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SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

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Saturday 22.07.2023

Resignations and Appointments

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archbishop of Toliara, Madagascar

Resignation and succession of metropolitan archbishop of Taranto, Italy

Erection of the diocese of Wote, Kenya, and appointment of first bishop

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archbishop of Toliara, Madagascar

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the metropolitan archdiocese of Toliara, Madagascar, presented by Archbishop Fulgence Rabeony, S.J.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Gustavo Bombín Espino, O.S.S.T., as metropolitan archbishop of Toliara, Madagascar, transferring him from the diocese of Maintirano.

Resignation and succession of metropolitan archbishop of Taranto, Italy

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the metropolitan archdiocese of Taranto, Italy, presented by Archbishop Filippo Santoro.

He is succeeded by Archbishop Ciro Miniero, until now coadjutor archbishop of the same archdiocese.

Erection of the diocese of Wote, Kenya, and appointment of first bishop

The Holy Father has erected the new diocese of Wote, Kenya, with territory taken from the diocese of Machakos, making it a suffragan of the metropolitan archdiocese of Nairobi, Kenya.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Paul Kariuki Njiru, hitherto of Embu, as first bishop of the diocese of Wote.

The new diocese of Wote in Kenya [*voten(sis)*] is located in the County of Makueni.

It is a suffragan of the metropolitan archdiocese of Nairobi. The see of the diocese is the city of Wote.

The Cathedral Church of the new ecclesiastical circumscription is the current *Saint Joseph the Worker* parish Church.

Statistical data 2022

	Machakos before division	New diocese of Wote	Machakos after division
Area (Km ²)	14,135	8,009	6,126
Population	2,409,585	987,653	1,421,932
Catholics	999,096	388,946	610,150
Parishes	80	31	49
Diocesan priests	202	90	112
Missionary priests	31	9	22
Deacons	9	3	6
Seminarians	69	36	33
Catechists	1.660	732	928
Male religious institutes	9		
Men religious	39		
Female religious institutes	56		
Women religious	249		
Educational institutes	544	200	344