

SR. KARLA FELIX-RIVERA, VDMF, JCL

Sacramento Diocese Tribunal Judge / Delegate for Religious Office: (916) 733 – 0225

EDUCATION

Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Canada	Fall 2015 – Spring 2019
Candidate for Doctorate in Canon Law	
An Analysis of the Structures of Authority in the Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity	
Catholic University of America	
Licentiate in Canon Law	2012
Present and Proposed Forms of Consecrated Life: A Study of Canon 605	
Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley	
Masters of Divinity	2007
University of San Francisco	
B.A. Philosophy	2004
Instituto San Pablo, Loeches, Spain	
Theology Courses (taken in Spanish)	2000 – 2001

INTERNSHIPS AND AWARDS

Doctoral Scholarship, Canon Law Society of America	2015 – 2016
Summer Internship, Resource Center for Religious Institutes	2013
Dean's Scholarship (full), School of Canon Law, Catholic University of America	2008 – 2012
Los Angeles Archdiocese Grant to Women Religious Students	2008
Lily Foundation Making Connections Grant, Jesuit School of Theology	2006 – 2007

CANONICAL EXPERIENCE: CHANCERY / TRIBUNAL

Diocese of Sacramento	
Bishop Jaime Soto's Delegate [vicar] for Religious	2019 – Present
Judge	2019 – Present
Defender of the Bond	2016 – 2019
Diocese of Monterey	
Judge	2019 – Present
Archdiocese of Los Angeles	
Defender of the Bond	June 2014 – 2017
Second Instance Judge	June 2014 – 2015

CANON LAW SOCIETY OF AMERICA SERVICE

Chair: Canon Law Society of America Committee on Consecrated and Apostolic Life 2015 – 2017

Member: Canon Law Society of America Committee on Consecrated and Apostolic Life 2013 – 2015

CANONICAL TEACHING / PROFESSIONAL LECTURES

Professor – Canon Law 2016 – Present

Permanent Diaconate Formation Program of the Dioceses

Lecturer for the Parish Advocate Ministers Training 2016 – Present

Diocesan Tribunal of Sacramento

“What do you see? A Glance at Ecclesial Families of Consecrated Life” 2016

Canon Law Society of America, Annual Convention Workshop

“Ecclesial Movements and New Forms of Consecrated Life” 2015

Canon Law Society of America, Annual Pre-Convention Workshop

Lecturer for Parish Ministers Training 2014 – 2017

“An Overview of the Annulment Process for Submitting Ministers”

Metropolitan Tribunal Los Angeles Archdiocese, Submitting Ministers’ Workshops

Teaching Assistant – To Professor Rev. Robert McCann, JCL, in “Canon Law” Spring 2012

Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley CA.

SACRAMENTS / SPIRITUALITY / THEOLOGY OF MARRIAGE PRESENTATIONS

“Lord, Have Mercy on Us, We Are Married!” 2020

Religious Education Congress, Los Angeles Archdiocese

Estresado y agobiado: “¡Ten piedad de mí, Señor!” 2020

Religious Education Congress, Los Angeles Archdiocese

“How Youth and Young Adult Ministers Can Cultivate a Culture of Vocations” 2019

Northern California Inter-Diocesan “On Fire” Youth and Young Adult Event

“La Espiritualidad del Catequista” 2019

Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese

Curso Avanzado de Ministerios Catequéticos – Sacramentos de Sanción y Servicio 2019

Los Angeles Archdiocese

Legal Review for Spiritual Directors Institute of Catholic Spirituality and Spiritual Direction Stockton Diocese and Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity	2019
“¿Entendemos lo que Decimos al Casarnos?” Religious Education Congress, Archdiocese of Los Angeles	2018
“¿Entendemos lo que Decimos al Casarnos?” Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese	2018
“La Teología del Matrimonio – Aspectos que no Deben Faltar en la Catequesis, Preparación, y Vivencia” Religious Education Congress, Los Angeles Archdiocese	2017
“Until Death Do Us Part” Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese	2017
“Hasta que la muerte nos separe” Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese	2017
“El Divorcio y Nulidad Matrimonial En La Iglesia” Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese	2016
“La Teología del Matrimonio y Proceso de Nulidad” Religious Education Congress, Los Angeles Archdiocese	2016
“States of Life in the Church and Discerning One’s Call” University of California Catholic Conference	2013
Instructor in the Diplomado de Teología Verbum Dei, San Francisco CA, USA Topics taught:	Fall 2007 – Spring 2012
Intro to Pastoral Theology Intro to Canon Law Marriage Law Rights and Obligations of Christian Faithful Consecrated Life Law Ecclesiology Christology History of the Church I and II	
“New Forms of Consecrated Life – from a Canonical Point of View” San Francisco Archdiocese, “Future of Religious life: Looking into the Kaleidoscope”	2011
“The Inculcation Process for Religious Women Coming to the USA” Los Angeles Archdiocese, “Sisters Helping Sisters” Program	2007, 2008

MINISTERIAL EXPERIENCE

Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity Retreats and Programs	
Verbum Dei Ministry to Spanish Speakers in the USA	1996 – Present
Liturgical Season Retreats/Workshops	
Women Retreats	
Married Couple Retreats/Programs	
Spiritual Growth programs	
Vocational Discernment	
Spiritual Accompaniment	
Verbum Dei Ministry to English Speakers in the USA	1996 – Present
Liturgical Season Retreats/Workshops	
Women Retreats	
Married Couple Retreats/Programs	
Spiritual Growth programs	
Vocational Discernment	
Spiritual Accompaniment	
St. James Parish, Davis, CA (Spanish)	
Spiritual and Leadership Formation Ministry to Hispanics, weekly meetings	2016 – Present
Ministry to Hispanic married couples, monthly meetings	2018 – Present
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Sacramento, CA	
Lent Parish Retreat for the Spanish, English and Vietnamese Communities	2019
Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, Elk Grove, CA	
Weekend Staff Retreat, in Villa del Mar Retreat Center, Santa Cruz, CA	2018
Catholic School Department, Diocese of Sacramento	
Weekend Retreat for School Presidents and Principals, in Lake Tahoe, CA	2017
Sacramento Diocese	
Diocesan Center Staff Lenten Retreat	2016
St. Marianne of Paredes, Pico Rivera, CA	
Weekly prayer and spiritual formation (offered in Spanish)	2014 – 2015
Lenten Parish Mission	2015
St. Anthony Parish, Long Beach, CA	
Sacramental preparation (Offered in Spanish/English)	2014 – 2015
Sacramental preparation and adult faith formation	2007 – 2008
Holy Spirit Parish, Fremont, CA	
Marriage preparation and convalidation program	2012 – January 2014
Annulment cases	
Director of Small Christian Communities Program	
Social Service Ministry, Member and Advisor	
Regular preacher in masses	
Women Retreats	

San Francisco State University Campus Minister	2010 – 2012
World Youth Days Co-Leader	
Toronto, Canada	2002
Cologne, Germany	2005
Madrid, Spain	2011

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE WITHIN THE VERBUM DEI MISSIONARY FRATERNITY

International Commissions

Appointed canonical advisor and member	2013 – 2017
Appointed to the <i>Ratio Formationis</i> Commission	2008 – 2014
Verbum Dei Mission/Charism Commission, preparing the 2013 General Chapter	2007 – 2012

USA Province

Appointed Assistant to the Provincial	2008 – 2014
Appointed Local Superior, Fremont, CA	2012 – January 2014
Appointed member on the Provincial Council	2008 – 2014 (reappointed)
Appointed member of the Philosophical/Theological Period Formation Team	2011 – Fall 2013
Appointed member of the Novitiate Formation Team	2007 – 2010 , 2001 – 2002
Appointed Local Superior, Long Beach, CA	2006 – 2007
Appointed to the Vocational Discernment Team	2002 – 2012
Regular administrative support to the USA Provincial Council	2002 – 2007

General Chapter

Elected Representative of the USA Province to the General Chapter, Spain	2012
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LANGUAGES

English and Spanish – speak fluently and read/write with high proficiency
French and Italian – read and write with intermediate proficiency
Latin – read with basic competence

MEMBERSHIPS

National Conference for Vicars for Religious	2019 – present
Canon Law Society of America	2010 – Present
Leadership Conference of Women Religious	2008 – 2014