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BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE  
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLIS

# **BOLLETTINO**

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 230331c

Friday 31.03.2023

## **From the Eastern Churches**

**Election of bishop of the eparchy of Ismayliah, Egypt**

**Election of bishop of the eparchy of Al Qusia, Egypt**

### **Election of bishop of the eparchy of Ismayliah, Egypt**

The Holy Father has given his assent to the election by the Synod of Bishops of the Patriarchal Church of Alexandria of the Copts of the Reverend Ayoub Matta Usama Shafik Akhnoukh, currently director of the Office for Human Development of the eparchy of Assiut, as bishop of the eparchy of Ismayliah, Egypt. The prelate has taken the name Pola.

#### ***Curriculum vitae***

Msgr. Pola Ayoub Matta Usama Shafik Akhnoukh was born on 19 February 1971 in Assiut, Egypt.

In 1993 he was awarded a degree in social assistance from the University of Assiut, and went on to study philosophy in the Saint Leo XIII Seminary in Maadi, Cairo.

He was ordained a priest on 27 June 2002 for the eparchy of Assiut. For three years he served as parish priest of Al Nikheila-Assiut, and then parish priest of the Coptic community in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia.

He is currently director of the Office for Human Development of the eparchy of Assiut.

Besides Arabic, he knows English and French.

## Election of bishop of the eparchy of Al Qusia, Egypt

The Holy Father has given his assent to the election by the Synod of Bishops of the Patriarchal Church of Alexandria of the Copts of the Reverend Thomas Esam William Bolos Faragalla, currently parish priest of the Cathedral and protosyncellus of the eparchy of Assiut, as bishop of the eparchy of Al Qusia, Egypt. The prelate has taken the name Morqos.

### *Curriculum vitae*

Msgr. Morqos Thomas Esam William Bolos Faragalla was born on 15 April 1967 in Al Qusia, Egypt. He carried out his studies at the Maadi Seminary in Cairo.

He was ordained a priest on 4 January 1995 for the eparchy of Assiut. Since ordination, he has provided pastoral service as parish priest of the Church of the *Virgin Mary* in Kom Esfahat and in *Saint George* in Dranka, then at the *Virgin Mary* in the area of Hamra of Assiut,

For one year he was head of the Coptic community in Paris. He is currently parish priest of the Cathedral and protosyncellus of the eparchy of Assiut.

Besides Arabic, he knows French, Italian and English.

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