



3339 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008-3610

APOSTOLIC NUNCIATURE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

7303/19

25 February 2019

No. ....

*This No. Should Be Prefixed to the Answer*

**Sub Secreto Pontificio**

Your Excellency,

I now confirm in writing that the Holy Father Pope Francis has accepted your resignation from the pastoral governance of the Diocese of FRESNO and has appointed as Bishop of that same See the Most Reverend JOSEPH BRENNAN, up until now Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles.

The Holy Father has also appointed as Auxiliary Bishop of LOS ANGELES the Reverend Monsignor ALEJANDRO ACLAN. Monsignor Aclan is a priest of the Archdiocese and has recently served as Vicar for Clergy.

The date of publication of your resignation and these appointments will be **Tuesday, March 5, 2019**, at Noon in Rome, 6:00 AM here in Washington, D.C. Until that day and time this news must remain *strictly confidential*.

The Holy See will appoint you the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Fresno to serve until the installation of Bishop-designate Brennan. The Decree will be sent to you when it is received by this Nunciature.

I assure you of a remembrance in prayer and of my appreciation for your years of Episcopal ministry in the Church. May the Lord reward you abundantly for your faithful service. With cordial regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Christophe Pierre  
*Apostolic Nuncio*

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Most Reverend  
ARMANDO X. OCHOA  
Bishop of FRESNO  
1550 North Fresno Street  
Fresno, CA 93703