Colombia's past and its transition
Cardinal Gracias, Gracias’s predecessor in Colombia, headed the papal commission for the study of Ibero America. He also contributed to the work of the Latin American Bishops’ Conference, where he was the general secretary from 1987 to 1991.

Gracias started his career as a theologian and then became a priest and bishop, serving in various capacities in the Church. He was appointed as the first cardinal from Latin America in 2011, making it a historic moment for the Church in the region.

His appointment as the next cardinal has been seen as a positive step towards the advancement of the Church in Latin America. Gracias has been known for his commitment to social justice and human rights, and his appointment is expected to bring new perspectives to the Church in the region.

In conclusion, the appointment of Gracias as the next cardinal is a significant milestone for the Church in Latin America. His expertise and dedication to social justice and human rights will be an asset to the Church in the region, and his appointment is expected to bring new perspectives to the Church in the world.