

## **Bishop Daniel E. Garcia**

Bishop Daniel Elias Garcia was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Austin by Bishop John E. McCarthy on May 28, 1988. He was appointed by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, as the first Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Austin in the 67-year history of the diocese. His episcopal ordination and installation was held on March 3, 2015, in Austin, Texas.

Bishop Garcia was raised in Cameron, Texas. He is the son of Daniel C. Garcia, Jr., and the late Sarah Muñoz Garcia, born on August 30, 1960. He has three younger sisters: Sylvia, Rebecca, and Lydia. He graduated high school from C.H. Yoe High School in Cameron, then attended Tyler Community College where he earned an Associate of Arts degree.

He earned a Master of Arts in Liturgical Studies from St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota, as well as a Master of Divinity and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from the University of St. Thomas/St. Mary's Seminary in Houston.

In March of 2014, Bishop Garcia was appointed by Bishop Joe S. Vásquez as the Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Austin. In his role as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia, he assists Bishop Vásquez as coordinator of diocesan administration and as supervisory of the secretariat directors. His office is located at the diocesan Pastoral Center in Austin. The diocesan curia is the collective body of persons and offices assisting the diocesan Bishop in governing the diocese. He is bilingual in English and Spanish.

Prior to that appointment, he served for 18 years as the founding pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Austin. Former assignments as parochial vicar include St. Mary Magdalene Parish in Humble (in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston), St. Louis Parish in Austin, Cristo Rey Parish in Austin, and St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Austin.

Bishop Garcia has served on many boards and councils in the Diocese of Austin, including the Priests' Personnel Board, College of Consultors, Presbyteral Council, Pastoral Practices Committee, Diaconal Advisory Committee, Diocesan Liturgical Commission, Vocation Team, Associate Vocation Director, Dean of the North Austin Deanery, and Master of Ceremonies for the bishop. With the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, he currently serves as Chairman for the Subcommittee on Divine Worship in Spanish, as a member of the Committee on Divine Worship and the Communications Committee.

Bishop Garcia is very grateful to his family who instilled in him a profound love of the Lord Jesus Christ, a love for His Church, a love for His Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and a love to serve one another. Bishop Garcia has tried to give of himself in priestly service to others in the way he understood God calling him to serve. In the midst of those years, he has had wonderful examples of priests and bishops, young and old, living and deceased, who have modeled for him what priestly service is. They, as well as the people he has served, have enabled him to be the priest he is today. He is appreciative to Bishop Vásquez for the confidence and opportunity to work with him in shepherding the local Church of the Diocese of Austin.

