



THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SAN FRANCISCO

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Archbishop Salvatore J. Cordileone
Statement of Condolence on the Death of Bishop Richard Garcia
July 12, 2018

Yesterday, July 11, the Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey in California, Most Reverend Richard Garcia, passed away. He had only recently been diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease and experienced a very rapid decline. His sudden passing profoundly saddens all of us who have known and loved him, but has been an especially difficult time for his co-workers and parishioners, to whom I extend my deepest condolences. I will always treasure my memories of friendship with Bishop Garcia going back to the time I was a seminarian, as well as his personal support to me as a brother bishop. We shared deep concern for the poor and marginalized, especially for migrants and refugees, and a great love for the Hispanic people and culture. Bishop Garcia served on the United States bishops' conference committees charged with care and concern for these vulnerable ones, and displayed fervent and caring leadership in chairing the Restorative Justice Committee for the California bishops' conference.

A native San Franciscan and alumnus of, and later professor at, St. Patrick's Seminary, Bishop Garcia was ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of San Francisco in 1973. He ministered in the new Diocese of San Jose and was an Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese of Sacramento before becoming the fourth Bishop of Monterey in 2007. He was an ardent and gentle shepherd whom we shall all miss dearly.

Please join me, Cardinal Levada, Bishop Christian, Bishop Wang, and Bishop Justice in praying for Bishop Garcia, his family and his diocese. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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