



**Department of Communication  
Archdiocese of San Antonio**

***Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS, statement on Pope Francis' comments concerning commission to study possible ordination of women to the diaconate***

**May 13, 2016**

In the Archdiocese of San Antonio, we have many women in leadership roles at the archdiocesan level and in our parishes as well, and Pope Francis has called for even greater involvement of women in important positions in the Catholic Church, a stance with which I wholeheartedly agree.

The question of women serving as deacons in the Catholic Church has been studied in the past, and Pope Francis indicated that he is open to hearing the opinions of theologians on this issue.

It is understandable that the pope would wish to continue study on this in examining the historical role of women in the church in view of the pastoral needs of our parishes today.

I look forward to the report Pope Francis' commission will make following their study of this issue.