

**REMARKS OF HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL CHRISTOPHE PIERRE
APOSTOLIC NUNCIO TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**INSTALLATION OF HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL ROBERT W. MCELROY
AS EIGHTH ARCHBISHOP OF WASHINGTON**

**BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
MARCH 11, 2025**

My dear brother Cardinals, Archbishops and Bishops; priests, deacons, and consecrated women and men; all the faithful of this Archdiocese as well as distinguished guests and visitors; dear friends: Greetings! Please know that the Holy Father is very much with you in mind and heart, and that he offers you his paternal affection, as well as his gratitude for your prayers.

Cardinal Gregory: Thank you. Thank you for your ministry here, and for your many years of service to God's Church as both bishop and priest. May God bless you by being very close to you, and by renewing the manifestations of his love for you during this next phase of your life.

Cardinal McElroy: Welcome to this city and to this Archdiocese. You become a member of this local Church, which means that you are joining the pilgrimage of this people. As you have already begun to do, you will continue to familiarize yourself with the people who make up this Church—the priests and consecrated, as well as the lay faithful; and you will affirm the works of grace and the many expressions of discipleship that are alive in this Christian community. Through a genuine encounter with the people of God, you and they will walk together on the journey that is part of a pilgrimage for all of God's people: a sharing in the life of the risen Christ, and being led by his light.

May God bless you, Cardinal McElroy, and God's people in this local Church.

I will now read an English translation of the official letter of appointment from the Holy Father.