



Diocese of Austin
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Masses, prayers requested for 100th anniversary of Armenian Genocide

AUSTIN – Auxiliary Bishop Daniel E. Garcia sent the following text in a memo to all priests of the Diocese of Austin on April 1, 2015:

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide in which 1.5 million people perished and millions more were displaced and subjected to deportation, torture, starvation and massacre. In remembrance of this atrocity, Pope Francis will celebrate Mass in St. Peter's Basilica on April 12, 2015. Likewise, in the Diocese of Austin, Bishop Joe Vásquez will celebrate the 9:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary Cathedral in Austin on Sunday, April 12, 2015.

On this day, he asks that all parishes join him in prayer remembering the innocent who died in the Armenian Genocide and all those who continue to suffer from religious persecution around the world. Please use this petition/prayer at the general intercessions at Mass:

“In remembrance of the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, let us pray for our brothers and sisters around the world who continue to suffer from religious persecution, that we may all share in the joy and lasting peace of Christ's resurrection.”

Links to news stories and information on the Armenian Genocide:

- <http://www.usccb.org/news/2015/15-040.cfm>
- <http://www.armenian-genocide.org/genocidefaq.html>

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The Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin includes 127 parishes, or faith communities, in 25 counties in Central Texas. The diocese stretches over 21,000 square miles from West, Texas, (just north of Waco) in the north to San Marcos in the south to the Bryan/College Station area in the east to Mason in the west. Its largest metropolitan areas are Austin, Bryan/College Station, the Killeen/Temple/Belton area and Waco. More than 109,000 Catholic families live in the diocese, approximately 509,000 Catholics. There are 227 priests, 168 deacons, 46 brothers and 102 sisters serving in the diocese.