



The Holy See Press Office has announced that Pope Francis has chosen the motto "Miserando atque eligendo". In Latin this means "By having mercy on him and choosing him". At the same time, the Holy See presented the Holy Father's coat of arms, which is similar to what he had as Archbishop of Buenos Aires: the blue field is surmounted by the mitre as Bishop of Rome and the keys of Saint Peter; the cross at the centre is the symbol of the Jesuits; the flaming sun with the letters IHS are the first three letters of Jesus' name in Greek, recalling Our Lord's saving mission; the star represents the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the flower of the spikenard or nard is used in Spanish iconography to represent Saint Joseph.

[More information on the Vatican Information Service website](#)