



Ven, Holy Spirit, Ven!

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Parish
Helotes, Texas

April 30, 2020

My dear and faithful people,

It is with a heavy heart and great sadness that I inform you of two allegations of sexual misconduct by your former pastor, Msgr. Carlos Davalos.

The Archdiocese of San Antonio Office for Victim Assistance and Safe Environment was informed on April 15, 2020 that Msgr. Davalos had sent sexually inappropriate text messages to an adult parishioner earlier this year. On April 20, 2020 the Archdiocese of San Antonio Office for Victim Assistance and Safe Environment was informed that in 2013 Msgr. Davalos had addressed sexually inappropriate comments and questions to a minor.

Both allegations were made by the persons to whom the comments and questions were addressed. We have informed the Bexar County District Attorney's Special Crimes Division of the latter allegation because it involved a minor. I also requested that Msgr. Davalos refrain from all ministry during an investigation into the allegations.

Effective April 30, 2020, I have notified Msgr. Davalos that he is no longer your pastor and have removed his faculties to exercise ministry within the Archdiocese of San Antonio. The Archdiocese will work with the Archdiocesan Review Board to further assess the allegations and investigation to determine if any additional canonical steps are required.

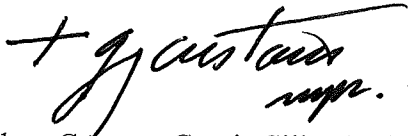
I am currently working with the Priest Personnel Board to identify a new pastor for your parish. In the meantime, Fr. Juan Molina will serve as your Parish Administrator and will offer all necessary support for your ongoing ministry.

These are the first allegations of sexual misconduct against Msgr. Davalos that I have received, and I would like to publicly acknowledge the courage of the persons involved for bravely coming forward and helping our Church and your parish by sharing these personal and painful experiences. I hope that this will also assist the healing process, and encourage other survivors of sexual abuse to report to the authorities these tragic incidents.

The Archdiocese takes seriously any allegation of child sexual abuse. The safety and wellbeing of all people are very important, and the church's safe environment policies seek to protect all of God's children. We encourage anyone who is a victim of sexual abuse to contact the police. We also ask that victims within the Archdiocese contact the Office for Victim Assistance and Safe Environment at (210) 734-7786. Any violation of our Code of Conduct can be reported through our third party Archdiocesan Misconduct Hotline (844) 709-1169. While we cannot undo the harm that childhood sexual abuse causes, we will try to offer a path forward, a way toward healing for survivors and their families.

I ask you to keep those who came forward in your prayers. Please also pray for all survivors of child sexual abuse, for your parish community and for all parishes impacted by this news. I likewise assure you of my prayers.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gustavo Garcia Siller" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Archbishop Gustavo Garcia Siller, MSpS