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Resignations and Appointments

Resignation of apostolic vicar of Camiri, Bolivia

Resignation of apostolic vicar of Aguarico, Ecuador, and appointment of successor

Appointment of bishop of Cruz del Eje, Argentina

Resignation of apostolic vicar of Camiri, Bolivia

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation of His Excellency Msgr. Francesco Focardi, O.F.M., from the pastoral care of the apostolic vicariate of Camiri, Bolivia.

Resignation of apostolic vicar of Aguarico, Ecuador, and appointment of successor

The Holy Father has accepted the resignation from the pastoral care of the apostolic vicariate of Aguarico, Ecuador, presented by His Excellency Jesús Esteban Sádaba Pérez, O.F.M. Cap., and has appointed as apostolic vicar of Aguarico the Rev. Fr. José Adalberto Jiménez Mendoza, O.F.M. Cap., vice Minister Provincial of the Order in Ecuador, assigning him the titular see of Ubaba.

Rev. Fr. Jesús Esteban Sádaba Pérez, O.F.M. Cap.

The Jesús Esteban Sádaba Pérez, O.F.M. Cap., was born on 23 June 1969 in San Palcido, in the diocese of Portoviejo, Ecuador. He studied philosophy and theology in Cuenca (1990-1996), obtaining a licentiate in

theology from the University of Azuay. He subsequently studied psychology at the *Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja*, specializing in systematic psychology in Madrid (2012-2014). He also obtained a Master's degree in *terapia familiar sistematica y de pareja* in Salamanca and another in *terapia humanista* in Madrid. He gave his first vows on 15 August 1990 and his perpetual vows on 14 August 1996 in Guayaquil. He was ordained a priest in the Cathedral of Portoviejo on 16 May 1997.

Since ordination he has held the following offices: vice Master of the post-novitiate and parish vicar in Cuenca (1997-2000); guardian of the Fraternity, director of postulands, coordinator of the *Colegio San Francisco*, and director of the *Fundación Nuestros Hijos* in Ibarra (2000-2003); Master of novices in Portoviejo (2003-2005); vice Minister Provincial of the Capuchin Order in Ecuador and president of the Capuchins in America in Quito (2005-2008); and vice Minister Provincial of the Capuchin Order in Ecuador (2008-2011, 2014-2017). He is currently vice President of the *Conferencia Ecuatoriana de Religiosos*.

Appointment of bishop of Cruz del Eje, Argentina

The Holy Father has appointed as bishop of Cruz del Eje, Argentina, the Rev. Hugo Ricardo Araya, of the clergy of the diocese of Villa de la Concepción de Río Cuarto, rector of the major seminary.

Rev. Msgr. Hugo Ricardo Araya

Msgr. Hugo Ricardo Araya was born in El Cano, in the diocese of Villa de la Concepción de Río Cuarto, on 14 March 1960. He studied philosophy and theology in the seminary of Córdoba. On 21 December 1984 he was ordained a priest for the diocese of Villa de la Concepción de Río Cuarto.

He obtained a licentiate in moral theology from the Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina in Buenos Aires.

During his pastoral ministry he has held the following offices: parish vicar, parish priest of *Santa Catalina de Siena* in Holmberg, director of the *Msgr. Leopoldo Buteler* Institute for Lay Formation, auxiliary chaplain of the Arsenal Battalion 141 of Holmberg and formator and professor of the diocesan seminary.

Since 2002 he has served as rector of the major seminary and member of the presbyteral council, the team for the continuing formation of the clergy and of the college of consultants.
