



THE PERSONAL ORDINARIATE OF OUR LADY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The announcement that the Holy Father has appointed Monsignor Steven Lopes as Bishop Ordinary of the Ordinariate of the Chair of St Peter to succeed Monsignor Jeffrey Steenson is an occasion of great joy and is warmly welcomed.

Monsignor Steenson has ably led his Ordinariate through its foundation stage and Monsignor Lopes possesses the gifts and skills required to build on these foundations and lead it into God's future.

In his ministry in the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Monsignor Lopes has been committed to implementing the inspired prophetic vision of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI for the unity of the Church. He has been deeply involved in managing the erection of the three Ordinariates and was a member of the liturgical group responsible for producing Divine Worship – The Missal and Divine Worship – Occasional Services for use in the Ordinariates.

Pope Francis's appointment of Monsignor Lopes to the episcopate is another indication of the development of the provisions enshrined in the Apostolic Constitution, *Anglicanorum Coetibus*, and a further sign of the Holy See's commitment to the view that the Ordinariates are a tangible expression of unity with distinctiveness.

We rejoice with Monsignor Lopes and the Ordinariate of the Chair of St Peter and look forward to working as partners for God's glory and the mission of His Church.

Rev Monsignor Harry Entwistle, PA
ORDINARY

24 November 2015