



Most Reverend José H. Gomez, S.T.D.
Archbishop of San Antonio
2718 W. Woodlawn Ave.
San Antonio, Texas 78228

The Most Rev. José H. Gomez, S.T.D., was installed as Archbishop of the Archdiocese of San Antonio on February 15, 2005, at San Fernando Cathedral. Archbishop Gomez previously served as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Denver, since his ordination on March 26, 2001.

Archbishop Gomez was born on December 26, 1951, in Monterrey, Mexico, the son of Dr. José H. Gomez and Esperanza Velasco, both deceased. He has three older sisters and one younger sister. Archbishop Gomez's mother was raised and educated in San Antonio in the 1920s and his maternal grandparents were married at San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio.

Archbishop Gomez was ordained a priest of the Opus Dei Prelature on August 15, 1978, by the late Cardinal Franz König, Archbishop Emeritus of Vienna, at the Shrine of Torreciudad, Spain.

Archbishop Gomez, holds a doctorate in Sacred Theology. He earned his accounting degree in 1975 as well as a B.A. in Philosophy. In 1978, the year he was ordained a priest, Archbishop Gomez completed his B.A. in Theology at the University of Navarre, Rome Campus. He then began working on a Doctorate in Theology at its Main Campus in Pamplona, Spain, receiving his Doctorate in 1980.

Before being appointed as an Auxiliary Bishop, Archbishop Gomez's primary priestly duty was to minister to lay people. From 1987 to 1999 he was in residence at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church in San Antonio assisting in the pastoral work of the parish. During this same timeframe Archbishop Gomez also helped in the Diocese of Galveston-Houston in Katy, Texas.

Archbishop Gomez has distinguished himself as a respected national leader among Hispanic priests in the United States. In 1991, Archbishop Gomez became a Regional Representative of the National Association of Hispanic Priests (ANSH), in 1995 he was named President and then Executive Director from 1999-2001. ANSH is an organization which seeks to strengthen fraternity among the over 2,400 Hispanic priests in the United States and to communicate the faith effectively among diverse Hispanic congregations.

In 2003 Archbishop Gomez earned the annual National Association of Hispanic Priests Award, "El Buen Pastor." This award honors a priest who is outstanding in the field of Hispanic Ministry (evangelization, research, pastoral ministry, education, communications, etc.).

From 1997 to 1998, Archbishop Gomez served as a member at large on the board of directors for the National Catholic Council of Hispanic Ministry (NCCHM), and he was elected treasurer in 1999. From 1998 to 2000, he was on the steering committee for Encuentro 2000, a national celebration of the Jubilee Year 2000, which took place in Los Angeles and was sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

Archbishop Gomez is also an enthusiastic supporter of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and constantly encourages all Catholics to witness their faith in their daily lives. Archbishop Gomez played a key role in the recent establishment of the Hispanic Seminary of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, which opened in August 2000. This Seminary was founded by Mexican Cardinal Norberto Rivera Carrera, and educates Hispanic seminarians who will later serve in the United States.

Archbishop Gomez also spearheaded the establishment of Denver's Centro San Juan Diego for Family and Pastoral Care, a place for formation of lay leaders and a base to provide welcoming services to immigrants. The Center offers both pastoral and social services.

Archbishop Gomez served as Rector of the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Denver, Colorado from 2001 to 2003. After that, he was named Moderator of the Curia and Vicar General for the Archdiocese of Denver and assigned as the Pastor of Mother of God Catholic Church, in Denver.

In 2005 he was named one of *Time Magazine's* 25 most influential Hispanics in the United States, and in 2007 he was on a CNN's list of "Notable Hispanics" in a web special celebrating "Hispanic Heritage Month".

In 2006, Archbishop Gomez officially introduced The Catholic Community Foundation for the Roman Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of San Antonio. Through his vision, diligence and strong support, the Foundation became a reality.

In 2007, he was instrumental in bringing together Latino leaders and Bishops for the creation of the Catholic Association of Latino Leaders (C.A.L.L.). The Association's purpose is to impact the national dialogue and to contribute to the mission of the Church, by identifying initiatives important to the building up of the Catholic community and supporting them in accordance with the Bishops' directives.

On July 25, 2008 he was appointed by Pope Benedict XVI as a consultant to the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, whose purpose is to assist the human and spiritual needs of the Church in Latin America.

Archbishop Gomez presently serves on the following boards and committees:

- Chair: Task Force on the Spanish Language Bible for the Church in America (USCCB), 2003 -
- Chair: Committee on Cultural Diversity in the Church (USCCB), 2008 -
- Member: Committee on Doctrine (USCCB), 2003-
- Member: Subcommittee on Hispanics and the Liturgy (USCCB), 2005 -
- Chairman of the Board: Assumption Seminary, San Antonio
- Board Member: St. John Vianney Theological Seminary, Denver
- Board Member: Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc.
- Board Member: Mexican American Catholic College
- Board Member: ENDOW – Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women

- Board Member: MATT – Mexicans and Americans Thinking Together
- Board of Trustees: The Catholic University of America
- Board of Trustees: San Fernando Cathedral Historical Centre Foundation
- Ex-Officio Board Member: Catholic Community Foundation, San Antonio
- Board Member: Boy Scouts of America Alamo Area Council
- Director: The John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Memorial Foundation
- Episcopal Moderator: ANSH – National Association of Hispanic Priests
- Episcopal Moderator: National Catholic Network de Pastoral Juvenil Hispana
- Spiritual Advisor: Catholic Life Insurance
- Founding Member: Catholic Association of Latino Leaders (C.A.L.L.)

For his Episcopal motto, Archbishop Gomez chose a scriptural passage from the Letter to the Hebrews: "Let us go forth with confidence to the Throne of Grace." (Heb. 4:16).