

Happy Birthday, Pope Leo!

This Sunday, we celebrate Pope Leo XIV's birthday, a chance to get to know him better and pray for him more. Here are some highlights from his first four months as Roman Pontiff and the trailer for "Leo from Chicago," an upcoming Vatican Media documentary about his early life.

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On 14 September, Pope Leo XIV celebrates his 70th birthday. Born in

Chicago in 1955, Robert Francis Prevost grew up in a Catholic family. His parents were Louis Marius Prevost, of French and Italian origin, and Mildred Martínez, of Spanish origin. He has two brothers, Louis Martin and John Joseph. He entered the Order of St. Augustine, was ordained a priest in 1982, and obtained a doctorate in Canon Law in Rome. His Augustinian identity, marked by community life and commitment to the poor, has been a constant in his vocation. On 8 May 2025, he assumed the pontificate as Leo XIV, succeeding Pope Francis and being proclaimed the 267th successor of Peter.

In his first four months as pontiff, he has underlined his desire to guide the Church amid the challenges of the new technological and social revolution, his tireless appeals to dialogue and peace, and his focus on

the dignity of work, justice, and the defence of people.

Here are 10 resources for getting to know Pope Leo XIV, revisiting some highlights from his first four months as pontiff, and growing in love for the Church and the Pope:

1. Biography of Pope Leo XIV
2. “Leo from Peru,” a Vatican Media documentary about his years of missionary work in Chiclayo, Chulucanas, Callao, Lima, and Trujillo
3. Pope Leo XIV’s first words to the faithful from St. Peter’s Basilica following his election
4. Message from the Prelate on the Election of Pope Leo XIV (8 May 2025)

5. Pray with Blessed Alvaro: “Where Peter is, there the Church is”
6. Pray with some of Pope Leo XIV’s first homilies and addresses
7. Catechetical audiences on Jesus Christ, our hope (continuing a cycle of audiences for the Jubilee year begun by Pope Francis)
8. Jubilee of Youth: “You are a message of hope”
9. Audio homily from St. Josemaría: Loyalty to the Church
10. “Leo from Chicago” (trailer), a sneak peek at an upcoming documentary about his early years and American roots
