



## **Father Pedro Rivas Guardado, Sch.P. Becomes a Priest**

**Bishop Emeritus Félix Lázaro Martínez, Sch.P. of the Diocese of Ponce ordained to the priesthood Father Pedro De Jesús Rivas Guardado, Sch.P. The ordination Mass took place in Saint Helena's Church in the Bronx, NY on December 21, 2019. Piarist priests and seminarians from throughout our Province, diocesan priests, religious from different congregations, friends, family and members of the Calasanz Movement attended the ceremony.**

**Father Pedro celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Patrick's Church in Glen Cove, Long Island, NY on Sunday, December 22.**

**He was born on January 9, 1981 in New Valley Hamlet, Santa Ana, El Salvador. He is the son of Santiago Rivas Romero and Benigna Guardado Rivas, and he is the sixth of ten children.**

**He first met the Piarist Fathers while helping with Hispanic youth ministry in the Vicariate of Dothan in the Archdiocese of Mobile, AL. He worked in five parishes, which had youth groups. For six years, he served with love the young people in Alabama and helped the Trinitarian Fathers and the Trinitarian Sisters.**

**After going through a process of vocational discernment, he joined the Piarist Fathers as a postulant in our House of Formation (SEPI) in Miami, FL on August 8, 2009. He entered our pre-novitiate on December 12.**

**Pedro was transferred to our Community of Ponce, PR in August 2010. He studied philosophy, education and physical education. He organized soccer tournaments and other activities for students and young adults. He also represented the College of Education in the University Senate.**

**In 2014, he returned to our Community in Miami, FL as a novice. He professed his simple (temporary) vows on July 12, 2015. Afterward, he returned to the Catholic University to finish his Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education and a minor in Philosophy.**

**Pedro moved to our Community of San Juan, PR on August 15, 2016. He will complete his theology studies at the Dominican School of Theology at Bayamon**

**Central University in May. He assists at the Parish of Our Savior and Colegio Calasanz in San Juan. He is a coordinator of the Calasanz Youth Movement, and he is also the Director of Vocations for our Province.**

