



THE MASS OF WELCOME for

His Excellency
THE MOST REVEREND JAMES FRANCIS CHECCHIO, JCD

Coadjutor Archbishop of New Orleans

celebrated by

His Excellency
THE MOST REVEREND GREGORY MICHAEL AYMOND

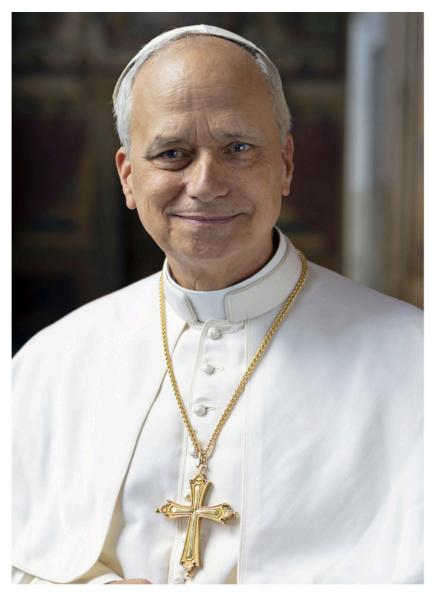
Archbishop of New Orleans

in the presence of

His Eminence
CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE
Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America

as appointed by HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV

Tuesday, the Eighteenth of November
Two Thousand and Twenty-Five
Two o'clock in the Afternoon
Cathedral-Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France
New Orleans, Louisiana





Les P.P. XIV

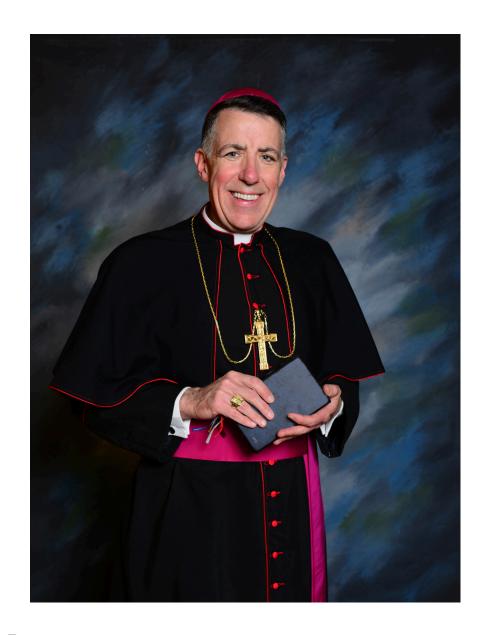
HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV



HIS EMINENCE CHRISTOPHE CARDINAL PIERRE APOSTOLIC NUNCIO TO THE UNITED STATES



HIS EXCELLENCY
THE MOST REVEREND
GREGORY MICHAEL AYMOND
ARCHBISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS



HIS EXCELLENCY
THE MOST REVEREND
JAMES FRANCIS CHECCHIO, JCD
COADJUTOR ARCHBISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS

Bishops and Archbishops of New Orleans

FIRST BISHOP

Luis Peñalver y Cárdenas 1793 - 1801

SECOND BISHOP

Louis William DuBourg, S.S. 1815 - 1826

ADMINISTRATOR

Joseph Rosati, C.M. 1826 - 1829

THIRD BISHOP

Leo Raymond de Neckère, C.M. 1829 - 1833

FOURTH BISHOP AND FIRST ARCHBISHOP

Antoine Blanc 1835 - 1850/1850 - 1860

SECOND ARCHBISHOP

Jean-Marie Odin 1861 - 1870

THIRD ARCHBISHOP

Napoléon-Joseph Perché 1870 - 1883

FOURTH ARCHBISHOP

Francis Xavier Leray 1883 - 1887

FIFTH ARCHBISHOP

Francis Janssens 1888 - 1897

SIXTH ARCHBISHOP

Placide-Louis Chapelle 1897 - 1905

SEVENTH ARCHBISHOP

James Hubert Blenk, S.M. 1906 - 1917

EIGHTH ARCHBISHOP

John William Shaw 1918 - 1934

NINTH ARCHBISHOP

Joseph Francis Rummel 1935 - 1964

TENTH ARCHBISHOP

John Patrick Cody 1964 - 1965

ELEVENTH ARCHBISHOP

Philip Matthew Hannan 1965 - 1989

TWELFTH ARCHBISHOP

Francis Bible Schulte 1989 - 2002

THIRTEENTH ARCHBISHOP

Alfred Clifton Hughes 2002 - 2009

FOURTEENTH ARCHBISHOP

Gregory Michael Aymond 2009 - Present



Coat of Arms

RECONCILIAMINI DEO

Be Reconciled to God 2 Cor 5:20

As coadjutor, Archbishop Checchio retains his personal coat of arms which reflects his heritage and his life. Upon assuming the office of Archbishop, his personal coat of arms will incorporate the design and charges (symbols) in the archdiocesan coat of arms, which is pictured on the cover.

Archbishop Checchio's personal coat of arms is composed of an azure field, the color which symbolizes the separation from the worldly values and the ascent of the soul toward God, therefore the run of the celestial virtues which raise themselves from the things of the earth toward the sky. The chevron is an heraldic device, best described as an inverted "V", and is one of the most ancient figures in Roman Catholic Church heraldry; it signifies the rafter, which holds the roof of the church, and symbolizes the concept of protection, which is the responsibility of the bishop who teaches, governs, and sanctifies. The chevron is in silver (argent), the color of transparency, also of truth and justice, which are fundamental requirements of the Bishop's pastoral service.

Under the chevron, we find a sheep debruised by a shepherd's crook to represent the ten years of forming men for the priesthood as Rector at the Pontifical North American College in Rome before his ordination as a bishop.

The shell, a symbol of St. James, recalls the name of the archbishop and that of his father, who with his mother, Helen, presented their son for baptism and raised him in the faith. The crescent moon appears on the coat of arms of the Diocese of Camden, where Archbishop Checchio was born and brought up in the Catholic faith and for whose service the archbishop was ordained a priest. Moreover, the silver crescent honors Our Blessed Mother, in her title of the Immaculate Conception; this charge also appears on the arms of the Pontifical North American College, where the archbishop was formed for the priesthood and later served as rector.

Archbishop Checchio's episcopal motto is *Reconciliamini Deo* – translated as "Be reconciled to God". Taken from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians: "So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God." This motto recalls St. Paul's appeal for us to continue this central mission for which Jesus was sent by the Father.

What is a Coadjutor

The word coadjutor comes from a Latin term meaning "helper" or "assistant." A coadjutor archbishop is a bishop appointed by the Pope to serve alongside the current archbishop in a sacred partnership. This unique role allows him to share in the leadership and pastoral care of the archdiocese while preparing to assume full responsibility in the future.

A coadjutor archbishop holds the right of succession. Upon Archbishop Aymond's retirement, Archbishop Checchio will automatically become the fifteenth Archbishop of New Orleans. During this time of shared ministry, Archbishop Checchio will learn about the life and needs of the Archdiocese, its parishes, institutions, culture, food, and people. This period of transition provides for a seamless continuation of pastoral care and spiritual leadership, provides stability and unity for the people of God, and ensures that the new archbishop is well prepared to enter his new ministry.

Today, Archbishop Checchio formally begins his service as coadjutor through the Rite of Possession of Office. United as the Body of Christ, the Church, we call upon Christ the Good Shepherd to guide, strengthen and aid him so that his ministry may be marked by wisdom, compassion, and deep faith.

Ministers of the Liturgy

CELEBRANT

The Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond Fourteenth Archbishop of New Orleans

HOMILIST

The Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD Coadjutor Archbishop of New Orleans

CONCELEBRATING PRELATES

His Eminence Christophe Cardinal Pierre Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America

His Eminence Daniel Cardinal DiNardo Archbishop Emeritus of Galveston-Houston

His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan

Archbishop of New York

His Eminence William C. Skurla Archeparch of Pittsburgh

The Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre

Archbishop of Louisville

The Most Reverend Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv Archbishop of Atlanta

> The Most Reverend Bernard A. Hebda Archbishop of Saint Paul & Minneapolis

The Most Reverend Joe S. Vásquez Archbishop of Galveston-Houston

The Most Reverend Alfred C. Hughes Archbishop Emeritus of New Orleans

The Most Reverend Thomas J. Rodi Archbishop Emeritus of Mobile

The Most Reverend Kurt R. Burnette

Eparch of Passaic

The Most Reverend William D. Byrne Bishop of Springfield

The Most Reverend Brendan J. Cahill Bishop of Victoria

The Most Reverend Simon Peter Engurait

Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux

The Most Reverend Michael G. Duca Bishop of Baton Rouge

The Most Reverend John C. Iffert Bishop of Covington

The Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman

Bishop of Biloxi

The Most Reverend Joseph R. Kopacz

Bishop of Jackson

The Most Reverend David J. Malloy

Bishop of Rockford

The Most Reverend Francis I. Malone
Bishop of Shreveport

The Most Reverend Robert W. Marshall Bishop of Alexandria

The Most Reverend Robert J. McClory

Bishop of Gary

The Most Reverend Wm. Michael Mulvey
Bishop of Corpus Christi

The Most Reverend Michael F. Olson

Bishop of Fort Worth

The Most Reverend Glen John Provost Bishop of Lake Charles

The Most Reverend Stephen J. Raica

Bishop of Birmingham

The Most Reverend J. Mark Spalding

Bishop of Nashville

The Most Reverend David P. Talley

Bishop of Memphis

The Most Reverend David L. Toups

Bishop of Beaumont

The Most Reverend Austin A. Vetter Bishop of Helena

The Most Reverend Joseph A. Williams Bishop of Camden

The Most Reverend Robert J. Baker Bishop Emeritus of Birmingham

The Most Reverend Richard E. Pates

Bishop Emeritus of Des Moines

The Most Reverend Dennis J. Sullivan

Bishop Emeritus of Camden

The Most Reverend Italo Dell'Oro, CRS Auxiliary Bishop of Galveston-Houston

The Most Reverend John Nhàn Trần

Auxiliary Bishop of Atlanta

The Right Reverend Justin Brown, OSB Abbot President, Swiss-American Congregation

The Right Reverend Gregory Boquet, OSB

Abbot of Saint Joseph Abbey

Assisting Deacons

Deacon Lieu Tran Deacon Michael P. Whitehouse Deacon Jesse A. Watley

College of Consultors

Very Reverend Peter Akpoghiran, J.C.D.
Reverend Rodney P. Bourg
Reverend Douglas H. Busch
Reverend Augustine DeArmond, O.P., J.C.L.
Reverend Monsignor Frank Giroir

Reverend Daniel H. Green Reverend Timothy Hedrick, J.C.L. Very Reverend Patrick J. Williams, V.G. Reverend Joseph Man Tran

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

Reverend Nile C. Gross Reverend Monsignor Kenneth J. Hedrick Deacon David P. Aaron Reverend David M. Doyle Reverend David M. Ducote Deacon Ronald J. Drez Deacon Jody J. Fortunato Very Reverend Ajani K. Gibson Very Reverend Jonathan P. Hemelt Deacon Dennis J. Hickey Deacon Lawrence C. Houston Deacon Craig P. Taffaro

SERVERS

Mr. Brett Barrios Mr. Edward Bergeron Mr. Ky Bui Mr. Ethan Camet Mr. Christian Chaney Mr. Andrew Fourcade Mr. Jake Gutierrez Mr. Timothy Ngo Mr. Gerald Permenter Mr. William Sigl Mr. Seth Smith Mr. Peter Vale Mr. James Vu

READERS

Mrs. Gayle M. Benson

Sr. Marianne McCann, MPF

INTERCESSORS

Mrs. Sheyla Saballos Mr. Adlai DePano Mrs. Hahn Tran Ms. Mel Ferreira Mr. Erase Jean-Philippe Sr. Felicity Heither, OP Ms. Katherine K. Howat Mr. Jae-Heung Kim

GIFT BEARERS

Mrs. Helen Checchio Mr. Cristian Butricio Mr. Enzo Butricio Mr. Bradley Kehoe Ms. Danielle Kehoe Ms. Catherine McCarron Mr. Leander Mascarenas Br. Juan Gabriel Seglie, OP Ms. Claire Gallagher, CV

MUSIC MINISTERS

Saint Louis Cathedral Choir
Mrs. Sarah Jane McMahon Briscoe, *Director/Cantor*Mr. Jesse Reeks, *Organist*Mr. Fritzgerald Barrau, *Trumpet*Ms. Mollie Pate, *French Horn*Mr. Samuel Tyree, *Trombone*Mr. Robert Nunez, *Tuba*Ms. Brenda Castillo, *Timpani*

Saint Joseph the Worker Parish Choir Mr. Henry Washington, *Director* Mr. Eric Raymond, *Pianist* Mr. Earl Smith, *Drums*

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Very Reverend Patrick J. Williams Reverend Wayne C. Paysse Mrs. Sarah C. McDonald Ms. Maureen Scheuermann

Mrs. Betty-Ann M. Hickey Reverend David M. Ducote Deacon Raphael Duplechain

Order of Worship

Preludes

God Is

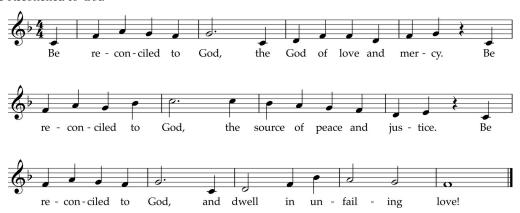
Ave Verum Corpus

Introductory Rites

All stand.

PROCESSIONAL

Be Reconciled to God



RITE OF POSSESSION OF OFFICE

Sit.

PRESENTATION OF THE APOSTOLIC MANDATE

The Pope's personal representative to the United States reads a translation of the papal bull, through which Pope Leo XIV appoints Archbishop Checchio as coadjutor archbishop of New Orleans. This act formally announces and confirms the bishop's appointment to the clergy, religious, and lay faithful. It symbolizes that the bishop's authority comes directly from the Holy Father and that his ministry is in full communion with the universal Church.

INSPECTION OF THE APOSTOLIC MANDATE

Archbishop Checchio shows the original document to Archbishop Aymond, the college of consultors, and to all present. By showing this document to the college of consultors, the new bishop's appointment is formally authenticated.

GREETING BY ARCHDIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives of the clergy, religious and laity from throughout the Archdiocese of New Orleans as well as civic officials and members of other Christian, Jewish, and Islamic communities greet Archbishop Checchio. This gesture expresses the community's joy, trust, and support as a spiritual shepherd who will guide and care for his flock in faith and unity.

Very Reverend Patrick J. Williams

Archdiocesan Priests

Reverend Matthew Clark, OSB Religious Order Priests

Deacon Raphael Duplechain Mrs. Carol Duplechain Deacons and Wives

Br. Ronald Travers, SC Br. Juan Gabriel Seiglie, OP Sr. Alicia Costa, SSF Religious Sisters and Brothers

> Ms. Miko Melancon Ms. Elizabeth Rizzo Consecrated Virgins

Mr. Juan Bosco Escrivá Mr. Andrew Heck Seminarians

Mrs. Michele Kot Mrs. Alison Guerra *Archdiocesan Staff*

Mrs. Cynthia Hayes Catholic Charities

The Kane Family Families of the Archdiocese

Ms. Alecia Bloodworth Mr. Leander Mascarenhas Young Adults Mr. Ashton Campbell Ms. Raelynn Houston Ms. Gianna Jackson Mr. Daniel Whitehouse Youth and Catholic School Students

Dr. RaeNell Houston Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Mrs. Gayle Benson

The Honorable Michael Bayham Louisiana State Legislature

The Honorable LaToya Cantrell Mayor of the City of New Orleans

Superintendent Anne Kirkpatrick New Orleans Police Department

The Right Reverend Shannon Duckworth

Episcopal Bishop of Louisiana

Reverend Leah Rachal Interfaith Church Council

His Eminence Sevastianos Skordallos Greek Orthodox Metropolitan of Atlanta

> Rabbi Daniel Sherman Temple Sinai

> Sheikh Yacine Bodjema Imam of Masjid Omar

GLORY TO GOD



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sit.

FIRST READING

Job 38:1, 8-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 98



The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders. his right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. R

El Señor da a conocer su victoria, revela a las naciones su justicia: se acordó de su misericordia y su fidelidad en favor de la casa de Israel. R

le - lu - ia,

al - le

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout to the Lord all the earth; break forth into joyous song, and sing out your praise.

**Total Control of the earth have seen the salvation of the earth;

**Total Control of the earth have seen the earth have seen the salvation of the earth;

**Total Control of the earth have seen the earth have s

Que alaben al Señor al son del arpa y de instrumentos musicales; que al son de trompetas y clarines, al Señor, que es el rey, todos aclamen.

▼

SECOND READING

Acts 28:11-16, 30-31

Stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



lu - ia,

le - lu

ia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

Sit.

HOMILY

Stand.

Universal Prayer

After each intercession:



Spanish

That the wisdom of God's word will guide, inspire, and strengthen Pope Leo, Archbishop Aymond, Archbishop Checchio, and all who preach the Gospel. R

Tagalog

That the tenderness of God's love will touch the hearts of all in civil authority, so that all people may live in peace and unity. R

Vietnamese

That the presence of God will console all who mourn, those who are sick, lonely, imprisoned, or outcast. R

Portuguese

That the Eucharist will draw us together in love, fellowship, and service. R

Haitian Creole

That those who struggle to seek forgiveness and those who struggle to forgive, may know God's great gift of reconciliation.

**Real Property of The Property

English

That all whom God is calling to the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life, may respond with open and generous hearts. R

French

That those who suffer from storms, natural disasters, or violence, may find protection and safety of life and property. Ry

Korean

That Archbishop Checchio's father, James, and all who have died, may be welcomed into the heavenly kingdom and rejoice in the presence of Christ. R

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

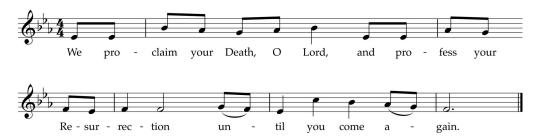
All of Me

PREFACE ACCLAMATION

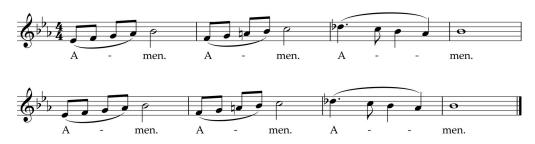


Kneel.

Mystery of Faith

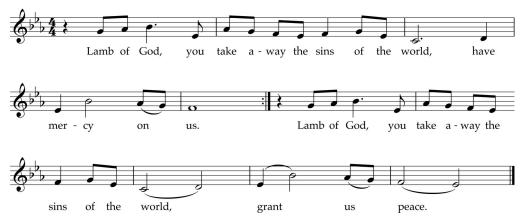


AMEN



Stand.

LAMB OF GOD



Kneel.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Anima Christi

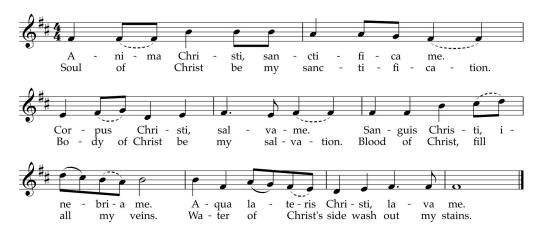


Table of Mercy



CONCLUDING RITES

Sit.

REMARKS

Stand.

BLESSING

Presider: The Lord be with you. All: And with your spirit

Presider: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All: Now and for ever.

Presider: Our help in in the name of the Lord.

All: Who made heaven and earth.

Presider: May almighty God bless you,

the Father, ★ and the Son, ★ and the Holy ★ Spirit.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All: Thanks be to God.

RECESSIONAL

O God Beyond All Praising



You're Invited

Join us at the

OLD URSULINE CONVENT 1112 CHARTRES STREET

immediately following Mass for a reception in honor of Archbishop James F. Checchio.

THE CONVENT IS APPROXIMATELY
A 6 MINUTE WALK FROM THE CATHEDRAL.

Upon exiting the Cathedral, turn left towards Saint Ann Street and continue straight for 4 blocks.

Buses are available at the corner of Chartres and Saint Ann Streets for those who cannot walk to the convent and will be available throughout the reception.

Guidelines for the Reception of Holy Communion

FOR CATHOLICS

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (Code of Canon Law, canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

FOR OUR FELLOW CHRISTIANS

We welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters. We pray that our common baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer for us "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). Because Catholics believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of the oneness of faith, life, and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing in exceptional circumstances by other Christians requires permission according to the directives of the diocesan bishop and the provisions of canon law (canon 844 §4). Members of Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. According to Roman Catholic Discipline, the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of Communion by Christians of these Churches (canon 844 §3).

FOR THOSE NOT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

All who are not receiving Holy Communion are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus and with one another.

FOR NON-CHRISTIANS

We also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.

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Thank You!

We give heartfelt thanks to all who joined us in celebrating this joyous Mass of Welcome.

With deep gratitude, we welcome Archbishop Checchio as he enters into shared ministry as our shepherd and spiritual father.

May the Lord bless his ministry among us, and may the Holy Spirit guide him in wisdom, compassion, and faith as he prepares to lead our archdiocesan family.

We offer our sincere gratitude:

To the Apostolic Nuncio, Christophe Cardinal Pierre,
for his presence with us, and for his fatherly care to the Church in the United States;
To the clergy, religious, and lay faithful who have gathered in prayerful unity,
representing the many parishes, schools, offices and ministries of our Archdiocese;
To the liturgical ministers and all who assisted in the preparation of this celebration;
To the Archdiocesan Office of Worship, the Archdiocesan Special Events Committee,
the Very Reverend Patrick Williams,
the rector of St. Louis Cathedral, and the cathedral staff,
whose unseen hours of preparation made this celebration possible.

The Special Events Committee

Very Reverend Patrick J. Williams Reverend David M. Ducote Deacon Raphael Duplechain Mrs. Betty-Ann M. Hickey Mrs. Sarah C. McDonald Reverend Wayne C. Paysse Ms. Maureen Scheuermann

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