



**Diocese of Plymouth**  
From the Office of the Bishop

27<sup>th</sup> April 2022

My dear brothers,

It is with a certain poignancy I write to you today. Later this morning, at 11am UK time, it will be announced in Rome, that I have been appointed as the new Archbishop of Cardiff and Bishop of Menevia. I am in Cardiff at present for the announcement.

I am deeply humbled by the appointment and am grateful for the Holy Father's trust. At the same time, I have been very happy here in the Diocese and will be sad to leave a mission I have come to love. I thank you for your support, for all we have shared together and most especially for your prayer and friendship.

I believe the Installation in Cardiff will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> June and I will take some time before that for a retreat and to prepare for the move. Once the Installation in Cardiff has taken place, the Cathedral Chapter as the College of Consultors will gather to elect a Diocesan Administrator, to be in place until a new Bishop is appointed. I hope there will be an opportunity for a Celebration of Thanksgiving in Plymouth Cathedral before I leave.

You know our life is not our own. Since the day of Ordination to the Diaconate, I have handed my life over to the Lord – "Into your hands, Lord" - and to the discernment of the Church. Now, I seek to embrace this new call with that same 'yes'. I ask especially for your prayers - for me, for the new mission I am being sent to, and for this Diocese of Plymouth which we all love so dearly.

Yours devotedly,

Rt Rev Mark O'Toole  
Bishop of Plymouth