

— THE ROMAN CATHOLIC —  
ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA





THE EPISCOPAL ORDINATION  
OF  
HIS EXCELLENCY

THE MOST REVEREND

*Bernard E. Shlesinger III*

AUXILIARY BISHOP OF ATLANTA  
TITULAR BISHOP OF NAIERA

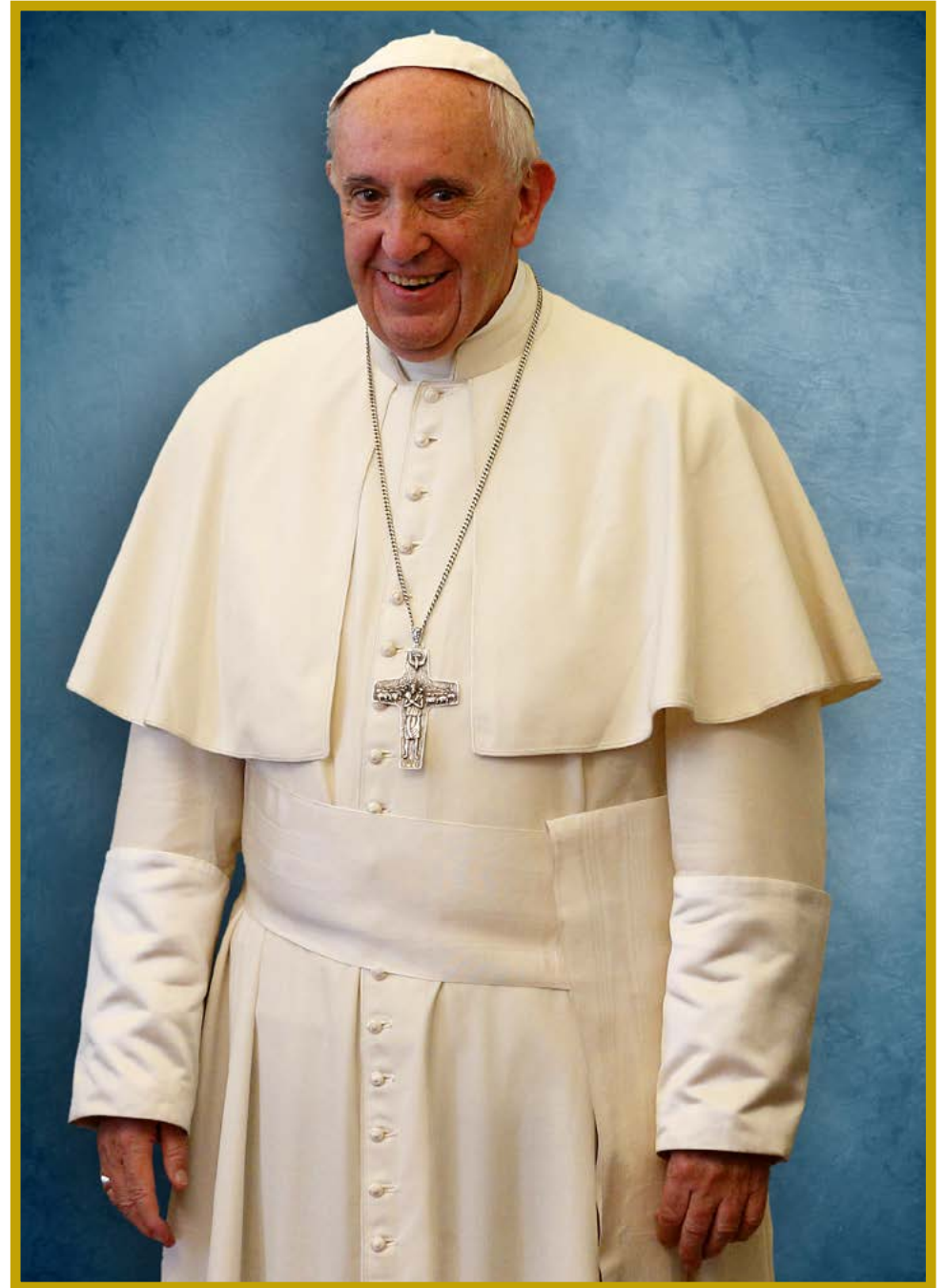
BY

HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND WILTON DANIEL GREGORY, S.L.D.  
ARCHBISHOP OF ATLANTA

WEDNESDAY, THE NINETEENTH OF JULY  
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND AND SEVENTEEN  
TWO O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

HIS HOLINESS  
*Pope Francis*

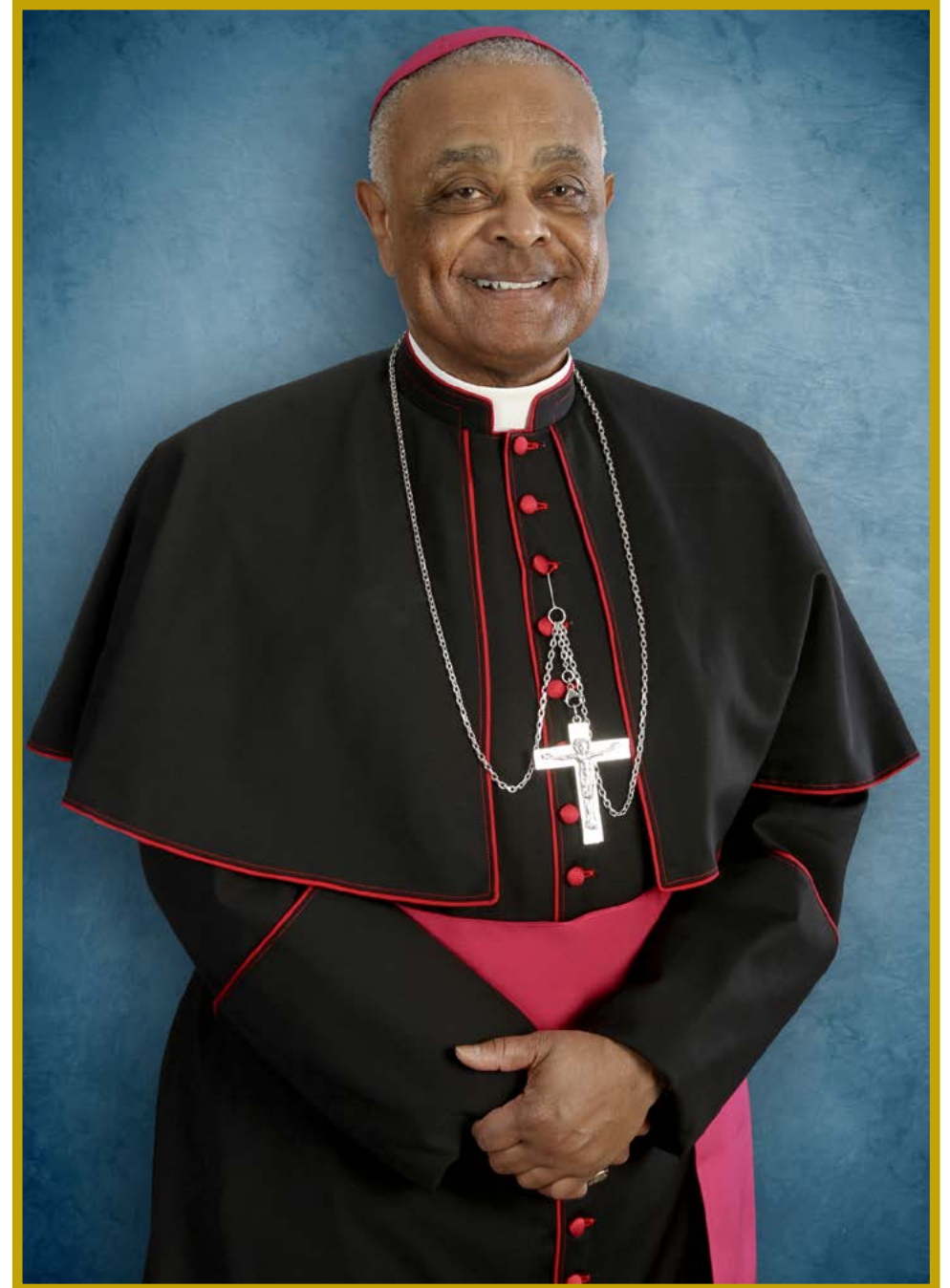


HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND  
*Christophe Pierre*  
APOSTOLIC NUNCIO  
TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND

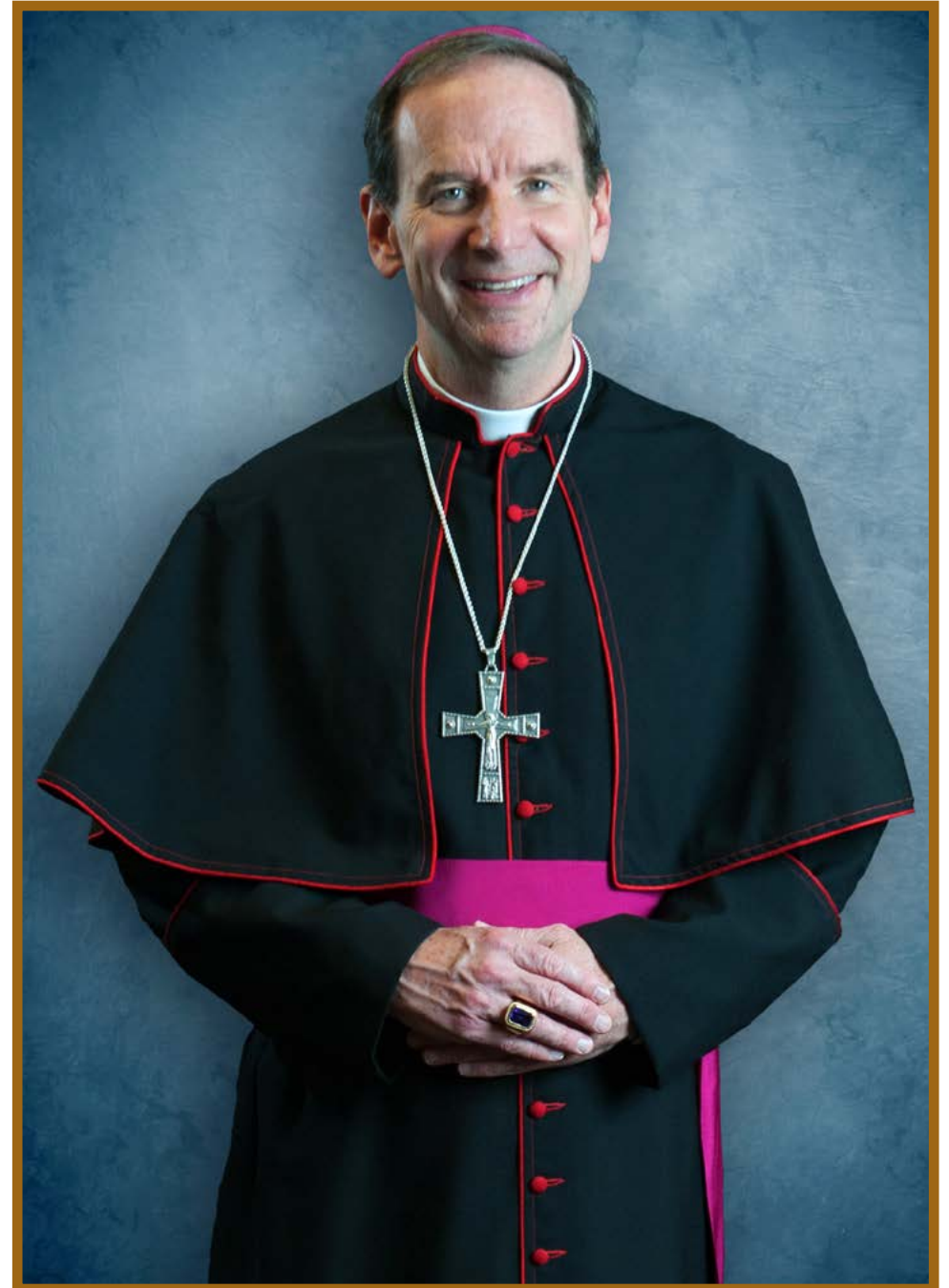
*Wilton D. Gregory, S.L.D.*  
METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF ATLANTA



HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND

*Michael F. Burbidge*

BISHOP OF ARLINGTON

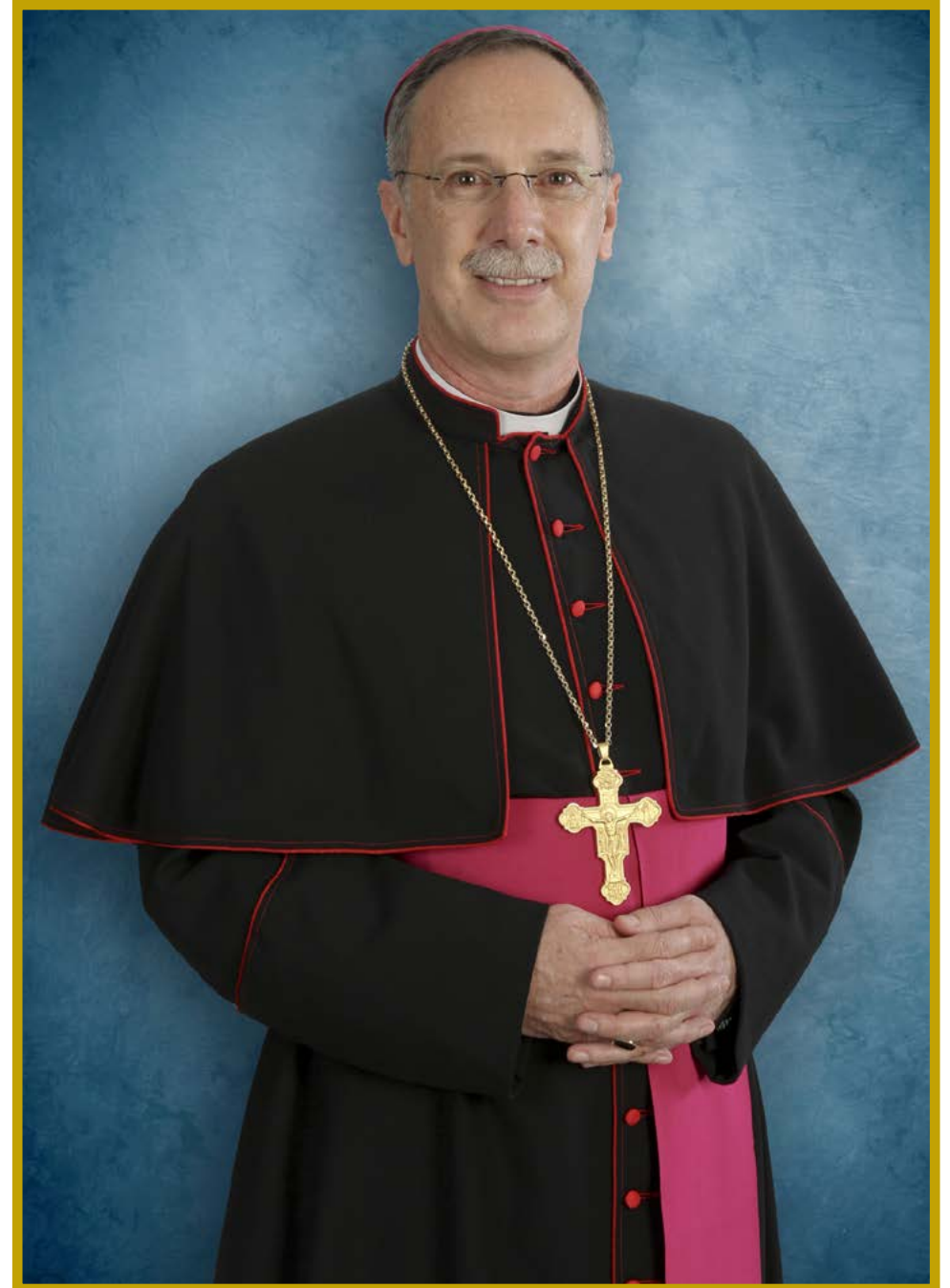




HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND

*Luis R. Zarama, J.C.L. D.D.*

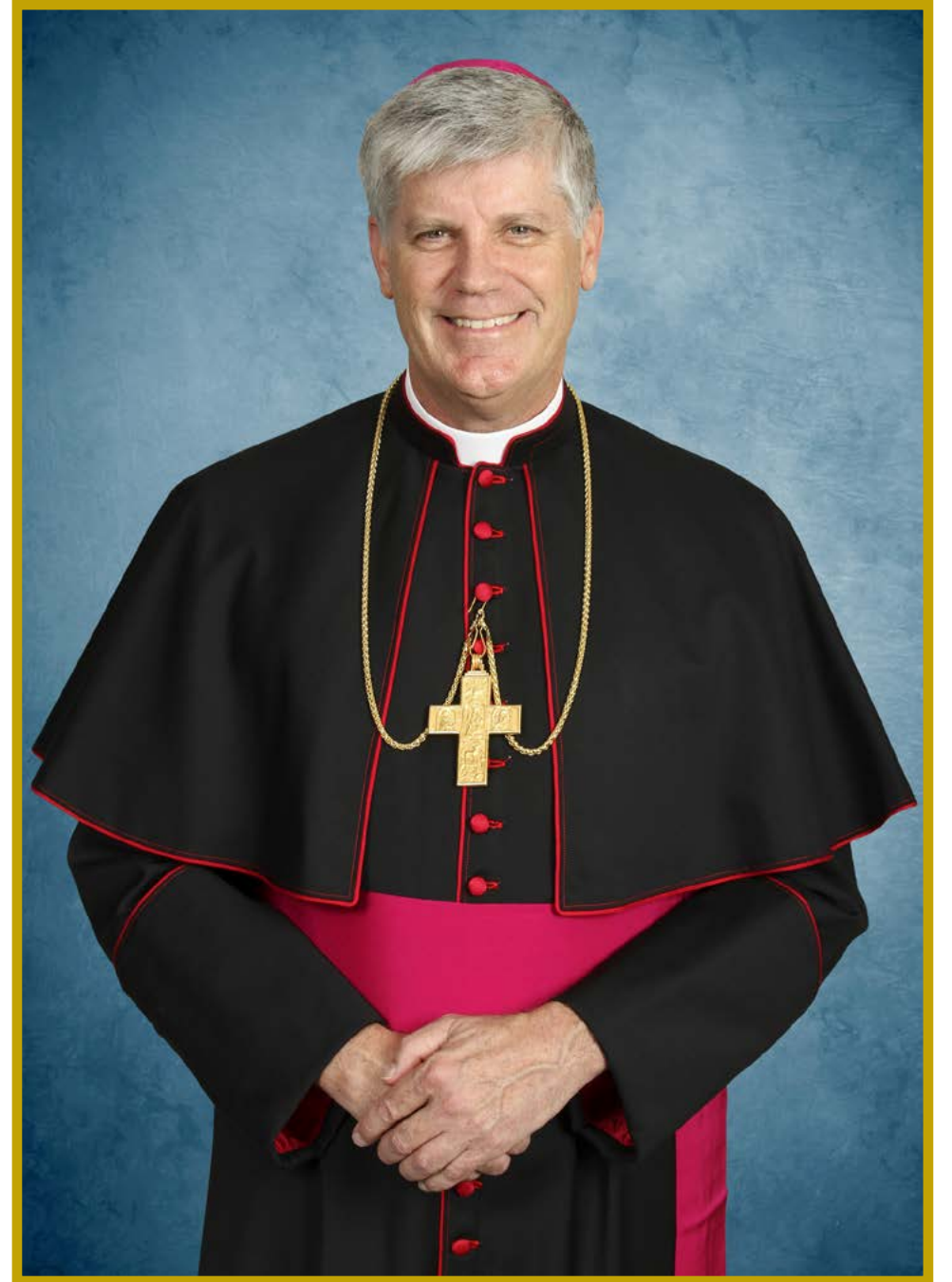
BISHOP-DESIGNATE OF RALEIGH



HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND

*Bernard E. Shlesinger III*

AUXILIARY BISHOP OF ATLANTA





# Liturgical Ministers

## *Ordaining Bishop*

THE MOST REVEREND WILTON D. GREGORY  
ARCHBISHOP OF ATLANTA

## *Co-Consecrators*

THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE  
BISHOP OF ARLINGTON

THE MOST REVEREND LUIS R. ZARAMA  
BISHOP-DESIGNATE OF RALEIGH

## *Assisting Priests*

THE VERY REVEREND HENRY ATEM, V.F.  
CHAIR OF THE PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL

THE VERY REVEREND PAUL FLOOD, V.F.

THE VERY REVEREND VICTOR GALIER, V.F.

THE VERY REVEREND JAMES F. GARNEAU, V.F.

THE REVEREND BRENDAN LALLY, SJ.

THE VERY REVEREND ROBERTO ORELLANA, V.F.

## *Deacons*

THE REVEREND MR. DENNIS DORNER  
DEACON OF THE WORD

THE REVEREND MR. WILLIAM O'DONOGHUE  
DEACON OF THE ALTAR

## *Ministers of the Altar*

SEMINARIANS

OF

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA

## *Masters of Ceremony*

THE REVEREND JOSHUA ALLEN

THE REVEREND BRIAN HOLBROOK BAKER

THE REVEREND MR. THOMAS MCGIVNEY

THE REVEREND MR. JOHN MICHAEL METZ

THE REVEREND MR. MARK MITCHELL

THE REVEREND REYBERT PINEDA

THE REVEREND MR. WHITNEY ROBICHAUX

THE REVEREND MR. STEVE SWOPE

THE REVEREND MR. BRADFORD YOUNG

## *Lectors*

SARA PARIS-EDWARDS

LISA ZAYAS

## *Gift Bearers*

BROTHERS AND SISTERS  
OF BISHOP SHLESINGER

## *Music*

CATHEDRAL CHOIR  
OF  
CHRIST THE KING

KEVIN CULVER  
CHOIRMASTER

SU-RYEON JI  
ASSISTANT ORGANIST

DR. TIMOTHY WISSLER  
CATHEDRAL ORGANIST

H. HAMILTON SMITH  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC-EMERITUS



*Anima Christi*

SOUL OF CHRIST, SANCTIFY ME  
BODY OF CHRIST, SAVE ME  
BLOOD OF CHRIST, INEBRIATE ME  
WATER FROM CHRIST'S SIDE, WASH ME  
PASSION OF CHRIST, STRENGTHEN ME  
O GOOD JESUS, HEAR ME  
WITHIN THY WOUNDS HIDE ME  
SUFFER ME NOT TO BE SEPARATED FROM THEE  
FROM THE MALICIOUS ENEMY DEFEND ME  
IN THE HOUR OF MY DEATH CALL ME  
AND BID ME COME UNTO THEE  
THAT I MAY PRAISE THEE WITH THY SAINTS  
AND WITH THY ANGELS  
FOREVER AND EVER  
AMEN



*Mass*  
FOR THE ORDINATION  
OF

HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND

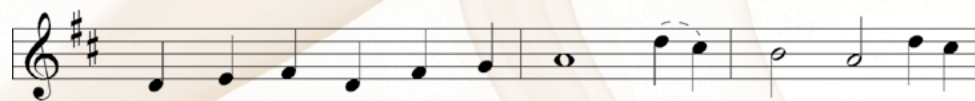
*Bernard E. Shlesinger III*  
AUXILIARY BISHOP OF ATLANTA

# Opening Procession

## ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING



1. All crea- tures of our God and King. Lift
2. O rush - ing wind and breez - es soft, O
3. O flow - ing wa - ters, pure and clear, Make
4. Dear moth - er earth who day by day Un -
5. O ev - 'ry one of ten - der heart, For -



up your voice and with us sing: Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le-  
clouds that ride the winds a - loft; O praise him! Al-le-  
mu - sic for your Lord to hear. O praise him! Al-le-  
folds rich bless-ings on our way, O praise him! Al-le-  
giv - ing oth - ers take your part, O praise him! Al-le-



lu - ia! O burn - ing sun with gold - en beam And  
lu - ia! O ris - ing morn, in praise re - joice, O  
lu - ia! O fire so mas - ter - ful and bright, Pro -  
lu - ia! O fruits and flow'rs that ver - dant grow, Let  
lu - ia! All you who pain and sor - row bear, Praise



sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam;  
lights of eve - ning, find a voice  
vid - ing us with warmth and light. O  
them his praise a - bun - dant show  
God and lay on him your care



praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

6. Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship him in humbleness.  
O praise him! Alleluia!  
O praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three-in-One!  
O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Laudato si, mi Signor; Francis of Assiss, 1182-1226; Tr. William H. Draper, 1855-1933, alt © J. Curwen and Sons.  
Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, LM, with alleluias; Geistliche Kirchengesanger, 1623;

### Introit

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
for he has anointed me  
and sent me to preach the good news  
to the poor, to heal the broken hearted.  
Alleluia.



# INTRODUCTORY RITES

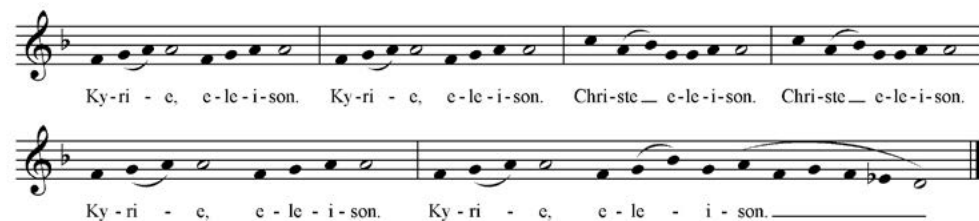
## *Penitential Rite*

**All:** **I** confess to Almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
*And, striking their breast, they say:*  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
*Then they continue:*  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**Archbishop:** May Almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins, and bring us to  
everlasting life.

**People:** Amen.

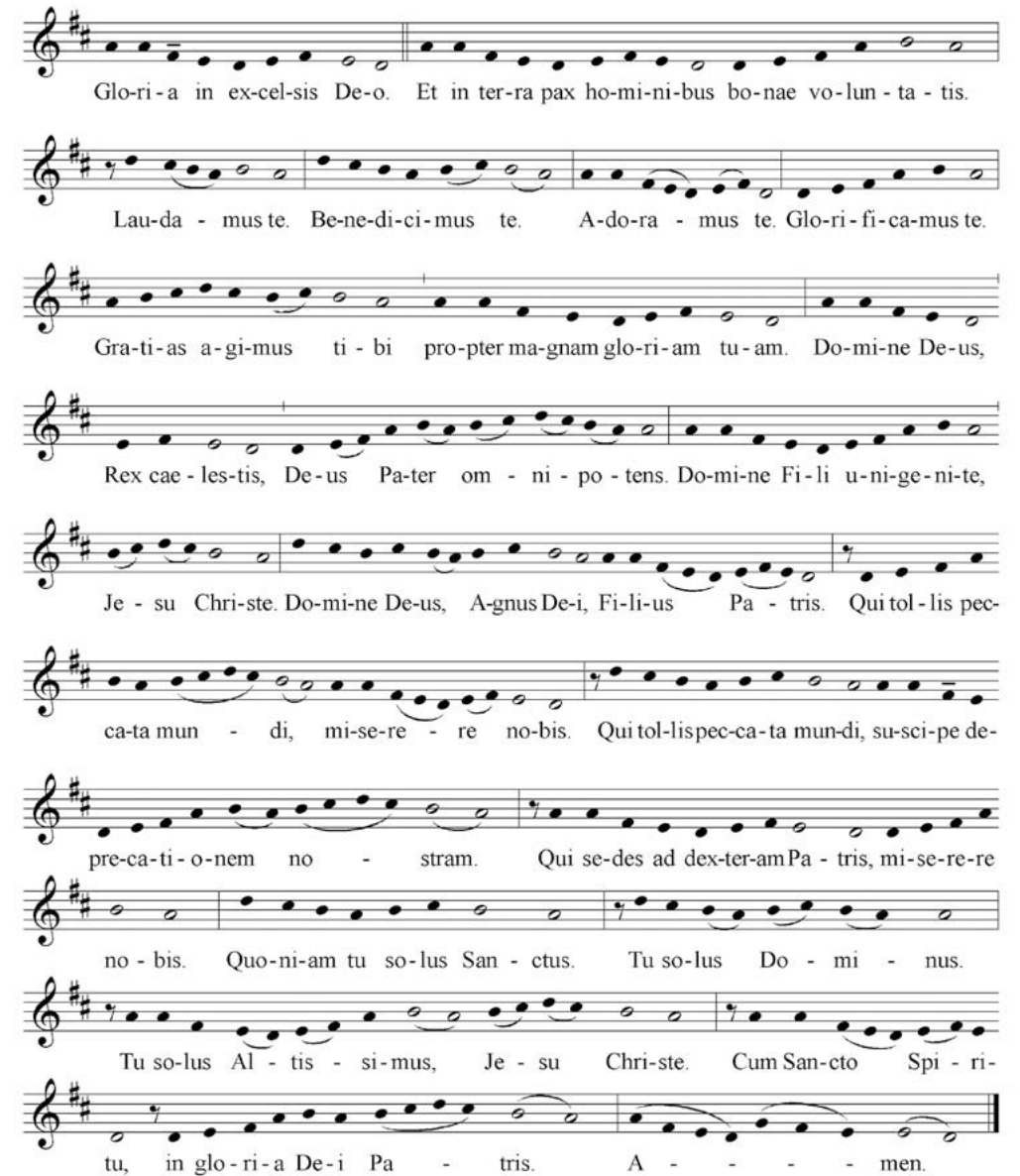
*from Cantus Missae*



Ky-ri - e, e-le-i-son. Ky-ri - e, e-le-i-son. Chri-ste e-le-i-son. Chri-ste e-le-i-son.  
Ky-ri - e, e-le-i-son. Ky-ri - e, e-le-i-son.

## *Gloria*

GLORY TO GOD *(from Cantus Missae)*



Glo-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o. Et in ter-ra pax ho-mi-ni-bus bo-nae vo-lun-ta-tis.  
Lau-da - mus te. Be-ne-di-ci-mus te. A-do-ra - mus te. Glo-ri-fi-ca-mus te.  
Gra-ti-as a-gi-mus ti - bi pro-pter ma-gnam glo-ri-am tu-am. Do-mi-ne De-us,  
Rex cae - les-tis, De-us Pa-ter om - ni - po - tens. Do-mi-ne Fi-li u-ni-ge-ni-te,  
Je - su Chri-ste. Do-mi-ne De-us, A-gnus De-i, Fi-li-us Pa - tris. Qui tol - lis pec-  
ca-ta mun - di, mi-se-re - re no-bis. Qui tol-lis pec-ca-ta mun-di, su-sci-pe de-  
pre-ca-ti-o-nem no - stram. Qui se-des ad dex-ter-am Pa - tris, mi-se-re-re  
no - bis. Quo-ni-am tu so-lus San - ctus. Tu so-lus Do - mi - nus.  
Tu so-lus Al - tis - si-mus, Je - su Chri-ste. Cum San-cto Spi - ri-  
tu, in glo-ri-a De-i Pa - tris. A - - - - men.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## *First Reading*

JEREMIAH 1:4-9

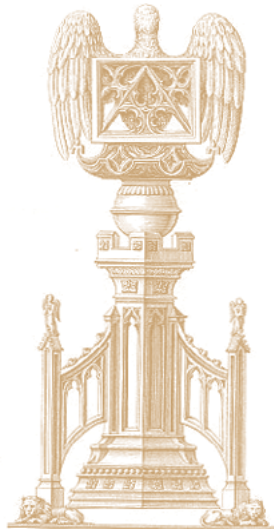
La palabra del Señor vino a mí:  
Antes de formarte en el vientre, ya te había elegido; antes de que nacieras,  
ya te había apartado; te había nombrado profeta para las naciones.

Yo le respondí:  
¡Ah, Señor mi Dios! ¡Soy muy joven, y no sé hablar!

Pero el Señor me dijo:  
No digas: “Soy muy joven”, porque vas a ir adondequiera que yo te envíe, y vas  
a decir todo lo que yo te ordene. No le temas a nadie, que yo estoy contigo para  
librarte. Lo afirma el Señor.

Luego extendió el Señor la mano y, tocándome la boca, me dijo:  
He puesto en tu boca mis palabras.

Lector:       The Word of The Lord.  
All:           Thanks Be to God.



## *Responsorial Psalm*

PSALM 89 Richard Proulx



I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;  
Through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,  
That your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

“With my chosen one I have made a covenant;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
And set up your throne through all ages.”

For you , O Lord, are the glory of their strength;  
By your favor it is that our might is exalted;  
For our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord;  
Our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel.

Music: Richard Proulx, Copyright © 2000 by Richard Proulx  
Commissioned by Christ the King Cathedral, Atlanta; used by permission



## *Second Reading*

1 PETER 5: 1-4

So I exhort the presbyters among you, as a fellow presbyter and witness to the sufferings of Christ and one who has a share in the glory to be revealed.

Tend the flock of God in your midst, overseeing not by constraint but willingly, as God would have it, not for shameful profit but eagerly.

Do not lord it over those assigned to you, but be examples to the flock.

And when the chief Shepherd is revealed, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

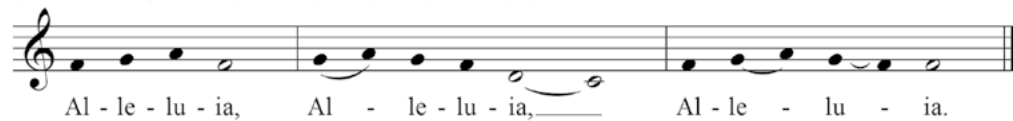
Lector: Palabra de Dios.  
Todos: Te Alabamos Señor.

## *Gospel Acclamation*

REVELATION 1: 5A, 6A

ALLELUIA!

*Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness, firstborn from the dead;  
You have made us a kingdom of priests to serve our God and Father.*



## *Gospel*

MATTHEW 20: 25-28

Pero Jesús los llamó, y les dijo:

“Como ustedes saben, entre los paganos los jefes gobiernan con tiranía a sus súbditos, y los grandes hacen sentir su autoridad sobre ellos.

Pero entre ustedes no debe ser así. Al contrario, el que entre ustedes quiera ser grande, deberá servir a los demás; y el que entre ustedes quiera ser el primero, deberá ser su esclavo.

Porque, del mismo modo, el Hijo del hombre no vino para que le sirvan, sino para servir y para dar su vida en rescate por una multitud.”

Deacon: The Gospel of The Lord.  
All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.

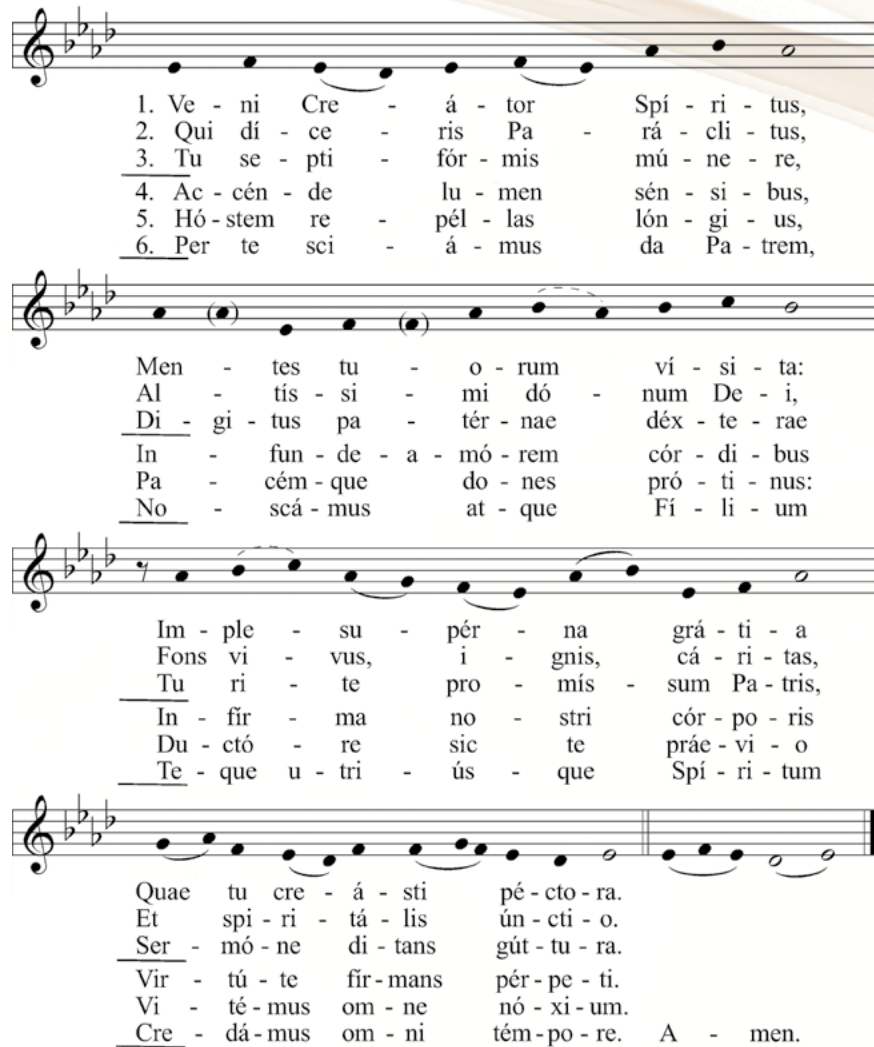


# RITE OF ORDINATION

## *Invocation of The Holy Spirit*

VENI CREATOR

Rabanus Maurus



1. Ve - ni Cre - á - tor Spi - ri - tus,  
2. Qui dí - ce - ris Pa - rá - cli - tus,  
3. Tu se - pti - fór - mis mú - ne - re,  
4. Ac - cén - de lu - men sén - si - bus,  
5. Hó - stem re - pél - las lón - gi - us,  
6. Per te sci - á - mus da Pa - trem,

Men - tes tu - o - rum ví - si - ta:  
Al - tis - si - mi dó - num De - i,  
Di - gi - tus pa - tér - nae dex - te - rae  
In - fun - de - a - mó - rem cór - di - bus  
Pa - cém - que do - nes pró - ti - nus:  
No - scá - mus at - que Fí - li - um

Im - ple - su - pér - na grá - ti - a  
Fons vi - vus, i - gnis, cá - ri - tas,  
Tu ri - te pro - mís - sum Pa - tris,  
In - fir - ma no - stri cór - po - ris  
Du - ctó - re sic te práe - vi - o  
Te - que u - tri - ús - que Spí - ri - tum

Quae tu cre - á - sti pé - cto - ra.  
Et spi - ri - tá - lis ún - cti - o.  
Ser - mó - ne dí - tans gút - tu - ra.  
Vir - tú - te fir - mans pér - pe - ti.  
Vi - té - mus om - ne nó - xi - um.  
Cre - dá - mus om - ni tém - po - re. A - men.

## *Presentation of The Elect*

THE VERY REVEREND HENRY ATEM, V.F.

Archbishop Gregory is requested  
to Ordain Bishop-elect Shlesinger to The Episcopacy

## *Reading of The Apostolic Letter*

THE MOST REVEREND CHRISTOPHE PIERRE  
APOSTOLIC NUNCIO TO THE UNITED STATES

The letter from the Holy Father is read in both English and Spanish.

After The Reading, All Present Give Their Assent:

All Respond: Thanks Be to God!

## *Homily*

## *Promise of The Elect*

Bishop-elect Shlesinger promises to faithfully carry out the Office of Bishop.



# Litany of Supplication

Chant

*Cantor* *Assembly*

1. Ky ri e e le i-son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
 2. Chri - ste — e - le - i - son. Chri - ste — e - le - i - son.  
 3. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

*Cantor* *Assembly*

pray — for us pray — for us.

*Cantor* *Assembly*

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray — for us.  
 Saint Mich - ael pray — for us.  
 Holy angels of God, pray — for us.  
 (Names of Saints)...pray for us

*Cantor* *Assembly*

Li - bra nos, Se - ñor. — Li - bra nos, Se - ñor. —

*Cantor* *Assembly*

Lord — be mer - ci - ful, Li - bra nos Se - ñor. —  
 From — all e - vil, Li - bra nos, Se - ñor. —  
 From ev - 'ry sin, — Li - bra nos, Se - ñor. —  
 From ev - er - last - ing death, Li - bra nos, Se - ñor. —

*Cantor* *Assembly*

By your In - car - na - tion. Li - bra nos, Se - ñor. —  
 By your Death and Res - ur - rec - tion, ; Li - bra nos, Se - ñor —  
 By the outpouring of the Ho ly Spir it, Li - bra nos, Se - ñor —

*Cantor* *Assembly*

Chri - ste, — au - di nos. Chri - ste, — au - di nos.

*Cantor* *Assembly*

Be merciful to us sin - ners, - , Chri - ste — au - di nos.  
 Govern and protect your ho - ly Church. Chri - ste — au - di nos.  
 Bless these cho - sen men. ! Chri - ste — au - di nos.  
 (other intercessions)...

Christ, hear — us. Christ hear — us.

Christ, gra - cious - ly hear us Christ, gra - cious - ly hear us.

## Laying On of Hands AND PRAYER OF ORDINATION

REMAIN STANDING

The Office of the Episcopacy is conferred by the Laying On of Hands and the Prayer of Ordination.

## Anointing of The Head

PLEASE SIT

Bishop Shlesinger is anointed with Sacred Chrism as a sign of his share in Christ's High Priesthood and Spiritual Anointing.

## Presentation of The Book of The Gospels

Bishop Shlesinger receives the Book of the Gospels as a sign of his duty to preach the word of God with all patience and sound doctrine.

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## *Investiture*

WITH RING, MITRE, AND CROZIER

Bishop Shlesinger receives the signs of his office as Bishop:

A Ring, which represents the spiritual marriage between the Church and Christ, whom the Bishop represents;

The Mitre, which recalls the splendor of holiness that should shine forth in the life of a Bishop;

The Crozier, which is a sign of a shepherd guiding his sheep.



## *Episcopal Kiss of Peace*

As a sign of unity of the one Episcopate, all the Bishops share the sign of peace.

*Go into all the world, Alleluia.  
And teach all nations, Alleluia.*

## *Offertory*

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME Philip Stopford

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor: He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind – to preach the acceptable year of the Lord; to give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called the trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified. For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.*

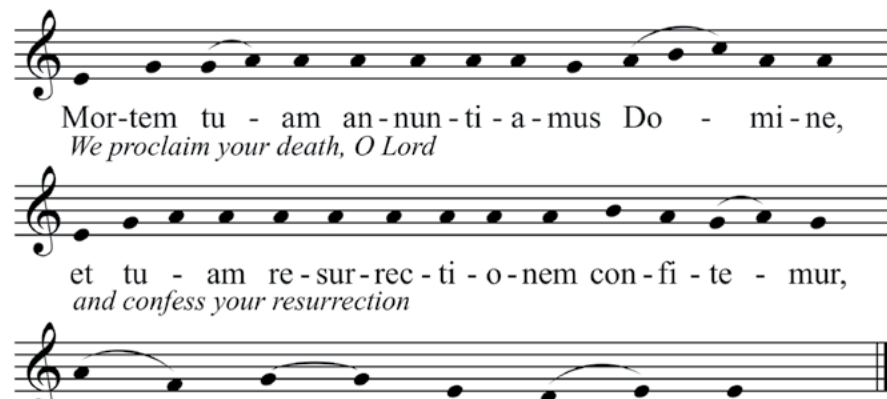
## *Eucharistic Prayer*

PREFACE ACCLAMATION Mass XIII

San-ctus, — San-ctus, — San-ctus Do-mi-nus De-us Sa-ba-oth. Ple-ni sunt cae-li et  
ter-ra glo-ri-a tu-a Ho-san-na in ex-cel-sis. Be-ne-dic-tus  
qui ve-nit in no-mi-ne Do-mi-ni. Ho-san-na in ex-cel-sis. —



## Memorial Acclamation & Amen



Mor-tem tu - am an-nun-ti - a-mus Do - mi-ne,  
*We proclaim your death, O Lord*

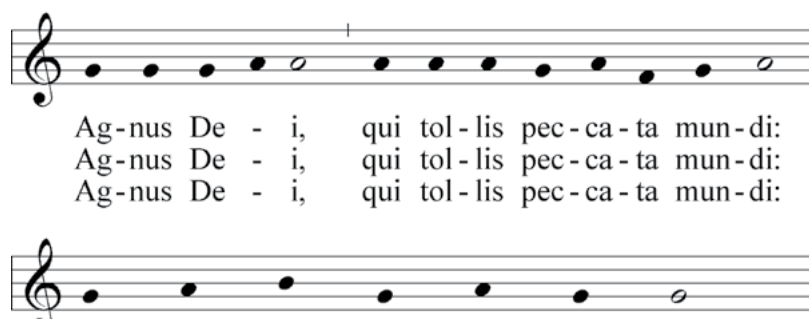
et tu - am re-sur-rec-ti - o-nem con-fi - te - mur,  
*and confess your resurrection*

do - - nec — ve - ni - as.  
*until you come again.*

## Our Father

## Lamb of God

Mass XIII



Ag-nus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di:  
Ag-nus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di:  
Ag-nus De - i, qui tol - lis pec - ca - ta mun - di:

mi - se - re - re no - bis.  
mi - se - re - re no - bis.  
do - na no - bis pa - cem.

*Archbishop:* Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

*People:* **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the words and my soul shall be healed.**

## Communion

JESU THE VERY THOUGHT OF THEE Richard Proulx

*Jesu, the very thought of Thee  
With sweetness fills the breast;  
But sweeter far Thy face to see,  
And in Thy presence rest.  
Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,  
Nor can the memory find  
A sweeter sound than Thy blest Name,  
O Savior of mankind!  
O hope of every contrite heart,  
O joy of all the meek,  
To those who fall, how kind Thou art!  
How good to those who seek!  
But what to those who find?  
Ah, this Nor tongue nor pen can show;  
The love of Jesus, what it is,  
None but His loved ones know.  
Jesu, our only joy be Thou,  
As Thou our prize will be;  
Jesus be Thou our glory now,  
And through eternity.*



VENITE POST ME Communion Chant VIII

*“Follow me: and I will make you fishers of men”*



“PESCADOR DE HOMBRES” Cesáreo Gabaráin

Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos, son - ri -  
en - do has di - cho mi nom - bre, en la a -  
re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca, jun - to a  
Ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.

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# CONCLUDING RITE

## *Te Deum* CHANT

*Led by Bishops Zarama and Burbidge,  
Bishop Shlesinger passes through the Cathedral and blesses all who are present.*

*We praise you, O God,  
we acclaim you as the Lord;  
all creation worships you,  
the Father everlasting.*

*To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.*

*Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,  
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.*

*You, Christ, are the King of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you took our flesh to set us free:  
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.*

*Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood;  
and bring us with your saints:  
to glory everlasting.*

*Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.  
Govern and uphold them now and always.*

*Day by day we bless you.  
We praise your name for ever.*

*Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.  
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.*

*Lord, show us your love and mercy,  
for we have put our trust in you.*

*In you, Lord, is our hope:  
let us never be put to shame.*

## *Final Procession*

TOCCATA IN F MAJOR Johann Sebastian Bach

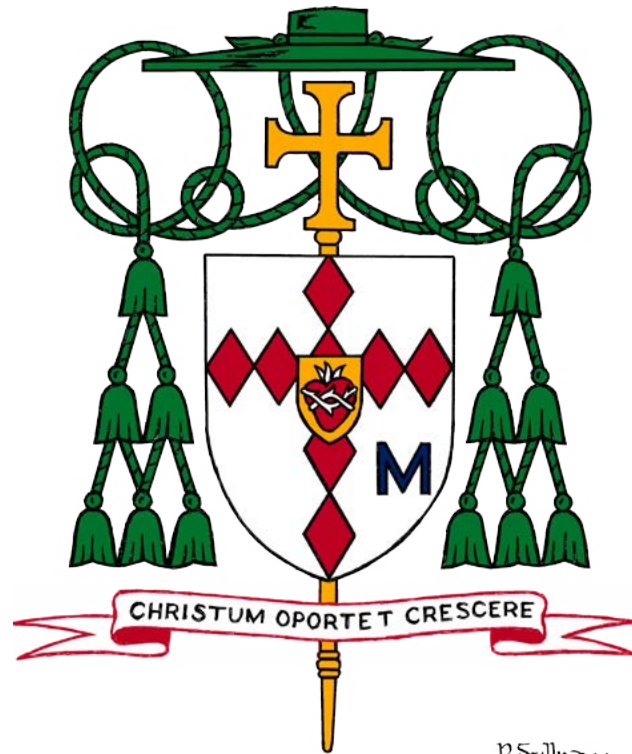
# Coat of Arms

OF

HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND

*Bernard E. Shlesinger III*

AUXILIARY BISHOP OF ATLANTA  
TITULAR BISHOP OF NAIERA



P. Sullivan  
23-VI-17

## Blazon:

Argent, a cross of eight lozenges, five horizontal and four vertical, Gules; to base sinister an "M" Azure, on an escutchen Or a Sacred Heart Proper, enwrapped and enflamed of the first.

## Significance:

The episcopal heraldic achievement, or bishop's coat of arms, is composed of a shield, that is the central and most important part of the design and tells to whom the design belongs, the external ornamentation, that tells the owner's position or rank, and a motto, placed upon a scroll. By heraldic tradition the design is described (blazoned) as if being done by the bearer with the shield being worn on the arm. Thus, where it applies the terms "sinister" and "dexter" are reversed as the design is viewed from the front.

For the bishop who is without jurisdiction, as an Auxiliary Bishop, the entire shield of his design is given over to his personal arms.

Based on the arms of Bishop Shlesinger's home diocese of Raleigh, North Carolina, by reversing the color to be red on silver (white), is a cross of The Faith that is composed of eight diamonds (heraldically called "lozenges"). Upon these lozenges is a gold escutchen (small shield within the major shield) that is charged with the symbolism of the Sacred Heart. To the lower right, base sinister, is a blue "M," of the Virgin Mary, taken from the arms of His Holiness, Pope Saint John Paul II, symbolizing that all comes to Jesus by way of Mary.

For his motto, His Excellency, Bishop Shlesinger has adopted the Latin phrase "CHRISTUM OPORTET CRESCERE," that is taken from the 30th verse of the 3rd chapter of Saint John's Gospel. In this passage, Saint John the Baptist admonishes the readers that for our deep and effective faith in Jesus, CHRIST MUST INCREASE as our intentions "must decrease."

The achievement is completed with the external ornaments that are a gold (yellow) processional cross, that extends above and below the shield and a pontifical hat, called a galero, with its six tassels, in three rows, on either side of the shield, all in green. These are the heraldic insignia of a prelate of the rank of bishop by instruction of the Holy See, of March 1969.

By: Deacon Paul J. Sullivan

*Rev. Mr. Sullivan is a Permanent Deacon of the Diocese of Providence*

*Biography*  
OF  
HIS EXCELLENCY  
THE MOST REVEREND  
BERNARD E. SHLESINGER III

Bernard E. Shlesinger III, the son of Bernard E. Shlesinger Jr. and the late Rita Belmont Shlesinger, was born Dec. 17, 1960 in Washington, D.C. A graduate of Mount Vernon High School in Alexandria, Va., he received a bachelor of science degree in agricultural engineering from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., in 1983. After college, he was commissioned as an officer in the U. S. Air Force and became a pilot. His military service primarily centered on flying the C-130E Hercules from Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville, N.C. He retired from active duty in 1990, when he began study for the priesthood in the Diocese of Raleigh, N.C.

He studied philosophy at Theological College at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. He then entered the North American College in Rome, Italy, completing a bachelor's degree in sacred theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University. He also began studies toward the licentiate of sacred theology in spiritual theology at the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas. He was ordained a priest June 22, 1996 in Wilmington, N.C.

Father Shlesinger served as a parochial vicar at St. Mary Church in Wilmington and then as pastor of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Newton Grove from 1998-2007, while also serving as assistant director of vocations from 1999-2002.

Father Shlesinger became the director of vocations and seminarian formation for the Diocese of Raleigh in 2007 and served in that role until 2013. He was also administrator of Maria, Reina de las Americas Church in Mount Olive and two other missions from 2010-2012.

He was named spiritual director in the theology division of St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood, Pa., in 2013, where he was serving when appointed by Pope Francis as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

