

2022 FALL GENERAL MEETING OF THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

At 11:30am on November 14, 2022, seven cardinals and more than 220 bishops gathered for the Opening Mass of the Fall Assembly of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Baltimore, Maryland.

The open sessions of the Assembly began on November 15, 2022, with Mid-Afternoon Prayer as the attendees gathered in the ballroom of the Baltimore Marriott Hotel. Following Mid-Afternoon Prayer, the meeting was called to order by the USCCB President, Archbishop Gomez. New bishops were called to the stage and introduced. Bishops' emeriti were recognized. Attendees prayed by name for those bishops who had died since the last gathering. Archbishop Gomez then read a message to Pope Francis that was accepted by acclamation. A welcome was extended to the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Christophe Pierre followed by the introduction of guests, observers, and media.

Archbishop Gomez called The Apostolic Nuncio to the stage for his remarks, followed by his presidential address and Archbishop Vigneron's remarks thanking Archbishop Gomez for his leadership.

Voting was then held to elect a new President and Vice President of the USCCB. Ten bishops stood for election. Following three ballots, Archbishop Broglio was named President of the USCCB and Archbishop Lori, Vice President effective at the close of the present Assembly.



Archbishop Broglio



Archbishop Lori

Elections were held for the CRS Board of Directors: Archbishop Gregory J. Hartmayer was elected to serve a first term while Bishop Mark J. Seitz and Bishop Anthony B. Taylor were each elected to serve a second term on the board.

The following committee reports were conducted:

- Archbishop Lori presented the report of the Committee on Pro-Life Activities.
- Bishop Flores reported on the 2021-2024 Synod Process noting that we have completed the diocesan phase and have moved to the continental phase.
- Sister Donna Markham, OP, President, and CEO of Catholic Charities for the last 9 years spoke and announced her retirement at the end of this year. She provided a snapshot summary of the domestic humanitarian relief supplied from 2015-2022.
- Archbishop Blair spoke about the work of the Committee on Divine Worship.
- Bishop Johnston then introduced reflection and prayer from the Committee on the Protection of Children and Young People.

On November 16, 2022, the first order of business was the election of a Secretary for the USCCB and a new Chair for the Pro-Life Activities Committee since those offices would be vacant as their present occupants were elected to be President and Vice President of the USCCB beginning at the close of this Fall General Assembly. Elections resulted in Archbishop Paul Coakley as Secretary of the USCCB and Bishop Michael Burbidge as Chair of the Pro-Life Committee.

Elections were then held for new chairmen of six committees. The committees and their new chairpersons elected are:

- Bishop Thomas Paprocki for the Canonical Affairs and Church Governance Committee.
- Bishop Joseph Bambera for the Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs Committee.
- Archbishop Charles Thompson for the Evangelization and Catechesis Committee.
- Bishop A. Elias Zaidan for the International Justice and Peace Committee.
- Bishop Barry Knestout for the Protection of Children and Young People Committee; and
- Bishop Kevin Rhoades for the Religious Liberty Committee.

The following committee reports were presented:

- Archbishop Borys Gudziak gave an update on the crisis in Ukraine.
- Bishop Cepeda gave a presentation for the Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church.
- Bishop Elizondo reported for the Subcommittee on the Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers.
- Bishop Cozzens reported on the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis & provided an update on the National Eucharistic Revival and the National Eucharistic Congress.
- Bishop Caggiano reported on the Institute on the Catechism.
- Patriarch Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, provided an update on the reality of the Church in the Holy Land.
- Archbishop Coakley led the assembly through the voting process for the preferred approach to handling development of guidance of the faithful over the next year with regard to the document Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship.
- Bishop Caggiano and Sean Callahan, President of CRS, gave an update on Catholic Relief Services.
- Archbishop Cordileone gave an update for the Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth on World Youth Day 2023.
- Mr. Mark Sadd, chair of the NAC, gave a report from the National Advisory Council (NAC), the group composed of bishops and laity who help to determine and finalize the agenda for this meeting.
- Bishop Gregory Parkes gave the report for the Committee on Budget and Finance. Due to the market volatility this year, investment portfolio return was down 23.9%.
- Bishop Michael Burbidge gave the report on the National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD)
- Archbishop ListECKI provided background concerning three women whom the USCCB was asked to consider whether it is opportune to advance their causes at the local level for beatification and canonization.
 - Bishop Kagan provided a brief summary of the life of Servant of God Michelle Duppong.
 - Bishop Daniel Garcia provided a brief summary of the life of Servant of God Cora Louise Evans.
 - Archbishop Garcia-Siller provided a brief summary of the life of Servant of God Mother Margaret Mary Healy-Murphy.

The votes were to proceed at the local level for beatification and canonization for all three.

- Bishop Dorsonville-Rodriguez provided an update for the Committee on Migration.
- Archbishop Blair led the votes on the documents proposed by the Committee on Divine Worship the previous day.
- The last presentation was from the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC) and was delivered by Anna Marie Gallagher, Executive Director

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Voorhes, NCCW President