the College of Cardinals for their discernment and selection of this humble servant of God. As Catholics, we pray that our shepherd may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and that the Church may grow in unity, holiness, and zeal. Let us now, inspired by Pope Leo, be united in our faith to go and make disciples of all nations.”

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The Archdiocese of St. Louis was established in 1826 and currently serves about 444,000 Catholics in St. Louis and 10 surrounding Missouri counties. As Catholics in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, we strive to fulfill our Baptismal calling by prayer and worship, teaching and sharing our faith, serving others, and fostering unity in diversity.