

## Cardinal Tolentino de Mendonça represents the Pope at the papal coronation in Mafra

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Cardinal José Tolentino de Mendonça, prefect for Culture and Education of the Holy See, is the Pope's special envoy for the canonical coronation of Our Lady of Solitude in Mafra, an official source said.

The pontifical coronation of the image of Our Lady of Solitude, which is venerated in the Basilica of Mafra, district of Lisbon, will take place on September 17, at 11:00 am.

Cardinal Portuguese will preside at the end of the afternoon of September 16, at 6:45 p.m., the solemn vespers, in which "music will be played by the six organs of the basilica, which has not been interpreted since the French Invasions" in the early nineteenth century, according to a note from the Royal Brotherhood of the Blessed Sacrament (RISSM) sent to Lusa Agency.

The prelate will Portuguese preside at the Mass for the papal coronation at 11:00 a.m. on September 17.

This is the third image in Portugal to be crowned in the name and with the authority of the Pontiff, the two previous ones having been Our Lady of Sameiro, in Braga, in 1904, and Our Lady of Fatima, in 1946. For RISSM, "it is the recognition, by the Holy See, of the devotion to the Blessed Virgin present in the venerable image of the Soledade of the Basilica of Mafra, with the purpose of extending to the whole Catholic world the importance of this Marian title and its cult."

*"For the Brotherhood, this concession constitutes a renewed incentive to increase the cult of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to whom the Basilica of Mafra was dedicated in 1730," added the RISSM judge, Francisco Simões do Paço.*

The religious ceremonies close the IV Pan-European Forum of Brotherhoods, which for the first time will be held in Portugal, on the 16th and 17th of September.