

**In light of Thursday's announcement from Rome:
"Annuntio vobis gaudium magnum: Habemus Papam!"
("I announce to you a great joy: We have a pope!")**

I share contents from an interview posted from a website that I follow.

For now: Regardless of what we may hear and see in the media: I offer you words directly from then-Cardinal Prevost, now Pope Leo XIV from a Catholic news source I follow for hope.

From the article:

The Bishop Emeritus of Chiclayo Peru / In 2023 after being called to be the prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops, then-Cardinal Prevost shared in the interview with the Augustinian Order online.

He said: The saint has spoken "about how you cannot say you are a follower of Christ without being part of the Church," (He was speaking of St. Augustine).

After leaving Peru and back in Rome: He said: "So, now back in Rome, a city with which I am obviously very familiar. Every day I say to myself: 'Lord, all this is in your hands. Give me the grace I need to bring this task to a successful conclusion.'"

He also said that to be "a good bishop," one must "know how to govern, to administer, to organize and to know how to deal with people."

But if I had to point out one trait above all others, he said, "it is that he must proclaim Jesus Christ and live the faith so that the faithful see in his witness an incentive to them to want to be an ever more active part of the Church that Jesus Christ himself founded. In just a few words: to help people come to know Christ through the gift of faith."

A couple of personal observations:

Upon reflection: He opened with the Ave Maria and delivered a blessing in Latin / Elected on the Feast of the Apparition of St. Michael the Archangel, taking the name of the very Pope who wrote the St. Michael Prayer / As well: The Te Deum was included.

There is a purpose and signal for each thing he did: Name chosen, his first statements, vestments worn, saying he is Augustinian, the blessing of Christ as the way, all seems to show continuity to the past and a continuation of seeking to evangelize and bring the Message of Jesus Christ to all people, including those in the margins. May he bring healing, unity and clarity to the Church and to the world.

Vivat Jesus,

Father Vic Gournas

Prayer: With great expectation and joy, we offer congratulations and our prayers for Your Holiness upon being elevated to the **Chair of Saint Peter** as Leo XIV. May the pontificate of Your Holiness serve as a point of true unity in Christ. May the missionary zeal of Your Holiness reach all who are converting to the Faith, and especially the youth who are searching for what **Saint Augustine** called that beauty, “ever ancient, ever new.” We beseech **Our Lady of Good Counsel of Genazzano**, patroness of the Augustinian province that Your Holiness directed, that she bless and protect Your Holiness.