



MANUEL DE JESÚS RODRÍGUEZ
By the Grace of God and of the Apostolic See
BISHOP OF PALM BEACH



No. 017-2026

DECREE

In the matter of: **DIOCESAN ASSIGNMENTS**

Whereas, the Diocesan Bishop is entrusted with the pastoral care, governance, and administration of the particular Church committed to him according to the norm of law (cf. cann. 381 §1; 391 §§1–2 of the Code of Canon Law, hereafter CIC);

Whereas, the effective proclamation and communication of the mission of the Church, as well as the diligent stewardship of the persons and temporal goods entrusted to the Diocese of Palm Beach, require that certain responsibilities be entrusted to qualified and suitable persons for the good of souls (cf. cann. 383 §1; 822 §1; 1284 §1 CIC);

Whereas, the lay Christian faithful deemed suitable can be admitted to collaborate with their Diocesan Bishop in the service to the People of God, in order to exercise certain ecclesiastical offices and functions according to the norm of law (cf. can. 228 §1 CIC);

Whereas, these diocesan assignments are made solely in view of the pastoral needs of the Diocese of Palm Beach, the good of the Christian faithful, and the salvation of souls, which in the Church must always be the supreme law (cf. can. 1752 CIC);

Therefore, after prayerful reflection, consultation, and discernment, and exercising my lawful authority as Bishop of Palm Beach, I hereby decree the following:



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Decree in the matter of Diocesan Assignments / October 28, 2026

I. PRIESTS: PAROCHIAL VICAR ASSIGNMENT

- ❖ **Rev. Jose P. Padit** – To Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Boca Ratón, effective October 28, 2026.

II. SPECIAL DIOCESAN ASSIGNMENTS

- ❖ **Ms. Jennifer Trefelner** – To Chief Communications and Public Relations Officer of the Diocese of Palm Beach, effective October 28, 2026. Until a new Senior Director of Development is being appointed, Ms. Trefelner shall remain responsible for the Office of Development as well.
- ❖ **Ms. Ana Jarosz** – To Chief Human Resources and Risk Management Officer of the Diocese of Palm Beach, effective October 28, 2026.

By virtue of the assignments indicated above, Ms. Jennifer Trefelner and Ms. Ana Jarosz shall continue as ex officio and permanent members of the Diocesan Bishop's Crisis Management Board (BCM), now in their new capacities, according to Decree No. 010-2026 (dated June 25, 2026).

III. ASSIGNMENTS TO THE DIOCESAN BUILDING COMMISSION

The following persons are hereby appointed as members of the Diocesan Building Commission of the Diocese of Palm Beach, effective October 28, 2026:

1. **Very Reverend Charles E. Notabartolo, V.G., Chair;**
2. **Very Reverend Nicholas Zrallack, V.E.;**
3. **Very Reverend Scott Adams, V.E., Secretary;**
4. **Very Reverend Néstor Rodríguez, V.F., Vice-Chair**
5. **Mr. Vito Gendusa;**
6. **Mr. Daniel Lewis;**
7. **Mr. Michael Lockwood;**
8. **Deacon Martin Serraes;**
9. **Mr. James Stergas;**
10. **Ms. Giovanna Christian.**



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The aforesaid members of the Diocesan Building Commission are to assess and evaluate all construction projects to be undertaken within the territory or under the responsibility of the Diocese of Palm Beach which may involve a total cost of a least (1) million dollars. After having assessed and evaluated such projects, the Diocesan Building Commission is bound to present its recommendations to the Diocesan Bishop for final approval.

IV. ASSIGNMENTS TO THE DIOCESAN INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IAC)

The following person is hereby appointed as Chair to the Diocesan Investment Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Diocese of Palm Beach, effective October 28, 2026:

❖ **Mr. Michael J. Stevens, Chair;**



I furthermore ask the Very Rev. Antony Pulikal, Chancellor and Moderator of the Curia and Episcopal Vicar for Strategic Planning of the Diocese of Palm Beach, to begin immediately the implementation and execution of all provisions contained herein.



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Anything to the contrary notwithstanding. Issued and read at the Office of the Diocesan Bishop, located at the Pastoral Center of the Diocese of Palm Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, State of Florida, on the 28th day of the month of October, in the Year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-six.



Very Rev. Antony Pulikal, V.E.
*Chancellor, Moderator of the Curia
and Episcopal Vicar for Strategic Planning*

Most Reverend Manuel de Jesus Rodríguez, J.C.D.
Bishop of Palm Beach

