

Two New Salesian Shepherds for the Church

– Card. Ángel Fernández Artime and Archbishop Giordano Piccinotti



The Episcopal Ordination of two eminent sons of Don Bosco, Cardinal Ángel Fernández Artime, the Rector Major of the Salesian Congregation and Titular Archbishop-elect of Ursona, and Archbishop Giordano Piccinotti, Titular Archbishop-elect of Gradisca and President of the Administration of the Patrimony of the Apostolic See

salesians) took place in the Papal Basilica of St. Mary Major .

His Eminence, **Cardinal Emil Paul Tscherrig**, Emeritus Apostolic Nuncio to Italy and the Republic of San Marino, conferred the Episcopal Ordinations, alongside two co-consecrators: **Cardinal Cristóbal López Romero, SDB**, Archbishop of Rabat, Morocco; and **Mons. Lucas Van Looy, SDB**, Emeritus Bishop of Ghent, Belgium.

Number of Church prelates and important dignitaries participated in the Eucharistic celebration, the families of the newly consecrated Salesians, friends, benefactors, and members of the Salesian family, joined by special invitees from governments, the military,.

In his simple and impactful homily, Cardinal Emil Paul Tscherrig, the Principal Consecrator, shared insights with the soon-to-be-ordained bishops, affirming, "We have gathered here to celebrate one of the greatest miracles of the Church: the Apostolic Succession. Since the time of the Apostles, this succession has been transmitted through the laying on of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit. As the consecrators performed the apostolic tradition of the imposition of hands, a sacred silence penetrated the magnificent adorned walls and roof of the Basilica of St. Mary Major. After being anointed and receiving their respective mitres, rings, and staffs, the two newly consecrated Bishops were symbolically enthroned, greeted by thunderous applause. The faithful, religious, clergy, and choir erupted in thanksgiving and joy, solemnly singing the "Te Deum." The two newly consecrated Bishops proceeded to impart their Apostolic blessings to all those present.