

**REMARKS OF HIS EXCELLENCY ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHE PIERRE  
AT THE EPISCOPAL ORDINATION AND SOLEMN INSTALLATION OF  
THE MOST REVEREND JAMES R. GOLKA  
AS THE THIRD BISHOP OF COLORADO SPRINGS  
ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL  
COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO  
JUNE 29, 2021**

Your Excellency Metropolitan Archbishop Samuel Aquila, Your Excellency Bishop Michael Sheridan, Your Excellency Bishop Joseph Hanefeldt, Your Excellency Bishop Designate James Golka, My Brother Archbishops and Bishops, Dear Priests, Deacons, Consecrated Religious, Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Colorado Springs, Dear Friends:

I am truly pleased to be with you here in this venerable St. Mary's Cathedral for the Consecration and Installation of the third Bishop of Colorado Springs, His Excellency James R. Golka. I want to express my gratitude to Bishop Michael Sheridan for his years of service as Ordinary of Colorado Springs, as well as to Bishop Emeritus Richard Hanifen, the first Bishop of the Diocese; they have left Bishop-Elect Golka with a wonderful patrimony of faith. I also wish to thank the people of the Diocese of Grand Island, especially those at St. Mary's Cathedral, and Bishop Hanefeldt, for the gift of Bishop Designate Golka, who has proven himself an outstanding steward of God's gifts.

Today is the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. Last year on this Solemnity, the Holy Father said: **"Today we need prophecy, real prophecy: not fast talkers who promise the impossible, but testimonies that the Gospel is possible. ... We need lives that show the miracle of God's love. Not forcefulness, but forthrightness. Not palaver, but prayer. Not speeches, but service. Do you want a prophetic Church? Start serving and be silent. Not theory, but testimony. We are not to become rich, but rather to love the poor. We are not to save up for ourselves, but to spend ourselves for others. To seek not the approval of this world -- that of being good with everyone -- no, this is not prophecy, but we need the joy of the world to come. ...We need pastors who offer their lives: lovers of God."** (Pope Francis, Homily, Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, 29 June 2020)

Dear Bishop-Elect Golka, we pray that you may be a lover of God, following in the footsteps of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul, proclaiming the Good News of salvation and giving your life for Christ, building

up the flock in unity. Having served as Rector of a Cathedral in honor of the Mother of God and being installed as Bishop in another cathedral in her honor, we commend you to her protection and intercession as you begin your episcopal ministry.

And now, with great joy, I will read for you a translation of the Apostolic Letter of Appointment.