



PRIESTLY ORDINATION AND FIRST MASS OF FR. FEDERICO AVILA, SCH.P.

Father Federico Ávila, Sch.P. met the Piarist Fathers through the ministerial outreach of Father Mario Vizcaino, Sch.P., who was the founder of SEPI (Southeast Pastoral Institute), and Father Alberto Moreno, Sch.P., who was our Director of Vocations at the time. He was recently ordained to the priesthood in the Chapel of Saint Martin de Porres in Ponce, PR. Bishop Felix Lazaro, Sch.P., who is a Piarist and the Bishop-Emeritus of the Diocese of Ponce, ordained our newest priest on December 9, 2017. Father Federico, who was born in Mexico, is a member of our Province of the United States and Puerto Rico. He has been assigned to our Community of Ponce, and he will serve as the Parochial Vicar of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish.

It was a time of great joy to celebrate the precious gift of his priesthood, which God has given to the Piarist Fathers and to the Church. The parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Martin de Porres were really enthusiastic. They prepared the reception with a true sense of festivity and hospitality. They truly made Father Federico welcome in their midst. Nicolas Ávila, his father, and Sister Juliette Ávila, who is a religious of Saint Augustine and who is one of his siblings, were present. His mother, Lucia, rejoiced from heaven at the sight of her son, who is now a priest forever.

Afterward, Father Federico returned to Mexico. There he celebrated several Masses with members of his family, friends, people from his childhood and others to whom he ministered during his years of initial formation.

We thank God for the gift of His generosity. We continue to pray for Father Federico's ministerial service, especially to children, young people and their families. May this event and his ministry become a source of future vocations in the Piarist Fathers and in the Church.



ORDENACIÓN SACERDOTAL Y PRIMERA MISA DEL P. FEDERICO ÁVILA, SCH.P.

El P. Federico Ávila, Sch.P., que conoció a los Padres Escolapios a través del servicio ministerial del P. Mario Vizcaíno, Sch.P., fundador del SEPI (Instituto de Pastoral para el Sureste de los USA) y del P. Alberto Moreno, Sch.P., director vocacional en ese tiempo, fue ordenado sacerdote escolapio, en Ponce, PR, el 9 de diciembre de 2017, por el escolapio, Obispo emérito de Ponce, Mons. Félix Lázaro, Sch.P. El P. Federico es mejicano de nacimiento, aunque incardinado a nuestra Provincia de los Estados Unidos-PR.

Fue de gran alegría la celebración de este precioso regalo que Dios da a la iglesia, en las Escuelas Pías. Los fieles de Playa de Ponce estaban realmente emocionados, y prepararon todo muy bien, con profundo sentido de fiesta y hospitalidad, para dar la bienvenida al P. Federico en medio de ellos. Estuvieron presentes en la ordenación, su papá, el Sr. Nicolás Ávila, y su hermana carnal, Hna. Julieta Ávila, religiosa de la Orden de San Agustín. La mamá de Federico, la Sra. Lucía, lo festejaba desde el cielo, viendo a su hijo sacerdote para siempre.

Días después, el P. Federico celebró diversas primeras misas en Celaya y en su ciudad natal de México, con miembros de su familia, amigos, y personas que conoció desde su infancia y juventud, y a quienes sirvió, especialmente a los jóvenes, durante su Formación Inicial.

Damos gracias a Dios por este regalo de su generosidad, mientras continuamos orando por el servicio ministerial de nuestro querido P. Federico, especialmente entre niños, jóvenes y sus familias. Que este acontecimiento sea terreno fértil para nuevas vocaciones, que sirvan a la Iglesia en el Orden de las Escuelas Pías.



