



DIOCESE OF  
SAN JOSE

## Frequently Asked Questions on Appointment of Bishop-elect Andres “Andy” C. Ligot as Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of San José

### Media contact

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### 1) What is an auxiliary bishop?

An auxiliary bishop is appointed to assist the diocesan bishop in the pastoral and administrative care of the diocese. An auxiliary **does not** have the right of succession.

### 2) How is a coadjutor bishop different?

A coadjutor also assists the diocesan bishop **but has the right of succession**—when the see becomes vacant, the coadjutor automatically becomes the diocesan bishop. Bishop-elect Ligot has been appointed **auxiliary**, not coadjutor.

### 3) Why does a diocese receive an auxiliary?

To provide additional pastoral presence and leadership when the size, diversity, or pastoral needs of the diocese call for it—e.g., confirmations, parish visitations, sacramental ministry, and shared governance with the diocesan bishop.

### 4) What will Bishop-elect Ligot do as an auxiliary?

He will assist Bishop Cantú in sacramental ministry (confirmations, parish visitations, ordinations as appropriate), pastoral outreach, and diocesan governance as assigned. Specific portfolios will be announced by the bishop.

### 5) Does this change his current roles?

He remains Vicar General/Chancellor and will remain Pastor of St. Elizabeth of Portugal in Milpitas at least until the summer. Any changes after that will be communicated by the diocese.

## 6) What is a Vicar General?

The Vicar General assists the diocesan bishop in the governance of the diocese and exercises executive power according to the bishop.

## 7) When will the episcopal ordination take place?

The date, time, and place will be announced soon. (U.S. practice is often 6 to 10 weeks after appointment, depending on schedules and venue.)

## 8) What happens at an episcopal ordination?

Through the laying on of hands and the Prayer of Ordination by three bishops (with one principal consecrator), the bishop-elect receives the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders. He is presented with the episcopal insignia (ring, miter, and crozier).

## 9) What is a titular see?

Auxiliary bishops are typically assigned a historical (non-residential) diocese, known as a **titular see**. The name of Bishop-elect Ligot's titular see will be shared with the ordination details if applicable.

## 10) How is a bishop chosen?

The Apostolic Nuncio gathers input and forwards recommendations to the Holy See. The Pope makes the appointment, and it is announced by the Vatican's **Bollettino**.

## 11) Will he confirm young people and celebrate other sacraments?

Yes. Auxiliary bishops typically celebrate Confirmation, preside at major diocesan liturgies, and assist with parish visitations and other sacramental ministries as assigned.

## 12) How should we refer to him?

- **Before ordination:** *Bishop-elect Andres C. Ligot (or Bishop-elect Ligot).*
- **After ordination (formal):** *The Most Reverend Andres C. Ligot, Auxiliary Bishop of San José.*
- **After ordination (in conversation):** *Bishop or Bishop Ligot.*