

HOLY SEE PRESS OFFICE
OFICINA DE PRENSA DE LA SANTA SEDE



BUREAU DE PRESSE DU SAINT-SIEGE
PRESSEAMT DES HEILIGEN STUHLS

BOLLETTINO

SALA STAMPA DELLA SANTA SEDE

N. 230419b

Wednesday 19.04.2023

Resignations and Appointments

Resignation and appointment of archbishop of Otranto, Italy

Resignation and appointment of bishop of Itaguaí, Brazil

Appointment of bishop of Divinópolis, Brazil

Resignation and appointment of archbishop of Otranto, Italy

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the archdiocese of Otranto, Italy, presented by Archbishop Donato Negro.

The Holy Father has appointed the Reverend Fr. Francesco Neri, O.F.M. Cap., until now councillor general of the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin, as archbishop of Otranto, Italy.

Curriculum vitae

Msgr. Francesco Neri, O.F.M. Cap., was born on 21 December 1959 in Catanzaro, in the province and archdiocese of the same name. He gave his religious vows in the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin on 7 October 1990, and was ordained a priest on 6 July 1991. After graduating in law, he was also awarded a degree in theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome.

He has held the following offices: lecturer in Christology, Trinitarian theology and theological anthropology (since 1994); master of the *Santa Fara* theological studentate of Bari (1995-2006); assistant of the diocesan section of the Union of Catholic Jurists (1998-2006); provincial vicar of the Capuchin Province of Apulia (2003-2006); provincial minister of the Capuchin Province of Apulia and president of the Apulian Regional CISM (2006-2012); member of the Presbyteral Council of the archdiocese of Bari-Bitonto (2007-2012); vice dean of the Apulian

Theological Faculty (2012-2018); director of the *Santa Fara* Theological Institute of Bari (2015-2017); rector of the *San Lorenzo da Brindisi* International College in Rome (2017-2018).

Since 2018 he has served as councillor general of the Order in Rome.

Furthermore, he is a member of the joint commission of the Apulian Episcopal Conference-Consecrated Life, editor of the journal *Italia Francescana* of the Italian Conference of Provincial Capuchin Ministers, and local assistant of the Secular Franciscan Order and of Franciscan Youth.

Resignation and appointment of bishop of Itaguaí, Brazil

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the diocese of Itaguaí, Brazil, presented by Bishop José Ubiratan Lopes, O.F.M. Cap.

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Paulo Celso Dias do Nascimento as bishop of the diocese of Itaguaí, Brazil, transferring him from the titular see of Agunto and from the office of auxiliary of São Sebastião do Rio de Janeiro.

Curriculum vitae

Bishop Paul Celso Dias do Nascimento was born on 14 April 1963 in Lagarto, diocese of Estância, in the State of Sergipe. He carried out his studies in philosophy in the *João Paulo II* Ecclesiastical Faculty of Philosophy in Rio de Janeiro and at the *Universidade Federal do Ceará*, and in theology at the *Universidade Católica do Salvador*.

He was ordained a priest on 13 May 1989 and incardinated in the diocese of Estância.

After ordination, he first served as parish vicar in Lagarto-SE (1989-1992) and parish priest of *São Francisco de Assis* in Cristinápolis-SE (1993-996). He then studied for a licentiate in canon law at the Higher Institute of Canon Law and attended a course in psychology in the *Pontifícia Universidade Católica* in Rio de Janeiro. He went on to serve as parish vicar of *Nossa Senhora de Copacabana* in Rio de Janeiro, and chaplain of two hospitals.

In 2012 he was incardinated in the archdiocese of São Sebastião do Rio de Janeiro, and held the office of archdiocesan coordinator of health pastoral care.

On 27 October 2017 he was appointed as titular bishop of Agunto and auxiliary of São Sebastião do Rio de Janeiro, and received episcopal ordination on 6 January 2018.

Appointment of bishop of Divinópolis, Brazil

The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Geovane Luis da Silva as bishop of Divinópolis, Brazil, transferring him from the titular see of Mons in Numidia and from the office of auxiliary of Belo Horizonte.

Curriculum vitae

Bishop Geovane Luis da Silva was born on 21 June 1971 in Carandaí, archdiocese of Mariana, in the State of

Minas Gerais. After completing his studies in philosophy and theology in the *São José* Seminary of Mariana, he obtained a licentiate in dogmatic theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, and subsequently specialized in sacred culture and art at the *Universidade Federal* di Ouro Preto-MG.

He received priestly ordination on 21 June 1997, and was incardinated in the diocese of Mariana. He has held the following offices: parish vicar of *Santa Efigênia* in Ouro Preto-MG; parish priest of the *Sagrado Coração de Jesus* in Mariana-MG; minor seminary formator; director of the major seminary theology course; director of the Archdiocesan Museum of Sacred Art; teacher of sacramental theology and liturgy in the major seminary; episcopal vicar of the South Region; member of the Episcopal Coouncil and College of Consultors; and parish priest of *Nossa Senhora da Piedade* in Barbacena-MG.

On 21 December 2016 he was appointed titular bishop of Mons in Numidia and auxiliary of Belo Horizonte, and received episcopal ordination on 25 March 2017.

He is currently secretary of the *Leste 2* regions of the National Conference of Bishops of Brazil, which includes the ecclesiastical circumscriptions of the State of Minas Gerais.
