



Missionary Fraternity of Mary

Newsletter



This February we celebrated our IX General Chapter Meeting in Guatemala City. This two week gathering of Fraternity representatives from all over the world ends in the election of a new General Moderator and Council.

Fr. Carlos Lara Fr. Oswaldo Perez Fr. Luis Carlos Fr. Marvin Alvarado

Fr. Luis Carlos De Leon Perez, was ordained in 1990. Early in his ministry he served migrant workers' communities in Delaware (USA) for 3 years and then in various parishes in Italy from 1997 until 2011 wherein he returned to Guatemala and was appointed as Prefect of Formation and subsequently Vicar General and Prefect of Apostolate, a position he held from 2017 until being appointed General Moderator (aka Superior) in 2023 for the next 6 years.

Fr. Carlos René Lara, ordained in 2007 was elected Vicar General. Fr. Carlos Lara has served in the Mission in Belize, in the Formation Program for seminarians in Guatemala City after completing his education in Rome and Jerusalem where received a Doctorate in Sacred Scriptures, Archeological and Biblical Geographic studies.

Fr. Oswaldo Antonio Perez, ordained in 2010 was elected as the Prefect of Formation where he will guide the studies of the major seminarians. He previously worked in various roles in the formation Program at the seminary. Fr. Oswaldo has a degree in Moral Theology

Fr. Marvin Alvarado Alvarado ordained in 2016 was elected as the Prefect of Finances. Prior to his election he was the Rector of the Major Seminary. Through the years he has had several administrative duties at the seminary after completing his studies in Pastoral Theology in Rome.

We pray for God's guidance and blessing upon our new leaders and their ministry.



On February 4th of 2023 six of our Deacons were ordained Priests by the Most Reverend Gonzalo De Villa, Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Santiago de Guatemala at the Cathedral in Guatemala City. It was a joyous occasion as these newly ordained priests bring new life and hope to the Catholic Church of Guatemala and the mission world.

The Catholic Church in Guatemala has been blessed as young people continue to respond with a generous heart to God's call to serve his people worldwide. Early in the 1980's the Catholic Church in Guatemala suffered persecution during the civil war. Many religious people were kidnapped and others murdered for proclaiming the Gospel. Priests, nuns, and catechists gave testimony of the love of God among the faith communities. These newly ordained priests and deacons are a new generation of young men responding to God's call, the fruits of the strong faith of those who gave their lives to keep the Catholic faith alive in Guatemala during the persecution. There are no limits to what may result due to the sacrifice of such generous hearts who offered their lives to defend and keep the faith alive.



Fr. Jordanio (left) and Fr. Osman Doneli were among the six newly ordained priests. They have been assigned to the mission in Honduras.

Fr. Osman Doneli is welcomed by a parishioner in his new mission parish in Honduras.





On February 25th of 2023, four of our seminarians were ordained deacons, by Most Reverend Gonzalo De Villa in Guatemala City. A great number of people attended the ceremony and rejoiced as these young men advanced in their journey towards priesthood.

The support of the Archbishop of Santiago de Guatemala, Guatemala, Most Reverend Gonzalo de Villa has been outstanding and most appreciated. As pastor of his flock, he has been also a Father figure and role model to our Society and our young men in formation.

Our Deacons, from left to right in the photo: Deacon Daknar, originally from Panama, joined the Fraternity after witnessing the work of Fraternity priests who serve in his home parish. Deacon Oliver Machan from San Martin Jilotepeque, Guatemala serves in our mission in Ecuador, South America. Deacon Fernando Avila, originally from San Juan Sacatepequez, Guatemala has been ministering in our mission in Iquitos, Peru. Deacon Carlos Roman joined the Fraternity after nurturing his faith by participating in the “Hosanna youth movement”, a program guided and directed by Fraternity priests and incorporating Fraternity spirituality.



The Missionary Fraternity of Mary and the Archdiocese of Guatemala, appreciate all the support of our benefactors and the mission directors in the United States and Canada. Through their love and support we continue helping young men to discover their vocation to the priesthood.

Other News

- **Peru** — Newly ordained Deacon Fernando Avila was assigned to the Iquitos Vicariate.
- **Kenya** — Fr. Julio Rodriguez who worked for seven years in the Formation program in Guatemala, was assigned to serve at St. Jude Parish in Bura Tana, Diocese of Garissa, Kenya.
- **Honduras**— Two newly ordained priests were assigned to serve at Belfate, Colón, Honduras.
- **Guatemala**— Fr. Fabián Rodas who was serving in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, was assigned to be the Rector at the Mayor Seminary of the Fraternity in Guatemala City.
- * **Ecuador**- A newly ordained Deacon was assigned to serve in this mission.
- **United States** Fr. Max Tzul was appointed pastor of Immaculate Parish in Colton, California in the Diocese of San Bernardino. Fr. Erick Cassiano was appointed pastor of St. Rafael, St. Vincent de Paul, and Prince of Peace Parishes in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

All contributions are tax deductible and are used exclusively for the work of the Fraternity in Guatemala and its missions worldwide. For more information or to mail contributions, please send to:
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