POPE FRANCIS



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Silver Mitre with Three Gold Stripes - Three stripes represent the powers of Orders, Jurisdiction and Magisterium. The joining in the middle show their unity in the same person.

Crossed Keys - Symbols of spiritual and temporal power

Radiant Sun with "IHS" - Emblem of the order of the Society of Jesus

Star - Symbolizes Mary, Mother of Christ and the Church

Spikenard Flower - St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church

Motto - "By having mercy and by choosing." This was chosen from a Homily of St. Bede on the Feast of St. Matthew. At the age of 17 after confession, Jorge Bergoglio felt the mercy of God call him to religious life on the Feast of St. Matthew.

POPE BENEDICT XVI



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Silver Mitre with Three Gold Stripes - Three stripes represent the powers of Orders, Jurisdiction and Magisterium. The joining in the middle show their unity in the same person.

Shape of Shield - Chalice, commonly used in the Church

Crossed Keys - Symbols of spiritual and temporal power

Gold Chape - The chape (cape) in the upper corners of the shield is a symbol of religion, inspired by Benedictine spirituality.

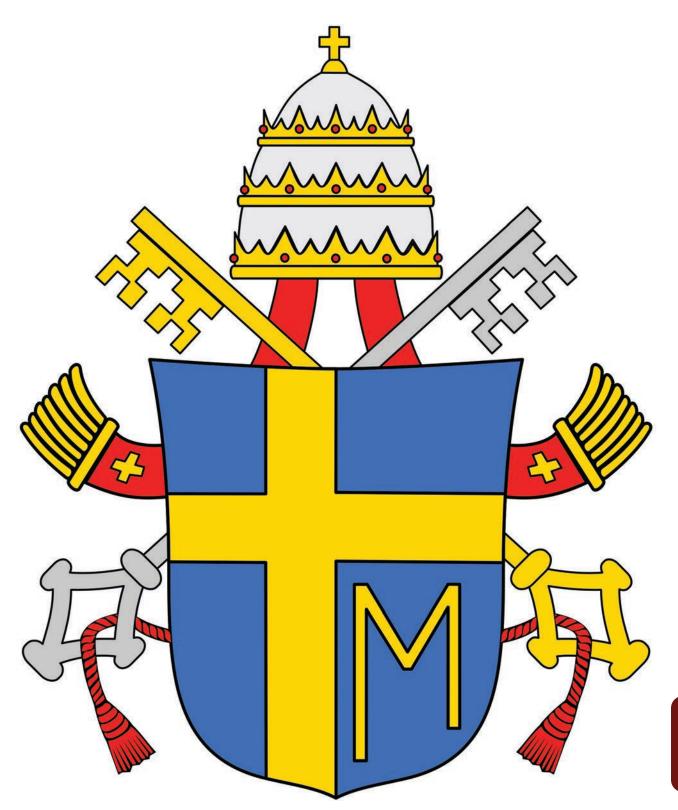
Moor's Head - Ancient emblem of the Diocese of Freising

Brown Bear - This recalls the story of St. Corbinian, first Bishop of Freising, who was attacked by a bear. The saint tamed the animal and made him carry his baggage to Rome. The bear is a symbol of the bishop, tamed by God's grace and the pack a symbol of the burden of the episcopate.

Gold Shell - This recalls the legend of St. Augustine who met a child trying to scoop the water of the sea into a hole in the sand. Augustine connected this to his own attempts to try to encompass the infinite God into the human mind. It is also a symbol of pilgrims.

Pallium with Three Red Crosses - Pastor of the flock entrusted to him by Christ

POPE ST. JOHN PAUL II





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Triple Tiara - Symbol of papal authority. The three crowns represent the powers of Orders, Jurisdiction and Magisterium

Crossed Keys - Symbols of spiritual and temporal power

Latin Cross - Represents the central Christian mystery of Redemption

Golden "M" - Mary beneath the Cross