

# KARLA FELIX-RIVERA, MDIV, JCL

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## EDUCATION

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

## INTERNSHIPS AND AWARDS

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

## CANONICAL EXPERIENCE: CHANCERY / TRIBUNAL

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| Diocese of Sacramento  |                            |
| <b>Judge</b>   | 2019 – Present             |
| <b>Bishop Jaime Soto's Delegate [vicar] for Religious Defender of the Bond</b> | 2019 – 2022<br>2016 – 2019 |
| Diocese of Monterey  |                            |
| <b>Judge</b>   | 2019 – Present             |
| <b>Promoter of Justice</b>   | 2019 – Present             |
| Diocese of Stockton  |                            |
| <b>Mediator, Canonical Consultor</b>   | 2019 – Present             |

Archdiocese of Los Angeles  
**Defender of the Bond**  
**Second Instance Judge**

**June 2014 – 2017**  
**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 Diocese

**Lecturer – Intro/Advanced Parish Advocate Training 2016 – Present**  
 Diocesan Tribunal of Sacramento

**Professor – Canon Law 2020 Winter Quarter**  
 Graduate Program in Pastoral Ministries, Santa Clara University

**“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 – 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

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|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Curso Avanzado de Ministerios Catequéticos – Sacramentos de Sanción y Servicio</b><br>Los Angeles Archdiocese  | <b>2019, 2020</b>              |
| <b>Legal Review for Spiritual Directors</b><br>Institute of Catholic Spirituality and Spiritual Direction<br>Stockton Diocese and Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity  | <b>2019</b>                    |
| <b>“¿Entendemos lo que Decimos al Casarnos?”</b><br>Religious Education Congress, Archdiocese of Los Angeles  | <b>2018</b>                    |
| <b>“¿Entendemos lo que Decimos al Casarnos?”</b><br>Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese   | <b>2018</b>                    |
| <b>“La Teología del Matrimonio – Aspectos que no Deben Faltar en la Catequesis, Preparación, y Vivencia”</b><br>Religious Education Congress, Los Angeles Archdiocese   | <b>2017</b>                    |
| <b>“Until Death Do Us Part”</b><br>Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese  | <b>2017</b>                    |
| <b>“Hasta que la muerte nos separe”</b><br>Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese  | <b>2017</b>                    |
| <b>“El Divorcio y Nulidad Matrimonial En La Iglesia”</b><br>Ministry Days, Sacramento Diocese   | <b>2016</b>                    |
| <b>“La Teología del Matrimonio y Proceso de Nulidad”</b><br>Religious Education Congress, Los Angeles Archdiocese   | <b>2016</b>                    |
| <b>“States of Life in the Church and Discerning One’s Call”</b><br>University of California Catholic Conference   | <b>2013</b>                    |
| <b>Instructor in the Diplomado de Teología Verbum Dei, San Francisco CA, USA</b><br>Topics taught:<br><b>Intro to Pastoral Theology</b><br><b>Intro to Canon Law</b><br><b>Marriage Law</b><br><b>Rights and Obligations of Christian Faithful</b><br><b>Consecrated Life Law</b><br><b>Ecclesiology</b><br><b>Christology</b><br><b>History of the Church I and II</b> | <b>Fall 2007 – Spring 2012</b> |
| <b>“New Forms of Consecrated Life – from a Canonical Point of View”</b><br>San Francisco Archdiocese, “Future of Religious life: Looking into the Kaleidoscope”   | <b>2011</b>                    |
| <b>“The Inculturation Process for Religious Women Coming to the USA”</b><br>Los Angeles Archdiocese, “Sisters Helping Sisters” Program  | <b>2007, 2008</b>              |

## MINISTERIAL EXPERIENCE (ABBREVIATED LIST)

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| <b>Retreat Director</b>   | <b>1996 – Present</b>                    |
| <b>Permanent Diaconate Program, Diocese of Sacramento</b><br>Deacon Wives Spirituality Sessions   | <b>2022 – Present</b>                    |
| Verbum Dei Missionary Fraternity Retreats and Programs<br><b>Verbum Dei Ministry to Spanish Speakers in the USA</b><br>Liturgical Season Retreats/Workshops<br>Women Retreats<br>Married Couple Retreats/Programs<br>Spiritual Growth programs<br>Vocational Discernment<br>Spiritual Accompaniment | <b>1996 – 2022</b>                       |
| <b>Verbum Dei Ministry to English Speakers in the USA</b><br>Liturgical Season Retreats/Workshops<br>Women Retreats<br>Married Couple Retreats/Programs<br>Spiritual Growth programs<br>Vocational Discernment<br>Spiritual Accompaniment   | <b>1996 – 2022</b>                       |
| St. James Parish, Davis, CA (Spanish)<br><b>Spiritual and Leadership Formation Ministry to Hispanics, weekly meetings</b><br><b>Ministry to Hispanic married couples, monthly meetings</b>  | <b>2016 – 2021</b><br><b>2018 – 2021</b> |
| Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Sacramento, CA<br><b>Lent Parish Retreat for the Spanish, English and Vietnamese Communities</b>   | <b>2019</b>                              |
| Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School, Elk Grove, CA<br><b>Weekend Staff Retreat, in Villa del Mar Retreat Center, Santa Cruz, CA</b>   | <b>2018</b>                              |
| Catholic School Department, Diocese of Sacramento<br><b>Weekend Retreat for School Presidents and Principals, in Lake Tahoe, CA</b>   | <b>2017</b>                              |
| Sacramento Diocese<br><b>Diocesan Center Staff Lenten Retreat</b>   | <b>2016</b>                              |
| St. Marianne of Paredes, Pico Rivera, CA<br><b>Weekly prayer and spiritual formation (offered in Spanish)</b><br><b>Lenten Parish Mission</b>   | <b>2014 – 2015</b><br><b>2015</b>        |
| St. Anthony Parish, Long Beach, CA<br><b>Sacramental preparation (Offered in Spanish/English)</b><br><b>Sacramental preparation and adult faith formation</b>   | <b>2014 – 2015</b><br><b>2007 – 2008</b> |
| Holy Spirit Parish, Fremont, CA<br><b>Marriage preparation and convalidation program</b><br><b>Annulment cases</b><br><b>Director of Small Christian Communities Program</b>  | <b>2012 – January 2014</b>               |

**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 **2002**  
**Toronto, Canada**  
**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 *Ratio Formationis* 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**

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

**Canon Law Society of America** **2010 – Present**  
**National Conference for Vicars for Religious** **2019 – 2022**  
**Leadership Conference of Women Religious** **2008 – 2014**