



# NEWS RELEASE

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ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SAN DIEGO

## **Pope Francis Appoints Bishop Robert McElroy to College of Cardinals; Installation to take place August 27 in Rome**

**(SAN DIEGO)** – The Vatican announced this morning that San Diego Bishop Robert McElroy, 68, has been appointed by Pope Francis to the College of Cardinals. Cardinal-Elect McElroy will be installed by Pope Francis in a consistory to take place August 27 at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

Pope Francis made the announcement at the end of his weekly Angelus prayers from the Papal Palace just after noon, Rome time, today. He is the fifth American to be named a Cardinal by Pope Francis. All Cardinals under 80 years of age are voting members, able to serve in the Conclave that elects the Pope.

Bishop McElroy's statement:

*"I am stunned and deeply surprised by the news that Pope Francis has appointed me to the College of Cardinals. My prayer is that in this ministry I might be of additional service to the God who has graced me on so many levels in my life. And I pray also that I can assist the Holy Father in his pastoral renewal of the Church. In this moment, I give thanks for those who have contributed profoundly to my life and priesthood: my family, the priests and women religious who helped to form me, and the Catholic community of San Diego and Imperial Counties, whom it is my privilege to lead."*

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### **About the San Diego Catholic Diocese**

The Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego ([www.sdcatholic.org](http://www.sdcatholic.org)) runs the length of California's border with Mexico and serves more than 1.3 million Catholics in San Diego and Imperial counties. It includes 98 parishes, 49 elementary and secondary schools, and through Catholic Charities of the Diocese of San Diego ([www.ccdsd.org](http://www.ccdsd.org)), various social service and family support organizations throughout the region.