THE HIERARCHY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Hierarchy is the supreme governing body of the Catholic Church. It consists of the Roman Pontiff or the Pope, as the successor of Peter, and the Bishops joined together with him in one apostolic college to provide for the common good of the Church. In the exercise of his office, the Pope is assisted by the College of Cardinals, and further by the departments called *“dicasteries”* of the Roman Curia. The Bishops, sometimes with the title Patriarch or Archbishop, are united with the Pope in the governance of the whole Church. In their particular Sees or Dioceses, the Bishops are individually responsible for the teaching, sanctification and governance of the people of God. Other positions like Apostolic Vicars, Prefects, Abbots and Prelates are also joined in this work.

 HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

He is the Bishop of Rome and Vicar of Jesus Christ, Successor of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church.

Primate of Italy.

Archbishop and Metropolitan of the Roman Province, Sovereign of Vatican City State.

Servant of the Servants of God.

Pope Francis has the religious name *Jorge Mario Bergoglio, S.J.*

He was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina on December 17, 1936; ordained for the Jesuits on December 13, 1969; appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Buenos Aires on May 20, 1992 and had his Episcopal consecration on June 27, 1992; appointed Coadjutor Archbishop of Buenos Aires on June 3, 1997 and became Archbishop on February 28, 1998.

Created and proclaimed Cardinal by the Blessed John Paul II in the consistory of February 21, 2001.

Elected Pope on March 13, 2013 and installed on March 19, 2013.

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MOST REVEREND CLARENCE “LARRY” R. SILVA

Bishop of Honolulu.

Ordained priest on May 2, 1975.

Appointed Bishop of Honolulu on May 17, 2005

and consecrated on July 21, 2005.

DIOCESE OF HONOLULU

Corporate Title: *The Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii.*

Comprises all of the Hawaiian Islands, around 6,435 square miles.

The Hawaiian Islands were annexed as a Territory of the United States in 1898. Hawaii became the 50th State of the Union on August 21, 1959.

In 1826, a Prefecture Apostolic was erected for the Hawaiian Islands under the care of the Fathers of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary *(Picpus)*. The *Very Reverend Alexis Bachelot, SS.CC*, was the first Prefect-Apostolic. He arrived in Honolulu on July 7, 1827. In 1884, the Islands became a Vicariate Apostolic and was erected Diocese on September 10, 1941.

Chancery Office: *1184 Bishop St., Honolulu, HI 96813. Tel: 808-585-3300; Fax: 808-521-8428*.

Learn more by visiting: [www.catholichawaii.org](http://www.catholichawaii.org)

*(Adapted from The Official Catholic Directory, Anno Domini 2015)*