

**Statement by president of the CET Msgr. Martin Kmetec
on the election of Pope Leo XIV**

The Holy Church living in Turkey has received with deep joy and gratitude to the Lord, the good Shepherd, the news about the election of Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost as 267th Bishop of Rome, Successor of the Apostle Peter, with the name of Leo XIV.

The bishops, priests, religious and all the faithful of our nation promise to the Holy Father their filial communion with him, following him on the path of the proclamation of the Gospel and committing themselves together to promote peace, justice and charity, making themselves close to everyone.

We assure Pope Leo XIV of our fervent prayers, asking the Lord, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, to accompany and make fruitful his ministry at the service of the Church and the whole world in this time marked by great challenges for the future.

In this jubilee year, we renew our hope that we will be able to welcome the Successor of Peter in our midst to celebrate together the one thousand seven hundredth anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, and as of now we await him with joy in our land.

Ad multos annos, Santo Padre!



+ Martin Kmetec
+ Martin Kmetec OFM Conv.
Metropolitan Archbishop of Izmir
President of CET