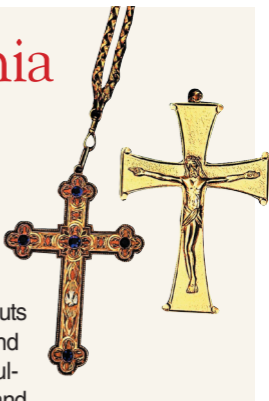


Vesture, insignia of the Bishop

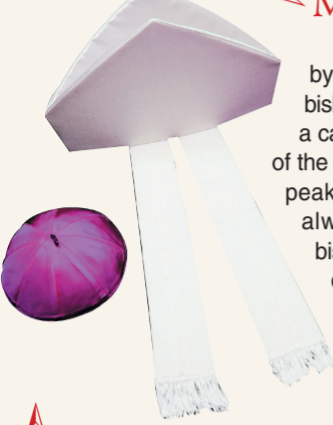
Pectoral cross >

A cross, suspended by a chain or silken cord, and worn over or close to a bishop's heart. Before he puts on the cross, the bishop kisses it and says a prayer for protection, mindfulness of the Passion of Jesus Christ, and remembrance of the successes of those who have professed the faith. Bishops have two pectoral crosses — one for daily life and one for ceremonial uses. Bishop Bambera's daily pectoral cross is a gift from his mother, Irene, and his sister and brother-in-law, Karen and Charles Hoffman. The pectoral cross Bishop Bambera will wear during his ordination and installation belonged to Bishop William O'Hara, first Bishop of Scranton.



< Mitre

A tall headpiece worn only by the pope, cardinals and bishops. The mitre is related to a cap that was historically part of the pope's regalia. The mitre is peaked toward heaven, and is always set aside when the bishop prays. Two flaps hang down the back. The mitre to be presented to Bishop Bambera is a gift from his niece and nephew, Elizabeth and Charles Hoffman.



^ Zucchetto

A round, silk skullcap worn by the bishop. The caps were originally worn to cover the bare spot on a cleric's head where a ring of hair was removed as part of his acceptance into the clerical order. The color of a zucchetto corresponds to the wearer's ecclesiastical rank: the pope wears white, cardinals wear scarlet and bishops wear violet. It is worn throughout most of the Mass.

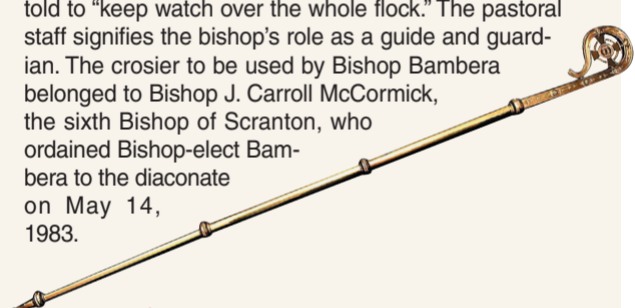
'Concilio ring' >

The episcopal ring is a sign of the bishop's spiritual marriage to the church. He wears it at all times as a symbol of his fidelity. It is also an emblem of the bishop's discretion, since rings were once used to seal private letters. Bishop Bambera will use the ring, called the "Concilio ring," commissioned by Pope Paul VI and given to Bishop J. Carroll McCormick as a participant of the Second Vatican Council.



The crosier >

The pastoral staff used by the bishop, the crosier was used as a liturgical object beginning in the seventh century, and its symbolism is traced to a shepherd's crook. During the rite of ordination, the new bishop is passed the crosier and told to "keep watch over the whole flock." The pastoral staff signifies the bishop's role as a guide and guardian. The crosier to be used by Bishop Bambera belonged to Bishop J. Carroll McCormick, the sixth Bishop of Scranton, who ordained Bishop-elect Bambera to the diaconate on May 14, 1983.



The coat of arms v

A sign of nobility, the coat of arms is designed according to the principles of the ancient art of heraldry. The bishop may use it at the top of church documents; on stationery, sacred vestments and the episcopal throne; and over the entrance to his residence and his cathedral door.

A bishop is linked to his diocese and its people by combining his personal coat of arms with the diocesan coat of arms on the shield — the central element of the arms. The Diocese

of Scranton's arms, on the left, feature the crossed red keys of St. Peter, the patron saint of the cathedral. On either side of the keys are blue circles that refer to the arms of William Penn, the founder of Pennsylvania. The comet at the top of the shield alludes to a similar mark in the arms of Pope Leo XIII, who stressed the rights and dignity of all laborers.

Bishop Bambera's personal arms, on the right, are divided across the middle by a jagged black line, which alludes to the mountains in both Northeast Pennsylvania, where the bishop was born, and the region in southern Poland from which his mother's family and father's maternal family emigrated. The green background with gold stripes symbolizes farmland ready for harvest and is a visual pun on the bishop's name, Bambera, which comes from "bamber" — a regional term meaning "farmer" in an area of west-central Poland from which the bishop's paternal family emigrated. The eleven stripes represent the eleven counties of the Diocese of Scranton. At the top of the arms is a "Chi-Rho," a symbol for Christ, in a form the alludes both to the arms of Cardinal John O'Connor, who ordained Bishop Bambera as a priest, and Cardinal Justin Rigali, the diocesan Apostolic Administrator whom Bishop Bambera served as delegate.

A pastoral theme connects the whole arms, in which the Chi-Rho represents the sun nourishing the landscape of the diocese.

