



SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE
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Resignations and Appointments

Appointment of pontifical legate for the celebration of the opening of the Jubilee Year in the diocese of Casale Monferrato (Italy, 12 November 2023)

Appointment of member of the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archdiocese of Imphal, India

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archdiocese of Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic

Appointment of bishop of Subotica, Serbia

Appointment of bishop of Mukachevo of the Latins, Ukraine

Appointment of pontifical legate for the celebration of the opening of the Jubilee Year in the diocese of Casale Monferrato (Italy, 12 November 2023)

The Holy Father has appointed His Eminence Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin as pontifical legate for the celebration of the opening of the Jubilee Year of the diocese of Casale Monferrato, on the 550th anniversary of its erection and on the solemnity of the Patron Saint Evasius, scheduled to take place on 12 November 2023.

Appointment of member of the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Valerio Lazzeri, emeritus of Lugano, Switzerland, as member of the

Dicastery for the Eastern Churches.

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archdiocese of Imphal, India

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the archdiocese of Imphal, India, presented by Archbishop Dominic Lumon.

The Holy Father has appointed the Reverend Linus Neli, of the clergy of the archdiocese of Imphal, India, until now director of the Centre for Retreats and judicial vicar of the metropolitan tribunal of Imphal, as metropolitan archbishop of the same archdiocese.

Curriculum vitae

Archbishop-elect Linus Neli was born on 26 April in Imphal. He studied philosophy at Christ the King College in Shillong and theology at the Papal Seminary in Pune. He was awarded a doctorate in canon law from the Pontifical Urban University in Rome.

He was ordained a priest on 20 December 1984 for the archdiocese of Imphal.

He has held the following offices: dean of studies at the minor seminary of Imphal (1985-1986); secretary to the archbishop of Imphal (1986-1988), deputy parish priest of the *Sacred Heart* in Hundung (1988-1989); chancellor and judicial vicar of Imphal (1994-1998); head of the Sacred Heart Institute in Hundung (1998-2004); associate director of Saint John's Medical College Hospital in Bangalore (2004-2007); vicar general of Imphal (2007-2010); parish priest of *Mary Helper of Christians* in Ukhrul (2010-2013); national director of Caritas India (2013-2014); rector of Oriens Theological College in Shillong (2014-2017); parish priest and head of the Saint Peter Institute in Monsang Pantha (2016-2019); from 2019 to the present, director of the archdiocesan Centre for Retreats and judicial vicar of the metropolitan tribunal of Imphal.

Resignation and appointment of metropolitan archdiocese of Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the archdiocese of Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, presented by Archbishop Freddy Antonio de Jesús Bretón Martínez.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Héctor Rafael Rodríguez Rodríguez, M.S.C., as metropolitan archbishop of Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, transferring him from the diocese of La Vega.

Curriculum vitae

Archbishop-elect Héctor Rafael Rodríguez Rodríguez, M.S.C., was born on 13 January in Sánchez, diocese of San Francisco de Macorís. In 1976 he entered the vocational centre of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. He gave his solemn vows in 1984, and was ordained a priest in 1989. He was awarded a licentiate in spiritual theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome.

He has held the following offices: parish vicar (1991-1992); director of the aspirantate of the vocational centre in his religious congregation (1992-1994); director of the post-novitiate (1994-2000); master of novices (2001-2006), then provincial (2006-2012); member of the executive body of the Dominican Conference of Men Religious and first counsellor of the Congregation of Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in Rome (2012-2015).

On 23 February 2015 he was appointed bishop of the diocese of La Vega, and received episcopal ordination the following 9 May.

In 2017 he was elected vice president of the Dominican Episcopal Conference, of which he became president in 2023.

Appointment of bishop of Subotica, Serbia

The Holy Father appointed the Reverend Msgr. Ferenc Fazekas, until now diocesan administrator of the same diocese, as bishop of the diocese of Subotica, Serbia.

Curriculum vitae

Msgr. Ferenc Fazekas was born on 29 September 1958, in Bečej, in the diocese of Subotica. From 1977 to 1984, as a seminarian in the same diocese, he carried out his studies in philosophy, and theology in the Faculty of Theology of Zagreb. He was ordained a priest on 29 June 1984. In his diocese he has held the following pastoral roles: deputy parish priest (1984-1986); parish administrator of several parishes (1986-1993); parish priest of several parishes (1993-2023); vicar forane (2005-2012); vicar general (2020-2022); and diocesan administrator of Subotica (2022-2023).

Appointment of bishop of Mukachevo of the Latins, Ukraine

The Holy Father has appointed Msgr. Mykola Petro Luchok, O.P., until now apostolic administrator *sede vacante et ad nutum Sanctae Sedis* of the same diocese, transferring him to the titular see of Giru and the office of auxiliary bishop of Mukachevo of the Latins.

Curriculum vitae

Msgr. Mykola Petro Luchok, O.P., was born on 26 March 1974 in Mukachevo.

In 1994 he entered the Order of Preachers and received his religious formation in the philosophical and theological college of his Order, in Krakow, Poland.

He was ordained a priest on 24 June 2003.

He has held the following offices: pastoral minister at *Saint Catherine of Alexandria* in Saint Petersburg (2003-2010); collaborator in pastoral activities of the Order of Preachers in Lviv (2010-2016); pastoral minister at *Christ the King* in Khmelnytskyi (2016-2018); superior of the community of the Order of Preachers in Lvivi (2018-2019).

On 11 November 2019 he was raised to the dignity of bishop and appointed as auxiliary of Mukachevo of the Latins. He received episcopal consecration on 10 December 2019 in Mukachevo. From 28 January 2022 to the present he was apostolic administrator *sede vacante et ad nutum Sanctae Sedis* of the same ecclesiastical circumscription.

Besides Ukrainian, he knows Hungarian, Slovak, Russian, Polish and English.

