



## Catholic Diocese of Memphis

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*"See the hungry, the naked, the thirsty, the one without a home, the one who is suffering. These are our treasures for They are Jesus."*

*-St Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

### **Deacon Jonathan Perez**

**Deacon at the Catholic Church of the Incarnation in Collierville, Tenn.  
Home Parish is Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Memphis, Tenn.**

**Deacon Jonathan Perez will be ordained by Bishop David Talley into the Presbyterate within the Catholic Diocese of Memphis at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on June 5, 2021.**

Deacon Jonathan Perez was born in Mexico City, Mexico. His parents are Carlos and Georgina. He has a stepbrother, Arturo, and stepsister, Eunice. His sister's niece is Rubi. His mother's second husband is Enrique. All family members live in Mexico. Deacon Jonathan's parents divorced when he was a child and he grew up with his maternal grandparents, Heriberto and Idalia. His parents and his maternal and paternal grandparents, Pedro and Martha, instilled in him their strong faith in Jesus Christ as a Catholic family. His parents supported him closely growing up with his maternal grandparents. His maternal grandmother past away in 2017 and his maternal grandfather now suffers from stomach cancer.

Deacon Jonathan graduated from Colegio de Bachilleres High School. He studied a few semesters at the Instituto Politécnico Nacional University focusing on Engineering in Electronics. He always worked and studied since middle school in jobs such as a waiter, photographer and electrician aide. Deacon Jonathan's vocation began when three of his relatives suffered from cancer (1997-2002). During this time, he began the discernment process of his priestly vocation by going through a conversion and searching for God in depth. His focus was on the sacramental life, the Holy Rosary, personal prayer and spiritual retreats. The adversity in his family led him to have a personal encounter with Jesus Christ.

Deacon Jonathan began his formation into the Catholic Diocese of Memphis through the help, spiritual support and discernment from Lyz Candia, Bishop Terry Steib, Fr. Enrique Granados and Fr. Keith Stewart. He studied his philosophy at the Diocesan Seminary of Morelia in Michoacan, Mexico, and his theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, La. Through guidance from Bishop David Talley and Fr. Robert Szczechura, Deacon Jonathan served at Ascension, Holy Rosary, Holy Spirit, Incarnation, Nativity, St. James, St. Jude-Martin, St. Mary-Savannah and St. William Churches. Each Parish was a blessing for Deacon Jonathan to serve God's people--and to learn and share his faith in our Lord with many Pastors and parishioners who provided him special support during his years into priestly formation.

Effective July 1, 2021, Father Jonathan Perez will be assigned as Parochial Vicar at St. Mary Catholic Church in Jackson, Tenn.