



# **Archdiocese of San Antonio**

## **Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller**



**Misa de Erección Canonica de las Hijas del Espiritu Santo**

**23 de enero 2016**

**“Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.” These words of St. Paul to the Romans are perfect for what we celebrate here today. You, dear sisters, dear Daughters of the Holy Spirit, you have consecrated yourselves for a specific purpose. You have consecrated yourselves to follow the call of the Holy Spirit “para acompañar a niños, adolescentes y jóvenes en la búsqueda del sentido de su vida y la vivencia profunda de su sacerdocio bautismal favoreciendo espacios y propuestas pastorales en los que se fortalezca su identidad como discípulos y misioneros de Cristo y descubran, en diálogo con Dios e interpelados por la realidad de los que sufren, cuál es su proyecto de vida” (Página web de las F.Sp.S). You are called to call others to conform their lives as missionary disciples who go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit, not as people of the world. This is a beautiful**

calling, and today I am proud to celebrate with you your canonical establishment here in the Archdiocese of San Antonio.

As Pope Francis stated in his powerful Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*: “In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples” (120). My sisters, as you carry out your charism of awakening the call of the baptismal priesthood in all our young brothers and sisters in Christ, remember well this truth. You are inspiring Christ’s people to carry out their missionary action with passion, compassion, love, and joy. May your love for Christ and the zeal you have as Spirit-filled witnesses of that love shine forth in you as you carry out your work here as collaborators in the Archdiocese of San Antonio. It is my joy to welcome you, and I know it will be our joy as the Church of San Antonio to work with you, as we are blessed by your ministry with us.

May we heed well the challenge Pope Francis has given us: “At Pentecost, the Spirit made the apostles go forth from themselves and turned them into heralds of God’s wondrous deeds, capable of speaking to each person in his or her own language. The Holy Spirit also grants the courage to proclaim the newness of the Gospel with boldness in every time and place, even when it meets with opposition. Let us call upon him today, firmly rooted in prayer, for without prayer all our activity risks being fruitless and our message

**empty. Jesus wants evangelizers who proclaim the good news not only with words, but above all by a life transfigured by God's presence" (EG 259).**

**May we ask our Blessed Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe, to intercede for us. May she help us who have been chosen as laborers for the harvest. Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your Daughters, and send them forth in your will, to call many other missionary disciples into your vineyard. May we together offer to you all that is "good and pleasing and perfect" (Rom).**