



- SPECIAL ADVISOR TO FFHL -

# ARCHBISHOP GABRIELE GIORDANO CACCIA



*Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America*

Pope Leo XIV has appointed Archbishop Gabriele Giordano Caccia as Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America, accepting the resignation of Cardinal Christophe Pierre, who turned 80. Caccia, until now, served as the Holy See's Permanent Observer to the United Nations in New York, a position he had held since 2019. Born in Milan on February 24, 1958, he was ordained a priest in 1983 by Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini, then Archbishop of Milan, and began his ministry in the parish of San Giovanni Bosco in the Lombardy capital, where he served until 1986. Sent to

Rome to the Pontifical Ecclesiastical Academy, he earned a doctorate in Theology and a licentiate in Canon Law from the Pontifical Gregorian University, thus completing the training that introduced him to the diplomatic service of the Holy See.

He entered the diplomatic corps in 1991 and held his first assignment at the nunciature in Tanzania. In 1993, he was appointed to the Secretariat of State, in the Section for General Affairs, where he collaborated with deputies Leonardo Sandri and then Fernando Filoni. In 2002, Saint John Paul II appointed him Assessor for General Affairs of the Secretariat of State, a position that placed him at the center of coordinating the Vatican's diplomatic apparatus. Benedict XVI appointed him Apostolic Nuncio to Lebanon in 2009, simultaneously assigning him the title of Titular Archbishop-Bishop of Sepino. The Pontiff himself conferred episcopal ordination on him on September 12 of that year. In 2017, Pope Francis transferred him to the Nunciature in the Philippines, where he continued his service until his subsequent appointment, in 2019, as Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations. In these roles, he has gained extensive experience in the Middle East, Asia, and multilateral contexts, representing the Holy See at significant moments in the life of their respective local Churches and at key international diplomatic forums.

As an observer at the UN, Caccia spoke in New York on January 19 at the general debate of the first

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session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity. Faced with the increase in “violations of the sacredness of human life” and the lack of “collective responses,” with consequences for “children, women, and members of ethnic and religious minorities,” who “continue to suffer persecution, violence, and death,” he stated on that occasion, as reported by the Osservatore Romano, that “effective preventive measures” are needed. “The Holy See,” Caccia added, “hopes for an open dialogue that is attentive to the legitimate concerns of all delegations in order to develop an effective and lasting response to crimes against humanity.”

The announcement of the appointment was welcomed by the American bishops. “It is with joy that I receive the news that Pope Leo XIV has appointed Archbishop Caccia as his personal representative and nuncio to the United States,” wrote Archbishop Paul Stagg Coakley, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in a statement. “On behalf of my brother bishops, I extend to him our warmest welcome and our prayerful support as he carries out his responsibilities in the United States, and we look forward to working with him. At the same time, I wish to express my sincere and devoted appreciation to Cardinal Pierre,” the statement continues, “who served as nuncio to the United States for nearly a decade. I have had many opportunities to work with Cardinal Pierre over the years, particularly over the past four months within the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.”