



## Diocese of Monterey

## Office of the Bishop

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April 21, 2025

*Monday within the Octave of Easter*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

It is with a heavy heart I share with you that Pope Francis this morning has returned to the home of the Father. It is touching that his last public words to us from yesterday, the great Solemnity of Easter, were ***“Buona Pascua,” – Happy Easter!*** It is comforting to know that he now lives in that same Easter Light that he dedicated his life to proclaiming and living.

Just as the beloved Holy Father has accompanied us with his love and guidance these past years let us now accompany him with our prayers, that the Lord will reward him for the gift of his great labors for Him.

I ask the Church of Monterey to join the Universal Church in prayers for Pope Francis and prayers of gratitude for the gift of his leadership. He pushed himself to the very end giving all to God and in service to the Church and the world. I invite you to join me in thanking the Lord for the gift of Pope Francis to us and praying the imprint of his papacy may continue to live in the Church.

Sincerely in the Risen Christ and Victorious Lord,

Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia  
Bishop of Monterey in California

