

**DIOCESE OF MARY, MOTHER OF HOPE
VICARIATE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – UNITED STATES**

APOSTOLIC MANDATE

MICHEL JOSEPH, BISHOP AND SERVANT OF GOD, to our dear son, Mario Edwin Magana Arellano, priest of the Vicariate of the Immaculate Conception-USA, Diocese of Mary, Mother of Hope, until now Pastor of the Parish of Del Santissimo Sacramento located in Long Beach, California and now Auxiliary Bishop-Elect of the said Diocese, greetings and Apostolic Blessing.

We solemnly recall the two glorious luminaries of heaven, SS Peter and Paul, whose blood consecrated their lives and whom the Lord appointed leaders of His church. We are among the many people entrusted to carry out the ceremonies of the ecclesial community by following the rites prescribed in the sacred texts. We wish above all to provide a good leader to the Hispanic community in the diocese, so that the spiritual needs of the church community may be met.

We have therefore considered, dear son, given your proven pastoral work, your commitment to the good of souls and your human qualities that you have been seen to be worthy to be raised to the office of bishop. Accordingly, having consulted with the Primatial Council, and with our full Apostolic authority, we appoint you as Auxiliary Bishop of this said Diocese, with all the rights and obligations which Canon Law confers.

Your episcopal ordination may take place in Long Beach, California on the 2nd Sunday of Easter on April 12, 2026 being the Solemnity of the DIVINE MERCY Sunday at 12PM. It should be celebrated according to the liturgical norms and at the hands of the Primate of the National Catholic Apostolic Church in the United States. The Profession of Faith and the Oath of Fidelity to US and to our successors should have been made previously, according to the sacred canons. We wish, dear son, that you make our decree known to the clergy and people of the diocese, so that they may willingly accept you as a spiritual teacher.

We ask, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, and Mother of Hope, and the apostles Peter and Paul, that Almighty God may keep you, dear son, steadfast in proclaiming and living the Gospel, so that even where there is sin, grace may abound all the more.

Given at the city of Long Beach, California, USA, on the 4th day of January being the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-six, being the 34th year of our Episcopate.



+Michel Joseph, O.S.B.

