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Resignations and Appointments

Resignation of the bishop of Kotor, Montenegro, and appointment of apostolic administrator

Elevation of the ecclesiastical province of Toluca, Mexico, to a metropolitan Church and appointment of the first metropolitan archbishop

Erection of dioceses in Mexico

Appointment of special envoy to the closing ceremony of the 4th Pan-African Congress (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 24 November 2019)

Appointment of Promoter of Justice at the Tribunal of the Roman Rota

Appointment of consultors of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life

Resignation of the bishop of Kotor, Montenegro, and appointment of apostolic administrator

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the diocese of Kotor, Montenegro, presented by Bishop Ilija Janjić.

The Holy Father has appointed Archbishop Rrok Gjonlleshaj of Bar, Montenegro, as apostolic administrator *sede vacante* of the diocese of Kotor.

Elevation of the ecclesiastical province of Toluca, Mexico, to a metropolitan Church and appointment of the first metropolitan archbishop

The Holy Father has erected the ecclesiastical province of Toluca, Mexico, elevating the diocese of Toluca to a metropolitan Church and assigning it as suffragans the dioceses of Atlacomulco, Tenancingo and Cuernavaca, currently belonging to the ecclesiastical province of México.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Francisco Javier Chavolla Ramos of Toluca as first metropolitan archbishop of Toluca, Mexico.

Bishop Francisco Javier Chavolla Ramos

Francisco Javier Chavolla Ramos was born in Autlán on 3 June 1946. He entered the minor seminary of the diocese of Tijuana, where he attended secondary school and then courses in philosophy. He completed his theological studies at the Pontifical Seminary of Montezuma in the United States.

He was ordained to the priesthood on 10 December 1972, and incardinated in the diocese of Tijuana.

As a priest he exercised his pastoral ministry as co-operator vicar and parish priest in various parishes. In 1978 he was appointed as spiritual director of the major seminary in Tijuana, an office he held until his episcopal appointment.

He was appointed as bishop of Matamoros on 1 June 1991, receiving episcopal ordination on the following 16 July. He was transferred to the diocese of Toluca on 27 December 2003.

Erection of dioceses in Mexico

Erection of the diocese of Azcapotzalco

Erection of the diocese of Iztapalapa

Erection of the diocese of Xochimilco

The Holy Father has erected the diocese of **Azcapotzalco**, Mexico, with territory taken from the archdiocese of México, making it a suffragan of the same metropolitan Church of México.

The Holy Father has appointed as first bishop of Azcapotzalco, Mexico, Bishop Adolfo Miguel Castaño, currently titular of Vadesi and auxiliary of the archdiocese of México.

Bishop Adolfo Miguel Castaño

Adolfo Miguel Castaño was born in San Mateo Mozoquilpan, diocese of Toluca, on 27 September 1962. He studied at the seminary of Toluca and was ordained a priest on 19 March 1987. He obtained a licentiate in Sacred Scripture from the Pontifical University of Mexico and a doctorate in biblical theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

He was professor at the Pontifical University of Mexico and prefect of studies at the seminary of Toluca. He has published several books on biblical themes.

On 22 June 2010 he was appointed as titular bishop of Vadesi and auxiliary of the archdiocese of México. He

received episcopal consecration on the following 30 July.

Within the Mexican Episcopal Conference he is currently head of the Biblical Pastoral Dimension.

The Holy Father has erected the diocese of **Iztapalapa**, Mexico, with territory taken from the archdiocese of México, making it a suffragan of the same metropolitan Church of México.

The Holy Father has appointed as first bishop of Iztapalapa, Mexico, Bishop Jesús Antonio Lerma Nolasco, currently titular of Aulona and auxiliary of the archdiocese of México.

Bishop Jesús Antonio Lerma Nolasco

Bishop Lerna Nolasco was born in Xalisco, diocese of Tepic, on 4 July 1945.

He was ordained a priest on 24 December 1971 and incardinated in the diocese of Tepic.

He has served as parish vicar, episcopal vicar and vicar for diocesan pastoral care, director of the magazine "*Pescador*" and vicar general.

On 7 May 2009 he was appointed as titular bishop of Aulona and auxiliary of Mexico. He received episcopal consecration on the following 10 July.

During these 10 years Bishop Lerma Nolasco has exercised his ministry in Vicariate VII, whose territory corresponds to that of the new diocese of Iztapalapa.

The Holy Father has erected the diocese of **Xochimilco**, Mexico, with territory taken from the archdiocese of México, making it a suffragan of the same metropolitan Church of México.

The Holy Father has appointed as first bishop of Xochimilco, Mexico, Bishop Andrés Vargas Peña, titular of Utimmira and auxiliary of the archdiocese of Mexico.

Bishop Andrés Vargas Peña

Bishop Vargas Peña was born in Villa de la Paz, archdiocese of San Luis Potosí, on 6 December 1946. He was ordained a priest on 12 October 1973 and incardinated in the archdiocese of San Luis Potosí. He obtained a licentiate in philosophy from the Pontifical Gregorian University of Rome.

He has served as professor and spiritual director of the major seminary of San Luis Potosí, parish priest, episcopal vicar for pastoral ministry, director of the archdiocesan School of Theology for the Laity, member of the college of consultors, member of the presbyteral council and assistant for the ongoing formation of priests ordained in recent years.

On 22 June 2010 he was appointed as titular bishop of Utimmira and auxiliary of México and was consecrated on the following 30 July.

From the beginning of his episcopal ministry he was in charge of the Vicariate VIII, which coincides with the territory of the future diocese of Xochimilco.

The ecclesiastical province of México, after restructuring, will have as suffragans the new dioceses of Azcapotzalco, Iztapalapa and Xochimilco

1. The statistical data of the archdiocese of **MÉXICO**, after dismemberment, are the following:

Area:	799,8 km2
Population:	5,265,309
Catholics:	4,212,247
Parishes:	307
Diocesan priests:	458
Religious priests:	442
Permanent deacons:	152
Seminarians:	71
Professed religious:	300
Religious sisters:	4500

1.a List of the **municipalities** that form the territory of the archdiocese of **MÉXICO** after dismemberment:

1. *Alvaro Obregón*

2. *Benito Juárez*

3. *Coyoacán*

4. *Cuajimalpa de Morelos*

5. *Cuauhtémoc*

6. *Iztacalco*

7. *Magdalena Contreras*

8. *Miguel Hidalgo*

9. *Tlalpan*

10. *Venustiano Carranza*

11. *Gustavo A. Madero (una parte, región Oriente).*

2. The statistical data of the new diocese of **AZCAPOTZALCO**, after dismemberment, are the following:

Area:	80,8 km2
Population:	1,000,000
Catholics:	850,000

Parishes:	59
Diocesan priests:	53
Religious priests:	46
Permanent deacons:	12
Seminarians	16
Religious sisters:	300

2.a List of the **municipalities** that form the territory of the diocese of **AZCAPOTZALCO** after dismemberment

- *Azcapotzalco*

- Part of *Gustavo A. Madero*

3. The **statistical data** of the new diocese of **IZTAPALAPA**, after dismemberment, are the following:

Area:	117 km ²
Population:	1,827,868
Catholics:	1,517,130
Parishes:	75
Quasi-Parishes:	30
Churches:	110
Diocesan priests:	91
Religious priests:	34
Permanent deacons:	29
Seminarians:	16
Professed religious:	34
Religious sisters:	120

3.a List of the **municipalities** that form the territory of the diocese of **IZTAPALAPA** after dismemberment:

- *Iztapalapa*

4. The **statistical data** of the new diocese of **XOCHIMILCO**, after dismemberment, are the following

Area:	433 km ²
Population:	769.250
Catholics:	85%
Parishes:	40
Diocesan priests:	44
Religious priests:	2
Permanent deacons:	7
Seminarians:	17
Professed religious:	18

Religious sisters:	100
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4.a List of the **municipalities** that form the territory of the diocese of **XOCHIMILCO** after dismemberment:

- *Alcaldía de Xochimilco*

- *Alcaldía de Tláhuac*

- *Alcaldía de Milpa Alta*

Appointment of special envoy to the closing ceremony of the 4th Pan-African Congress (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 24 November 2019)

The Holy Father has appointed His Eminence Cardinal Dieudonné Nzapalainga, C.S.Sp., archbishop of Bangui, as his special envoy at the closing ceremony of the 4th Pan-African Congress, entitled “La Miséricorde Divine, une grace pour notre temps”, to be held in the Marian Shrine of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 24 November 2019.

Appointment of Promoter of Justice at the Tribunal of the Roman Rota

The Holy Father has appointed as Promoter of Justice at the Tribunal of the Roman Rota the Rev. Msgr. Tomasz Kubiczek, of the clergy of the archdiocese of Częstochowa, currently notary in the same Tribunal.

Appointment of consultors of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life

The Holy Father has appointed as consultors of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life , the Rev. Fr. **Humberto Miguel Yáñez**, S.J., Argentina, professor at the Faculty of Moral Theology of the Pontifical Gregorian University, and the distinguished Mr. **Emilio Inzaurraga** and Mrs. **Claudia Alejandra Carvajal**, Argentina, spouses, respectively coordinator for America of the Promotion Team of the *Foro Internacional de la Acción Católica* - FIAC, and professor of science of education at the Catholic University of Argentina.
