



ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory's Installation Mass to Take Place May 21 at
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington**

*Location change will allow more laity to attend the installation of the seventh
Archbishop of Washington next month.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - On Thursday, April 4, Pope Francis named Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory as the seventh Archbishop of Washington. ([Catholic Standard story.](#))

As the planning for the Mass of Installation began, both Cardinal Wuerl and Archbishop Gregory desired that the faithful of the Archdiocese of Washington be able to attend the Mass on May 21. At the time of the Vatican announcement, the installation was planned for the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle, the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Seating, however, is limited in Saint Matthew's and in order to accommodate the large number of laity who expressed interest in attending, the decision was made to move the Mass to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the largest Roman Catholic Church in North America. The Mass will be broadcast on Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and live-streamed on social media.

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019
2:00 PM (liturgical procession will begin at 1:30 PM)
Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception
400 Michigan Avenue, NE
Washington, D.C. 20017**

(Media outlets may contact the archdiocese to inquire about credentialing as well as satellite coordinates for the feed.)

Archbishop Gregory will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, May 26, 2019 at 10:00 AM at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle in Washington.

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The Archdiocese of Washington is home to over 655,000 Catholics, 139 parishes and 93 Catholic schools, located in Washington, D.C., and five Maryland counties: Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's and St. Mary's.