

**SOLEMN INSTALLATION OF THE MOST REVEREND ANDREW COZZENS  
AS THE EIGHTH BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CROOKSTON  
CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
CROOKSTON, MINNESOTA  
DECEMBER 6, 2021**

Your Excellency Metropolitan Archbishop of St. Paul and Minneapolis Bernard Hebda, Your Excellency Bishop Richard Pates, My Brothers Archbishops and Bishops, Dear Priests, Deacons, Consecrated Religious, and Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Crookston, Dear Friends:

I am truly pleased to be with you this afternoon as Bishop Andrew Cozzens is installed as the eighth Bishop of the Diocese of Crookston, which the Holy Father has looked upon with love in appointing its new shepherd to bring healing, peace and reconciliation to the People of God in this part of Minnesota. Bishop Cozzens has distinguished himself as auxiliary bishop to Archbishop Hebda, whom I am sure will be sad to lose him but whom I am equally sure will find an able collaborator in building communion in Minnesota.

I wish to take a moment to thank Bishop Richard Pates for his role as Apostolic Administrator of this Diocese. It was no easy task, but he has brought stability and healing to this Diocese, and for that, we are all grateful.

Recently, in addressing the Italian Episcopal Conference, the Holy Father spoke of the “Beatitudes for Bishops”. I place the words of just one of these beatitudes before you:

**“Blessed is the bishop that works for peace, who accompanies the paths of reconciliation, who sows in the heart of the presbyterate the seed of communion, who accompanies a divided society on the pathway of reconciliation, who takes by hand every man and every woman of good will in order to build fraternity: God will recognize him as his son.” (POPE FRANCIS, ADDRESS TO THE OPENING SESSION OF THE PLENARY ASSEMBLY OF THE ITALIAN EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE, 22 NOVEMBER 2021)**

Your Excellency, it is my sincere hope that you take these words to heart and that you allow them to animate your ministry here in Crookston as you begin this new phase of your ministry.

Be mindful of the many elements in your own episcopal crest. Place yourself and your people under the mantle of protection of the Immaculate Virgin, whose feast is fast-approaching. Gaze upon the three-ply cord, remembering the need for fraternity and to walk together with your priests and people, knowing that such a cord is not easily broken. Recall frequently your motto: *Parebe Nobis Cor Tuum* and

give your heart entirely to the God, the Virgin Mary, and to your people, especially to the poorest of the poor. Finally, do not forget the heart of St. Joseph, who guarded and defended his family.

At the start of your ministry as Chief Shepherd in Crookston, I commend you to the Most Holy Virgin Mary, Immaculate Conceived, and to St. Joseph, her Most Chaste Spouse, trusting that under their loving care, you will be a Good Shepherd and truly blessed.

And now, with great joy, I will read the Apostolic Letter of Appointment.