



Statement from His Most Reverend Bishop Héctor Vila

December 31st, 2022

On this last day of the year, eve of the great Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, we join in mourning the loss of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. It is filled with gratefulness for his mission and ministry to our Mother Church that we remember his legacy. Ordained a priest in 1951, throughout his priesthood and later as a bishop and supreme pontiff, he has devotedly served the Church, offering his great intellect, his love and pastoral care for the people of God. Namely through his work alongside Saint John Paul II, as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the faith and in his multiple writings, he has always worked to defend and shed light for us on our Christian faith and on the gift of our nature as sons and daughters of God.

Throughout the world and in our Diocese of Whitehorse, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI is remembered today as a true servant of Christ, a gatepost for the message of the Gospels, a lamppost for the light of truth and a pillar of humility and witness.

We pray for the repose of his soul. Embraced in the light of our Heavenly Father, may he rest in peace.

+ Héctor Vila

Bishop of the Diocese of Whitehorse