

Fr. Rafael Garrido, SJ

New President of CPAL

Fr. Arturo Sosa SJ appointed on the last January 23, Fr. Rafael David Garrido Vargas, SJ as a new President of the Conference of Jesuit Provincials of Latin America and the Caribbean - CPAL. Fr. Garrido will succeed Fr. Roberto Jaramillo Bernal SJ, who has been serving in this responsibility since March 2017.

Fr. Garrido es born in Barquisimeto, Venezuela, Lara State, on October 24, 1972. He was admitted to the San Pedro Claver Jesuit Novitiate on September 27, 1992 and pronounced his final vows on September 24, 1994. He completed his Juniorate and Philosophy studies at the Andrés Bello Catholic University of Caracas and did his regency as a member of the Gumilla's Social Center team. Later he was assigned to work at the San Javier del Valle Institut, a work of Fe y Alegría in the city of Merida.

In 2003 Fr. Garrido began his theology studies at the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello in Caracas, combining them with various activities in Fe y Alegría and the Community of University Students Padre Alberto Hurtado (CUPAH). He was ordained a priest on July 28, 2007, and returned to the city of Merida, to the San Javier de Valle Institute of Fe y Alegria, where he served in various capacities until 2010 when he was assigned to make his tertianship in La Havana, Cuba.

Upon his return to his province, in 2011 he was appointed as a Province Consultant and National Director of the Huellas Youth Movement. **From December 22, 2016, until January 14, 2023, he served as Provincial of the Society of Jesus in Venezuela.**

The new president of the CPAL will move to live in Lima, where the headquarters of the Conference is located; the exact day to take over his new assignment will be informed in due time.

We thank our dear Fr. Roberto Jaramillo, SJ for his work and commitment during these nine years serving CPAL (3 as a delegate for the social ministries, and 6 as a president of the conference), welcome Fr. Rafael Garrido, SJ, and wish for him abundant blessings in this new mission.

Communications Office CPAL