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ARIZONA STATE COUNCIL  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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**For Immediate Release**

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PHOENIX – The Arizona Knights of Columbus congratulates the Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan of San Diego as the fifth Bishop in the 52-year history of the Diocese of Phoenix. Bishop Dolan will begin his new assignment in Phoenix in early August 2022, taking over for one of the fastest growing Catholic dioceses in the United States with an estimated 1.1 million Catholic population.

A press conference will be held Friday morning at the Diocesan Pastoral Center (400 E. Monroe) to introduce Bishop Dolan at 10 a.m., and will also be live streamed on the [Diocesan YouTube page](#).

“My heart is filled with joy on this day as Pope Francis appoints me to serve as the Fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Phoenix,” said Bishop Dolan. “I cannot begin to express my thanks to God for his goodness to me throughout my life and I enter this new chapter with a renewed commitment to love and serve the Lord and His Church with my whole heart, soul, and strength.

“Finally, I am truly grateful to God for Bishop Thomas Olmsted and Auxiliary Bishop Eduardo Nevares who have warmly welcomed me to the Diocese of Phoenix. Please pray for all three of us as we journey together on mission in Christ!”

Ordained to the priesthood on July 1, 1989, by Bishop Leo T. Maher, Bishop Dolan began as an associate pastor at St. Michael’s parish in Paradise Hills, Calif., before serving at Santa Sophia in Spring Valley, Calif., St. Rose of Lima in Chula Vista, Calif., St. Mary Star of the Sea in Oceanside, Calif., and at St. Michael’s parish in Poway, Calif., St. John the Evangelist and St. Vincent de Paul parishes in Hillcrest, Calif., and Mission Hills, Calif. He is the seventh of nine children in his family, born to Catherine and Gerald Dolan.

State Deputy Luigi Baratta stated that, “the Knights of Columbus in Arizona offer their prayers and welcome Bishop John Dolan in his assignment to the Diocese of Phoenix.

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