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Resignations and Appointments

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archbishop of Natal, Brazil

Appointment of rector of the Pontifical Roman Major Seminary

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archbishop of Natal, Brazil

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the metropolitan archdiocese of Natal, Brazil, presented by Archbishop Jaime Vieira Rocha.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop João Santos Cardoso as metropolitan archbishop of Natal, Brazil, transferring him from the diocese of Bom Jesus da Lapa.

Curriculum vitae

Archbishop-elect João Santos Cardoso was born on 3 December 1961 in Dário Meira, diocese of Jequié, in the State of Bahia. He carried out his studies in philosophy at the Seminary of Teófilo Otoni-MG and in theology at the *Instituto de Teologia de Ilhéus* in Ilhéus-BA. He then obtained a licentiate and a doctorate in philosophy from the Pontifical Gregorian University of Rome.

He received priestly ordination on 27 December 1986, and was incardinated in the archdiocese of Vitória da Conquista.

He has held the following offices: parish administrator, parish priest, coordinator of the Biblical School and the theology course for the laity; rector of the philosophy seminary; professor of the *Universidade Estadual do Sudoeste da Bahia* in Vitória da Conquista-BA; professor and director of the archdiocesan institute of philosophy; member of the College of Consultors and the Presbyteral Council; regional vicar; representative of

priests; and archdiocesan pastoral coordinator. In addition, he has served as parish vicar in Rieti and Blera, Italy.

On 14 December 2011 he was appointed bishop of São Raimundo Nonato, and received episcopal formation on 12 February 2012. On 24 June 2015 he was transferred to the diocese of Bom Jesus da Lapa. Within the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil, he has served as president of the Region *Nordeste 3*, which includes the ecclesiastical circumscriptions of the States of Bahia and Sergipe.

Appointment of rector of the Pontifical Roman Major Seminary

The Holy Father Francis has appointed Bishop Michele Di Tolve, auxiliary of Rome, as rector of the Pontifical Roman Major Seminary.
