

Ricardo Rivera Gutierrez SDS

Novice

Background: Ricardo grew up in Lazaro Cardenas, Mexico. He attended the local high school – his favorite subject was Thanatology (the scientific study of death and the practices associated with it, including the study of the needs of the terminally ill and their families). He went on to earn his bachelor degree in educational psychology at the local university.

Prior to discerning religious life, Ricardo worked as a school teacher in Michoacán. While employed he also assisted in youth ministry work and joined a Franciscan Youth Movement group, where he worked as a regional deputy coordinator, participating in events and organizing travel and retreats. He initiated a program for youth called “Encounter with Christ, the Vital Force,” for which he preached to over 3,000 youth.

Why the Salvatorians: Ricardo was 14 years old when he heard an announcement at Mass that seemed written for him. It was an invitation to begin high school seminary studies to prepare for priesthood. “I attended for three years – Some of the best years of my life,” he said. Ricardo was drawn to the Salvatorians missions around the world and feels called to religious life as a way to serve the people and those most in need. As he embraces his vocation journey he shared his belief that God has called him into this service. “I hope to find a place where I can be happy and deliver my qualities to the people of God,” he said. “I’m so happy to have this opportunity with the Salvatorians.”

Hobbies: Ricardo enjoys fishing, watching movies based on real events and the latest TV shows.

Favorite Bible Passage: “I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.”

- Philippians 4:13

Favorite Dessert: Vanilla gelatin!

