



**UTAH APPOINTMENT.** Newly ordained Bishop Oscar Azarcon Solis receives applause from a packed Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles in Los Angeles, after becoming the first Filipino-American bishop in the United States, in this February 2004 file photo. Bishop Solis is set to be installed as the leader of Salt Lake City's Catholic diocese, ending the city's longest period without a bishop. (AP Photo/Rick Loomis, Pool, File)

## First Filipino-American bishop ordained in U.S. to serve in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The first Filipino-American bishop ordained in the United States is set to be installed as the leader of Salt Lake City's Catholic diocese, ending the city's longest period without a bishop.

Bishop Oscar Azarcon Solis will replace John C. Wester, who was appointed archbishop in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in 2015, the *Salt Lake Tribune* reported. Solis, who can move seamlessly from English to Spanish to Tagalog, was born in San Jose City in the Philippines and was ordained a priest in 1979.

Solis, 63, previously served in New Jersey and Louisiana before becoming an auxiliary bishop in Los Angeles. Because he served in an Italian/Cuban parish in New Jersey, a French/Creole parish in Louisiana, and the polyglot parishes of Southern California, people often ask what kind of accent he has.

To that, Solis quips, "I can't even under-

stand myself now."

The Rev. Alex Aclan, vicar for clergy at the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, said Solis was key in establishing the National Association of Filipino Priests-USA.

Solis is a "major ingredient in the glue that has bonded the Filipino priests together," Aclan said.

The Los Angeles bishops gifted Solis a parka, skis, and an Apple watch ahead of his move to Utah.

In his most recent position, Solis visited some 200 churches. People who know Solis say he is caring and even-tempered.

When worshippers showed up at the office looking for help or someone to talk to, Solis "would take the time to listen to them ... (and) give them food from his pantry and give them money," said Angelic Nunez, his assistant.

Solis's official installation will take place at the Cathedral of the Madeleine.

## Film spotlights human trafficking as Trump promises action

By Philip Marcelo

The Associated Press

**B**OSTON — A new documentary is spotlighting human trafficking across the globe, with a focus on the grassroots activists trying to end the scourge.

*Stopping Traffic* premiered at the Global Cinema Film Festival in the Boston suburb of Belmont on March 11.

The film is the first by Sadhvi Siddhali Shree, a 33-year-old Jain monk, Iraq War veteran, and child-abuse survivor who intends to distribute it free of charge to universities, nonprofits, and government agencies.

The film, which was financed through online donations, comes as President Donald Trump is promising to bring the "full force and weight" of the U.S. government to combat human trafficking. He says he will order the departments of Justice and Homeland Security to closely examine the resources they're devoting to the issue.

Shree gives credit to the Republican billionaire for placing an emphasis on human trafficking early in his tenure, but stressed it still remains to be seen what is actually done.

"We need action to back that up," she said. "We will need a lot of resources, legislation, and law enforcement."

If Trump is serious about addressing the issue, he should take cues from Canada, Sweden, Norway, Iceland, France, Ireland, and other nations that have enacted laws harshly punishing pimps, traffickers, and clients, rather than the prostitutes, said Rosi Orozco, an anti-trafficking activist in Mexico City who is featured in the documentary.

"These are very good words from your president," she said. "This could be [the] most



important issue to unite U.S. and Mexico."

Shree, who is the spiritual director at the Siddhayatan Spiritual Retreat Center and Ashram in Windom, Texas, acknowledges she wasn't aware of the extent of human trafficking and was shocked at what she learned from Orozco and other activists.

Estimates vary, but the International Labour Organization believed some 21 million people were being trafficked worldwide in a 2014 report.

The illicit activities earned captors roughly \$150 billion, with nearly \$100 billion coming from commercial sexual exploitation, the report by the Geneva-based special agency of the United Nations found. The remaining \$50 billion came from other forms of forced labor.

While trafficking is a global issue, it's also important to remember that America isn't immune — and that it's not just foreigners

## Nike unveils hijab for Muslim athletes

By Anne M. Peterson  
AP Sports Writer

**B**EAVERTON, Ore. — Nike has unveiled a hijab for Muslim female athletes.

The Nike Pro Hijab has been in development for a year, the company said. Athletes contributed input into the product, and figure skater Zahra Lari was among those who tested it.

The pull-on hijab is made of light, stretchy fabric that includes tiny holes for breathability and an elongated back so it will not come untucked. It will come in three colors: black, vast grey, and obsidian. Beaverton-based Nike says the hijab will be available for sale next year.

Lari, a hopeful for the Winter Olympics next year in Pyeongchang, South Korea, posted photos of herself wearing the hijab on her Instagram page. Lari is from Abu Dhabi and represents the United Arab Emirates.

"Can't believe this is finally here!!" she wrote.

### Dog deformed by Thai butcher is now thriving in New Jersey

SEWELL, N.J. (AP) — A dog rescued from the dinner table but left with half a face in Thailand has found a new home in New Jersey and is thriving.

Karen Quigley and Michelle Weirich raised



**LIGHTWEIGHT HEADSCARF.** In this undated image provided by Nike, figure skater Zahra Lari wears Nike's new hijab for Muslim female athletes. The pull-on hijab is made of light, stretchy fabric that includes tiny holes for breathability and an elongated back so it will not come untucked. It will come in three colors: black, vast grey, and obsidian. Beaverton-based Nike says the hijab will be available for sale next year. (Nike via AP)

Last summer, fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad of New York became the first Muslim-American woman to compete for the United States wearing a hijab at the Olympics. She earned a bronze medal at the Rio Games.

The U-17 Women's World Cup last October in Jordan marked the first time Muslim players wore

headscarves during a FIFA event. Soccer's international governing body formally lifted a ban on head coverings in 2014, recognizing Muslim and Sikh players.

Meanwhile, the governing body for basketball, FIBA, has come under fire for banning headscarves during international competition.

more than \$11,000 through a fundraising website to adopt and care for the two-year-old mixed breed dog named Teresa. A man unsuccessfully tried to butcher the animal for food.

"Unfortunately in Thai-

land people do eat dog meat, and a person had a machete and he was trying to cut her head off," Quigley said.

In Thailand, catching, selling, and killing dogs for meat is not illegal, but exporting them without an official certificate is. Dog meat is not popular in Thailand, but is considered a delicacy in Vietnam.

Teresa was left without a nose and parts of her top jaw. The money paid for her travel and surgery to remove teeth and mend her tongue.

Teresa is doing well at Quigley's home in Sewell. She does everything a normal dog would do, Quigley told WPVI-TV in Philadelphia.

"She can do everything and that's what's so remarkable about Teresa," Quigley said. "She's so amazing because she's really so happy. She wakes up happy. She loves to run in the yard."

The animal's Robbinsville surgeon, Dr. John Lewis, said the animal is

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**ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVISTS.** Suspects accused of involvement in child trafficking and pornography are escorted by agents of the National Bureau of Investigation in Manila, the Philippines, in this April 26, 2016 file photo.

*Stopping Traffic*, a documentary spotlighting human trafficking and the grassroots activists trying to end it, features interviews with activists in Mexico, the Philippines, and the U.S., and comes as U.S. President Donald Trump is promising to bring the "full force and weight" of the U.S. government to combat human trafficking. (AP Photo/Aaron Favila)

being trafficked, said Stephanie Clark, executive director of Amirah, a Massachusetts nonprofit that helps sexually exploited women but isn't featured in the film.

"This is an extremely prevalent issue that is right here, hidden in plain sight," she said.

It's not just women being trafficked either. Young men and boys are often abused at far higher rates than what's reported because many cultures still don't accept the notion that boys can also be rape victims, said John King, a child-abuse survivor and activist in Grapevine, Texas, who is featured prominently in the film.

The filmmaker, who became a monk in 2008 after serving as an army medic during the Iraq War, said she deliberately avoided delving deeply into the personal experiences of those recently escaped from trafficking in the final product.

The documentary features interviews with activists in Mexico, the Philippines, and the U.S. cities of New Orleans and Houston, as well as actor Dolph Lundgren and other celebrities who raise awareness about human trafficking. Shree also shares her experience of being sexually abused as a child in the film.

"We wanted to show the empowerment, not the sad and suffering side," she said. "It's more about the motivation and the inspiration. That where there's dark, there's also light."

TALKING STORY IN  
ASIAN AMERICA



■ Polo

Polo's "Talking Story" column will return soon.