



Diocese
of Austin

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Statement on recent documentary

Today, the Diocese of Austin released the following statement:

“In light of the recent documentary, *Francesco*, in which Pope Francis reportedly mentions civil unions, the Diocese of Austin affirms the Church’s teaching that marriage is an indissoluble bond between one man and one woman.

Pope Francis’ thoughts likely flow from the importance of “accompaniment,” a running theme of his pontificate. The Holy Father has consistently encouraged Catholics, and all people of good will, to accompany those in need of material and spiritual support. His comments do not change Christ’s teaching on marriage.

Bishop Joe S. Vásquez calls each of us to reflect on the theme of pastoral accompaniment as a way to cultivate charity and grow together in wisdom and holiness.”

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The Roman Catholic Diocese of Austin includes 127 parishes, or faith communities, in 25 counties in Central Texas. Bishop Joe S. Vásquez leads the diocese, which stretches over 21,000 square miles. More than 585,000 Catholics live in the diocese.