

Professor Dr. Guzman CARRIQUIRY LECOUR

Born in Montevideo (Uruguay) on May 20, 1944, is married to Lidice Maria Gomez Mango and they have four children and three grandchildren.

In Professor Carriquiry's book "Una apuesta por America Latina" he presents himself as "Uruguayan, from Rio de la Plata River, of the mercosur (South American financial market), South American, Latin American, that by the immeasurable and unexpected ways of Providence, has worked for 30 years in the Holy See, in the center of Catholicism".

He studied at the University of the Republic, Montevideo, where he graduated with the title, "Doctor of Law and Social Science".

He was a leader of the Latin American Student Youth and Catholic University.

He collaborated with the Episcopal office of his country as Director of the Center of National Social Communication of the Church in Uruguay.

Currently, as he has for 35 years, he works at the service of the Holy See. He was a close collaborator of His Holiness Paul VI and His Holiness John Paul II, as he is now to His Holiness Benedict XVI, first in the Concillium of the Laity and after with the Pontifical Council for the Laity.

He was the first lay person named as the "Chief of Department", by His Holiness Paul VI and also the first lay person named as "Sub-Secretary" in a dicastery of the Holy See by His Holiness John Paul II.

He has been serving, for more than 20 years as the Sub Secretary of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, and was recently confirmed by His Holiness Benedict XVI for another five years.

He has been a member of and is a member of other associations of the Vatican.

He has participated as an expert, by Pontifical designation, in four General Assemblies of the World Synod of Bishops (on Evangelization of the Modern World, on the Family, on the Church in America).

He has been a member of the Delegations of the Holy See to numerous world Conferences to the United Nations.

He has represented the Pontifical Council for the Laity in numerous Congresses of International Catholic Organizations and Ecclesial Movements.

He has collaborated with the preparation of various pontifical visits to Latin America.

He has had great responsibility in the organization of the successive Youth World Days with the Pope and is quite possibly the only catholic at the present time to have participated in all of the World Youth Days.

He has had great responsibility for the work of gathering, discerning and recognizing, on behalf of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, the most varied associations, movements and ecclesial communities as well as the Encounters and the World Congresses celebrated with said entities in Rome.

He has received, among others, the highest pontifical honor - “Knight of the Great Cross from the Order of St. Gregory the Great”.

He has participated as Presider in the III, IV and V Latin American Episcopal General Conferences (Puebla, 1979; Santo Domingo, 1992; Aparecida, 2007). He has also participated in various Assemblies of the Interamerican Bank and Development and in Congresses of many other Latin American institutions.

He has offered Courses and Seminars as “Visiting Professor”, in various Pontifical Universities in Rome, in Roman State Universities (“La Sapienza” and “Tor Vegata”), at the University of Rome “St. Pius V”, and the Theological Faculty of the University of Lugan (Switzerland), at the Catholic Pontifical University in Chile, the University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Argentina) and in many other cultural centers. At the University of Saint Thomas Aquinas he received an “Honorary Doctorate” in jurisprudence and political science.

He has published many publications regarding cultural, ecclesial and international topics as well as many on diverse Latin American topics.