

Statement from Bishop-elect J. Douglas Deshotel

I am deeply humbled and also honored that Pope Benedict has appointed me, along with Bishop –elect Seitz as auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Dallas. It is also a great blessing that the Holy Father recognizes how important this area of the state of Texas is, given the large number of Catholics and the cultural diversity of the Diocese of Dallas.

I was inspired to become a priest many years ago by the dedicated and good example of the priest in my home parish of Basile, Louisiana. I joined the Dallas Diocese when I decided to come to Holy Trinity Seminary and the University of Dallas. I have the best of both worlds. I was born in Louisiana, “who Dat country” and moved to Texas.

It has been my privilege to have served so many people for the past thirty-two years in our Diocese. Most recently, I was pastor of St. Monica and San Juan Diego parishes. St. Monica, with its many cultures, truly gives a picture of the universality of the Church. San Juan Diego with its predominantly Hispanic population is indicative of the large number of Hispanic Catholics in our Diocese. Thanks to the wonderful people I have served the past thirty-two years, I have grown in my skills as a priest. I look forward to continuing that service as an Auxiliary Bishop along with Bishop Farrell and Bishop –elect Mark Seitz.

Agradezco mucho el apoyo y las oraciones de la comunidad hispana. En mis años de servicio sacerdotal en Santa Mónica y en San Juan Diego sobretodo he conocido la importancia de esta comunidad para el futuro de la Iglesia y para nuestra nación.

I want to thank Bishop Farrell for his support and confidence in me. I also want to thank all of the hard working priests in our Diocese and ask them for their support and prayers. Please remember me in your prayers as I strive to bring the beautiful Gospel message of God’s love and redemption to all whom I serve.