

For Immediate Release to the Press

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Communications Department
Diocese of Stockton

Diocese of Stockton announces the appointment of Bishop Myron Cotta

The Diocese of Stockton is very pleased to announce that Pope Francis today appointed Bishop Myron Cotta to succeed Bishop Stephen Blaire as Bishop of Stockton who submitted his resignation to the Holy Father when he reached the mandatory retirement age of 75 on December 22, 2016.

Bishop Cotta was born of Portuguese heritage in the Merced County community of Dos Palos on March 21, 1953. As a native son of the Central Valley he knows the area very well and in turn is well known for his pastoral leadership. He served as Vicar General in the Diocese of Fresno where he was a priest and most recently served as Auxiliary Bishop in the Diocese of Sacramento.

Bishop Cotta will be installed as the sixth bishop of the Diocese on Thursday, March 15, 2018. Until that date, Bishop Blaire will serve as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese. The Diocese of Stockton embraces more than 10,000 square miles covering the Counties of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mono, and Alpine, with a diverse Catholic population of over 300,000 people of many races and cultures.

The Diocese of Stockton extends a very warm welcome to Bishop Myron Cotta.

Public Media are invited to a press conference at the Diocese of Stockton Pastoral Center, 212 N. San Joaquin Street, Ryan Center, at 11:00 am on January 23. Bishop Myron Cotta will be introduced and available for interviews.