



Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

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PRESS RELEASE

Ordinary responds to Pope Benedict's resignation

Monday, February 11, 2013

Monsignor Keith Newton, the Ordinary of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, has made the following statement following the news from Rome today:

The news of our Holy Father's decision to relinquish the office of the papacy is one which has surprised and saddened us all today.

Pope Benedict's pontificate has been an astonishing moment in the life of the Church. He has exercised his pontificate with gentle wisdom and deep humility and will be especially remembered for his clear and profound teaching. Those of us in the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham have particular reason to thank God for his pontificate, as he opened the way for Anglicans to enter into the full communion of the Catholic Church through his Apostolic Constitution *Anglicanorum Coetibus*. He will forever hold a place in the hearts of those of us to whom he has been, in a particular way, a shepherd and Father.

We pray now for him and for the whole Church. We entrust the College of Cardinals to the intercession of the Mother of God, Our Lady of Walsingham, as they exercise their sacred duty to elect his successor.

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