

**EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF
THE MOST REVEREND GARY W. JANAK
AS AUXILIARY BISHOP OF SAN ANTONIO
ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST CHURCH
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
APRIL 20, 2021**

Your Excellency Metropolitan Archbishop García-Siller, Your Excellency Bishop Boulette, Your Excellency Bishop Cahill, Your Excellency Auxiliary Bishop-Elect Janak, My Brother Archbishops and Bishops, Dear Priests, Deacons, Consecrated Religious, and Lay Faithful of the Church in San Antonio, Dear Friends:

I am truly pleased to be with you as Father Gary W. Janak is ordained to the fullness of the priesthood and begins his ministry as Auxiliary Bishop of San Antonio in close fraternal communion with the Chief Shepherd of this Local Church, Archbishop García-Siller. Bishop-Elect Janak has distinguished himself as a Pastor, a Counselor, Canon Lawyer, and Vicar General in the Diocese of Victoria, and the Holy Father has called him to assist Archbishop García-Siller in his episcopal ministry.

More than thirty years ago, Saint Pope John Paul II visited San Antonio, and in his homily, he said: "In Jesus Christ the world has truly known the mystery of forgiveness, mercy and reconciliation, which is proclaimed by God's word this day. At the same time, God's inexhaustible mercy to us obliges us to be reconciled among ourselves. This makes practical demands on the Church in Texas and the Southwest of the United States. It means bringing hope and love wherever there is division and alienation.

Your history registers a meeting of cultures, indigenous and immigrant ... constantly moving towards reconciliation and harmony. ... This land is a crossroads, standing at the border of two great nations, and experiencing both the enrichment and the complications which arise from this circumstance. You are thus a symbol and a kind of laboratory testing America's commitment to her founding moral principles and human values." (Homily, 13 September 1987)

Auxiliary Bishop-Elect Janak, we are confident that, drawing upon your priestly and pastoral experience in the Diocese of Victoria, you will ably assist Archbishop García-Siller in meeting the challenges at this "crossroads", bringing hope and love wherever there is alienation.

I commend you to the Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Saint Joseph, her Spouse and Protector of the Church, as well as to Saint Anthony of Padua and Saint Mark, asking for their intercession in your episcopal ministry, that you may radiate the Joy of the Gospel to the whole Church in San Antonio.

And now, with great joy, I will read for you the Apostolic Letter of Appointment.