

Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville

Mario E. Dorsonville was born October 31, 1960 in Bogotá, Colombia, the only child of Leonor M. Rodríguez and Carlos J. Dorsonville. He attended the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Bogotá, receiving a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy in 1981 and a Bachelor's degree in Sacred Theology in 1985. He was ordained to the priesthood on November 23, 1985 in Bogotá. Following ordination, he served as Associate Pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary parish, Bogotá (1986), Pastor of San Jose de Calasanz parish, Bogotá (1987-1991), Associate Chaplain (1988-1991) and Professor of Ethics (1990-1991) at the National University of Colombia, Bogotá.

Bishop Dorsonville received a Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Bogotá in 1991 and a Doctorate in Ministry from The Catholic University of America in 1996. From 1992-1994, while studying at Catholic University, he assisted the Hispanic community on weekends at Good Shepherd and Christ the Redeemer parishes in Arlington, Virginia, and served as a lecturer at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C. He served as Professor of Theology and Catechesis at the Institute for Hispanic Pastoral Studies of Arlington from 1993-1994. He returned to Colombia to serve as Chaplain and Professor of Ethics to the National University of Colombia and Professor of Pastoral Counseling and Catechesis at the Major Seminary of the Archdiocese of Bogotá from 1995-1996.

He served as Associate Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes parish in Bethesda, Maryland (1997-2004) and St. Mark the Evangelist parish in Hyattsville, Maryland (2004). He was a member of the Board of Directors for Carroll Publishing Company from 2001-2004.

Bishop Dorsonville served as Vice President for Mission of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington (2005-2015) and Director of the Spanish Catholic Center (2005-2015). He completed an Executive Certificate in Non-Profit Management at Georgetown University in 2009. He served as a mentor for newly ordained priests from 2010-2014 and as Adjunct Spiritual Director for St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C. (2011-2015).

He was named an Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Washington by Pope Francis on March 20, 2015 and ordained to the episcopate on April 20, 2015. He has served as Vicar General and Moderator of Ethnic Ministries for the Archdiocese of Washington since 2015. He has served as a member of the Council of Priests for the Archdiocese of Washington since 2006, and a member of the College of Consultors for the Archdiocese of Washington since 2011. Bishop Dorsonville is a member of the Committee on Catholic Education and is Chairman for the Committee on Migration for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).