



THE JESUIT CURIA IN ROME
BORGO S. SPIRITO, 4, 00193 ROMA (ITALIA)



Father Adolfo Nicolás, S.J., Superior General, Society of Jesus

Father Adolfo Nicolás, S.J., 80, a native of Spain, has served as Superior General of the Society of Jesus since 2008.

In December of 2014, Father Nicolás announced his intention to resign, thereby convoking General Congregation 36, which will convene in Rome on Oct. 2, 2016.

Born on April 29, 1936, in Villamuriel de Cerrato, Spain, Father Nicolás entered the Jesuit novitiate in Aranjuez in 1953. His philosophy studies were done in Alcalá de Henares, where he obtained his Ph.L. in 1960. He then left for Japan for language studies. From 1964-1968, he studied theology in Tokyo and was ordained a priest there in 1967. From 1968 to 1971 he did his doctoral work at the Gregorian University in Rome and wrote his doctoral dissertation, *Theology of Progress*.

In 1971, he became professor of systematic theology at Sophia University in Tokyo. From 1978 to 1984 he was director of the Pastoral Institute in Manila, Philippines. From 1991 to 1993, he was rector of the house of Jesuit students in Tokyo. In 1993, he was made Provincial of Japan and, in that capacity, attended GC 34 in 1995.

After those years in governance, he remained in a poor parish of immigrants in Tokyo where he had moved to two years into his term as Provincial. He lived there until 2003. His work was difficult, but he was able to help thousands of Filipino and Asian immigrants, in the process gaining a firsthand experience of their suffering. In this way, his love for the at the margins of society became his most important ministry.

In 2004 he was again called to governance when he was named Moderator of the Jesuit Conference of East Asia and Oceania, where he was responsible for the entire region of South Asia, from Myanmar (Burma) to East Timor.

He speaks six languages: Spanish, Catalan, Japanese, English, French and Italian.