

Lecia E. Diaz Brannon



Episcopal Priest | Multicultural Leader | Joyful Bridge-BUILDER

## Ministry Identity and Leadership Summary

I am a multiracial, multicultural Episcopal priest and third-generation Mexican American with a heart for presence-based leadership rooted in faithfulness, not striving. Over the past eight years, I have led in parish, seminary, and community contexts, building trust through deep listening, relationship, and shared joy. My ministry is shaped by a theology of belonging, by the belief that the church is God's endeavor, and by a desire to serve the Church through encouragement, equity, and care.

Currently, I serve as Director of Donor Relations at Seminary of the Southwest, where I guide alumni engagement, lead donor development efforts, and work across diocesan and churchwide relationships. Through this ministry, I engage with Bishops, Priests and Episcopal parishes across the country, listening to the Spirit's movement in diverse communities.

Ordained in 2016, I also served as a parish priest in two congregations and continue to offer leadership in the wider church through my service on the Diocese of Texas Disciplinary Board, and seminary diocesan relations. My call now is to support the Body of Christ in discerning what is most essential—and most joyful—about life together in Christ.

## Ordination

- Ordained to the Diaconate: June 2016
- Ordained to the Priesthood: December 2016

The Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves, Diocese of El Camino Real

## Professional Ministry Experience

### Director of Donor Relations, Staff Lead to the Southwest Alumni Association

Seminary of the Southwest – Austin, TX | November, 2022 – Present

- Serves as an advancement & gifts officer, building relationships with alumni, donors, and diocesan partners
- Staff Lead for Southwest Alumni Steering Committee, guiding its formation and ongoing work
- Member of seminary Diocesan Relations Committee; liaison to bishops and wider church leaders
- Attends General Convention and national conferences, Diocesan Councils and Conventions and visits Episcopal parishes and communities for donor engagement and community building
- Facilitates storytelling, spiritual encouragement, and institutional partnership rooted in trust
- Serve in the clergy rotation of presiding and preaching at Christ Chapel Eucharists

## **Rector**

St. Mary's Episcopal Church – Cypress, TX | 2020 – 2022

- Led diverse parish through pandemic adaptation
- Introduced storytelling-centered preaching and intergenerational liturgies
- Deepened lay leadership and community outreach partnerships
- Advocated for LGBTQIA+ inclusion and spiritual formation rooted in welcome

## **Curate, Associate Rector, Locum Tenens**

Calvary Episcopal Church and School – Richmond, TX | 2016 – 2020

- Served and guided a community of prayer, pastoral care, and joyful celebration
- Established regular lay preaching, pastoral care teams, and seasonal offerings
- Strengthened congregational identity through shared discernment and outreach
- Led diverse parish through pandemic adaptation

## **Churchwide, Diocesan & Community Leadership**

- Disciplinary Board, Episcopal Diocese of Texas, Member (2022–present)
- Alumni Steering Committee, Seminary of the Southwest, Staff Lead (2022-present)
- Diocesan Relations Committee, Seminary of the Southwest (2022-present)
- REACH Unlimited, Non-Profit, Houston, TX, Board Member (2022)
- Attack Poverty, Non-Profit, Stafford, TX, Board Member (2018-2020)
- Women's Witness Trip to Israel & Palestine, Participant (2014)

## **Education**

Master of Divinity, 2016

Seminary of the Southwest – Austin, TX

Bachelor of Science, 2013

Western Governors University – Business Administration

## **Spiritual Practices and Identity**

Lecia's spiritual life is grounded in daily scripture, contemplative prayer, and time walking with her dogs among trees and birds. As a multicultural and multiracial leader, she draws from her Mexican American heritage and ministry among LGBTQIA+ and diverse communities. She is passionate about joy, justice, and healing in the Body of Christ.