

**MASS OF EPISCOPAL ORDINATION & INSTALLATION OF H.E. BISHOP ALDO BERARDI, O.S.S.T.
ON MARCH 18, 2023 AT THE CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF ARABIA, BAHRAIN**



**VOTE OF THANKS AFTER THE ORDINATION
BY H.E. BISHOP ALDO BERARDI, O.S.S.T.**

May the Most Holy Trinity be blessed, praised, and adored now and forever! O' Triune God shine upon us and protect us, "the children of light" (Luke 16:8; 1Thes 5:5), who have received "grace upon grace" (Jn1:16) and live by your love every day (1 Jn4:9). Holy Trinity, unite us by the Spirit present in our hearts (Rom 5:5).

I thank the Trinity for this beautiful ceremony that brought together the Church in the Arabian Peninsula, clergy and faithful of the four countries of the Apostolic Vicariate, who praise the same Lord and acclaim the one God (Eph4:5). Here we are witnesses of the love that was manifested in Jesus Christ (Act5:32). Through our differences, we have shown our unity and Trinitarian communion. It's sweet to be together (Ps133:1). O Holy Trinity, Keep us united! (Jn 17:11)

I thank the Trinity for Pope Francis, Cardinal Miguel Angel and my brother bishops who have been chosen as bearers of light and blessings. O Holy Trinity, bless their ministry, surround them with your love! (1Tim3:1-7)

I thank the Trinity for my religious Trinitarian family, which for eight centuries has been faithful to its mission of redemption, and which has shown to the poor and captives the tenderness of God and the joy of freedom. O Holy Trinity, strengthen our charism of liberation! (Gal 5:1)

I thank the Trinity for consecrated men and women. They give their lives for the Kingdom of Heaven. Preserve their purity and vocation! (1 Cor 7:32-34)

I thank the Holy Trinity for the brothers and sisters of the different Churches and ecclesial communities who have wished to participate fraternally in this liturgy. Help us to find the way to unity in sincerity and truth! (Eph 4:13)

Je remercie la Trinité Sainte pour ma famille naturelle. Je suis héritier d'une longue lignée qui a donné des prêtres pendant quatre siècles et des hommes et femmes de grande force et foi. Aujourd'hui, ma famille rend grâce à Dieu, Père, Fils et Saint Esprit pour les bénédictions reçues au cours des siècles et jusqu'à ce jour. Protège ma famille, et toutes les familles, en particulier les plus jeunes.

[I thank the Trinity for my natural family. I am the heir of a long line that has given priests for four centuries as well as men and women of fortitude and faith. Today my family gives thanks to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for blessings received through the centuries and on this day. Protect my family, and all families, especially our youngest members!]

أشكر الثالث من أجل شعب البحرين، وجلالة الملك، ومن أجل وليّ العهد، ومن أجل الحكومة، ومن جميع القادة المدنيين والدينيين. آمل أن يعرفوا انتمائنا وتفانينا واحترامنا وتعاوننا. بارك اللهم في شعوب جميع بلدان النيابة وحكامها وقادتها.

[I thank the Trinity for the people of Bahrain, for His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, for His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, for the Government, for all civil and religious leaders. May they know our attachment and dedication, our respect, and our collaboration. May God bless the people of all the countries of the Vicariate, their rulers, and leaders. (1 Tim 2:2)

I thank the Trinity for the gift of episcopal consecration. I ask for strength and courage to proclaim the Gospel, to sanctify his people and to guide the sheep to their eternal Home (1 Peter 5:1-3). I thank God for this beautiful Cathedral, the fruit of the work of the faithful and of the collaboration of local authorities, the mother-church of all churches of the Vicariate, and our Home and fraternal dwelling. The Cathedral manifests the Beauty of God and the glory of the Resurrection.

I thank the Trinity for Mary, mother of Jesus and our mother (Jn19:26-27). She is the Star of the sea and a spiritual guide who leads to Jesus Christ, Son of God, One Lord, who is "the Way, the Truth and the Life" (Jn14:6). Echoing the Blessed Mother's response at the Annunciation, today I say: "Let it be done to me according to your word!" (Luke 1:38)

I ask the prayer and intercession of the Saints from the Peninsula: St Arethas of Najran and his companions, martyrs, and St Isaac of Nineveh from Qatar, and the intercession of my holy founders, St John of Matha and St Felix of Valois.

May the Holy Trinity be blessed, praised, and adored in all places forever.

March 18th, 2023

Bp Aldo Berardi, O.SS.T.