



December 5, 2016

Dear Friend in Christ,

With gratitude to our Holy Father, Pope Francis, I write to confirm his [appointment today](#) of two new auxiliary bishops for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Monsignor Adam J. Parker, our current Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia and Monsignor Mark E. Brennan, a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, will be ordained to the episcopacy on January 19, 2017 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. An introductory press conference will take place today at 10:30 a.m. and can be viewed live [online](#).

Bishop-elect [Parker](#), known well here in his home Archdiocese, brings a valued combination of pastoral and administrative experience as well as outstanding interpersonal skills and an intimate knowledge of the local Church that will position him to assume a greater leadership role in serving God's people. His service as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia has been invaluable to me and has served our central services operations very well. I very much look forward to working closely with him and to his continued growth in this new phase of his ministry.



Bishop-elect [Brennan](#) has extensive pastoral experience, including ministering to Spanish-speaking Catholics in his most recent assignment as pastor of a large multi-cultural parish, [St. Martin of Tours](#) in Gaithersburg, Maryland. His pastoral leadership and experience leading this growing Catholic population suits him well for the duties of auxiliary bishop, which will include helping to oversee our efforts to grow and care for the spiritual needs of Spanish-speaking Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Baltimore.



Our Holy Father also today accepted the resignation of Bishop Denis Madden. We have been so blessed by his dedicated service and I'm pleased that he will continue serving our local Church as our beloved auxiliary bishop emeritus. I am grateful for his selfless service and his willingness to continue serving God's people and I look forward to our continued work together.

As our archdiocesan-wide evangelization-based planning efforts advance and we seek to bring God's people closer to Him and to our Church, the leadership and gifts of our new auxiliary bishops will be a great blessing to us all.

I reiterate my gratitude to the Holy Father for this early Christmas gift and join my prayers to yours and to those of the lay faithful of this Archdiocese on behalf of Bishops-elect Brennan and Parker.

Faithfully in Christ,

*+ William E. Lori*

Most Reverend William E. Lori  
Archbishop of Baltimore



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