



# Archdiocese of Miami

## Pastoral Bulletin

Dec. 11, 2024

Volume 30 Issue 12

### Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski

#### Requiescat in pace:

† **Mr. Juan Chamorro**, father of Reverend Fr. Hans Chamorro, parochial vicar at Saint David Church, died Nov 18. The funeral Mass took place at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 30 at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Parish and he was buried at Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Cemetery.

† **Deacon John Kroll**, who was ordained in the Archdiocese of Miami in 1986, died recently. He served at St. Boniface Catholic Parish, the Scott Memorial Center for the Deaf and Disabled, and St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Parish until his retirement and move to Ocala.

† **Sister Olga Gomez**, member of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, died Nov. 8 at age 77, while on retreat in Havana, Cuba. She is the great aunt of Father Matthew Gomez. Most of her ministry was in Cuba, but in 2018, she began ministering to the visitors at the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity in Miami. Sister Olga was buried Nov. 9 in Havana in a mausoleum belonging to the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul.

#### Announcements:

##### Christmas Eve Mass

Archbishop Thomas Wenski will celebrate Christmas Eve Mass, Dec. 24, at 10 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Mary, 7525 NW 2nd Ave., Miami.

##### Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women

The MACCW supports the archdiocese through service, community and shared mission, and offers numerous benefits and opportunities for your parish. I encourage you to consider establishing a new group within your parish or supporting an existing one. Contact president Fabiola DeArmas at 786-457-6422 or [fabiolas@prodigy.net](mailto:fabiolas@prodigy.net), or their spiritual advisor Fr. Michael Greer at 954-941-7647 or [frgreer@yahoo.com](mailto:frgreer@yahoo.com)

## Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, continued

### Jubilee 2025

The Archdiocese of Miami, in communion with the Universal Church and Pope Francis, will open the Jubilee Year of 2025 with a solemn Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral, 7525 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave on Saturday, Dec. 28, at 5:30 PM.

The Jubilee Year will offer the faithful opportunities to participate in various jubilee events at the Vatican and in their own dioceses. For pilgrims who cannot travel to Rome, bishops around the world have designated their cathedrals or a popular Catholic shrine as special places of prayer for Jubilee Year pilgrims, offering opportunities for reconciliation, indulgences and other events intended to strengthen and revive faith.

The following churches and shrines have been designated as special places of prayer for Jubilee Year Pilgrims:

- **Cathedral of St. Mary, Miami**, 7525 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Miami
- **The National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity (La Ermita)**, 3609 South Miami Avenue, Coconut Grove (Miami)
- **Our Lady of Schoenstatt Shrine**, 22800 SW 187th Ave, Homestead
- **St. Mary Star of the Sea Basilica**, 1010 Windsor Lane, Key West
- **St. Clement Catholic Church**, 2975 N. Andrews Avenue, Wilton Manors

The basic conditions to gain an indulgence are that a person is moved by a spirit of charity, is "purified through the sacrament of penance and refreshed by Holy Communion" and prays for the pope. Groups of faithful who wish to organize pilgrimages to one or more of the above designated churches or shrines should coordinate with the designated site so that the pilgrims can be properly welcomed and have access to the Sacraments, especially confession.

### Priest retreats

#### Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola

The Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola will be offered at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake Conference Center in Mundelein, Illinois from July 2 to Aug. 4, 2025. A team of trained spiritual directors will offer the 30-day, 8-day, 5-day, and 3-day forms of the Spiritual Exercises. The program is co-sponsored by Jesus Youth and Amoris Christi.

## Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, continued

### Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, continued

The cost for the 30-day retreat is \$3,800 and includes all materials and stipend for spiritual direction. The 3, 5 and 8 day retreats cost \$150 per day. Preference for admission to the 30-day retreat is given to bishops, seminary formators, vocation directors, priests, deacons and their wives, religious and lay leaders involved in spiritual formation and evangelization.

For application for the 30-day retreat, contact Fr. John Horn, S.J. at 561-374-2268 or [jhorn@svdp.edu](mailto:jhorn@svdp.edu). For application for the 3, 5, and 8 day retreats, contact Fr. Thomas Pulickal at [retreats@amorischristi.org](mailto:retreats@amorischristi.org). For more information, visit [www.spiritual-exercises-ac.org](http://www.spiritual-exercises-ac.org).

## Office of Worship & Spiritual Life

**The Pontifical Choir** will sing for major liturgical celebrations in the life of the archdiocese celebrated by the Archbishop of Miami in his Cathedral-Church and elsewhere. These include Chrism Mass, ordinations of deacons, priests, and bishops, the Rite of Election, the Rite of Reception, the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass, and the Archbishop's Thanks-for-Giving Mass.

The liturgical obligations of the choir are such that they will not interfere with a chorister's participation in their parish's music program. Most liturgies are on Saturday mornings or Sunday afternoons at the Cathedral of Saint Mary in Miami.

Membership in the choir is open to organists, choir directors, cantors, and other singers from throughout the three-county area of the archdiocese. The ability to read music, though recommended, is not required. Only a simple placement audition and the ability to commit to the rehearsal schedule is necessary. Regular rehearsals will be on Saturday mornings, approximately twice monthly at the cathedral.

For further information or to schedule a placement audition, email Max Tenney, Archdiocesan Director of Sacred Music at [mtenney@theadom.org](mailto:mtenney@theadom.org).

To view or download the flier for The Pontifical Choir visit: [www.thecathedralofstmary.org/ministries/adom-pontifical-choir/](http://www.thecathedralofstmary.org/ministries/adom-pontifical-choir/).

## Office of Marriage and Family Life

### Fully Engaged Training for Mentor Couples

Fully Engaged Pre-Marital & Convalidation Inventories are offering New Facilitator Webinar Trainings via ZOOM (ONLINE).

- Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in **English**
- Sábado, 1 de febrero de 2025 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in **Spanish / En Español**

Please register at least 10 days prior to the class. To register go to <https://getfullyengaged.com/new-mentor-training/> or email Jill at [jill.svihel@gw.stcdio.org](mailto:jill.svihel@gw.stcdio.org) or call (320) 258-7611.

**Natural Family Planning:** Learn a medically safe and highly effective method of postponing and achieving pregnancy that respects the love-giving and life-giving natures of marriage:

### Creighton Model Introductory Session

- **Spanish Session:** Jan. 14, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. (en línea/gratis)  
Register at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/zgsvmzr>
- **English Session:** Jan. 16, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. (online/free)  
Register at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/wyqe2dz>

**Transformed in Love** is an official Archdiocesan program created by many different experts to help you prepare for your wedding day and to begin your marriage by building a strong foundation together.

Please note that couples must attend both sessions to receive their certificate. Remember to **inform your Priest** in advance that you are attending the “Transformed in Love Group Marriage Preparation Program.”

- **Feb. 15-16, 2025 in English.** Location: St. Mark Parish, 5601 S Flamingo Rd, Southwest Ranches. Register at: <http://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/6926zm7>
- For more information and registration please click on the following link: [ADOM :: Events Marriage Preparation](#)

## Office of Marriage and Family Life, continued

### Wedding Anniversary Mass 2025

All couples married in the Catholic Church celebrating their Paper (1st), Silver (25th), Gold (50th) or 50 plus wedding anniversary in 2025 are invited to attend a Mass at St. Mary Cathedral on Saturday, Feb. 15 and receive a blessing from Archbishop Thomas Wenski. Couples interested in having their picture taken with Archbishop Wenski should arrive by 4 p.m. with Mass starting at 5:30 p.m. To register, visit <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/ynhxwzi>.

## Office of Respect Life

**St. Gianna and Pietro Molla Miscarriage Ministry** wants to invite you to honor your child/children lost through miscarriage. Memorializing a loved one can be a very powerful part of the healing process. Many parents and relatives find it helpful to name their babies. If you have not done so, visit us on our Heaven's Littlest Saints wall. [https://www.miamiarch.org/CatholicDiocese.php?op=Memorial\\_Miscarriage\\_Ministry](https://www.miamiarch.org/CatholicDiocese.php?op=Memorial_Miscarriage_Ministry).

### Pregnancy Help Center: Volunteers Needed

The Respect Life Pregnancy Help Centers of the Archdiocese of Miami are looking for volunteers at their three locations, two in Broward and one in Miami-Dade. There are many ways to serve if you feel called to do so: office duties, such as answering phone calls, scheduling appointments, counseling clients, organizing baby clothes and other donations, among other ways to help. Apply at: [www.respectlifemiami.org/volunteer](http://www.respectlifemiami.org/volunteer).

## Office of the Chancellor for Administration

Dear Monsignor/Father: This serves as a reminder that the 2024 October Mass Attendance Census started on the weekend of Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 5-6, 2024 and includes the four weekends of October, ending Oct. 26-27, 2024. Please remember to include the number of penitents during these weekends.

The deadline to return the count electronically was **Monday, Nov. 11, 2024**. Thank you, in advance, for timely reporting – by electronic upload – of the data. If your staff responsible for uploading data is not familiar with the process, please have them contact Mayra Rossell in the Chancellors' Office at 305.762.1220 or [mrossell@theadom.org](mailto:mrossell@theadom.org).

## Office of Safe Environment

### Safe Environment Local Coordinator

The Archdiocese of Miami's administration has reevaluated the Safe Environment Office in all aspects including the general policy, staffing and assigning of responsibilities, reporting procedures, requirements to serve as either an employee, vendor, or volunteer, and compliance procedures all in accordance with the USCCB's Charter for the Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults.

An imperative part of ensuring compliance for our entities is the assigning of a Local Coordinator for your site. The Local Coordinator is responsible for compliance and record keeping of the Archdiocesan Creating and Maintaining Safe Environments for Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy. Essentially, this means ensuring that compliance is met and that it can be proven.

(Remember the SE Office is an independently audited office.)

The role description is extensive and requires training before access is given. If your site does not have a local coordinator, please contact the Safe Environment office at [jrayburn@theadom.org](mailto:jrayburn@theadom.org) for the Role Description, and consider your choice carefully. Once a candidate is identified contact the Safe Environment Office again with the name and email address of the candidate so they may be assigned the appropriate training. This person must already be compliant in Virtus, fingerprinting, and a signed Pledge to promote safe environment.

Ultimately, the responsibility falls to the Pastor, Principal, or Director of the site. Thank you for joining the Archdiocesan's efforts to protect children and vulnerable adults.

## Office of Vocations

The next **St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering** will take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, at St. John Bosco Catholic Parish, beginning at 11:00 a.m. All priests of the East Dade Deanery are encouraged to invite at least one potential candidate to join those who are seriously discerning the priesthood. Priests may register their prospective candidates [here](#).

Upcoming Gatherings:

- Jan. 18, 2025: Southeast Broward Deanery at Little Flower Catholic Parish (Hollywood)
- Feb. 1, 2025: Northwest Dade Deanery at Blessed Trinity Catholic Parish
- March 2025: Northeast Broward Deanery at St. Coleman Catholic Parish
- April 12, 2025: Northeast Dade Deanery at St. Martha Catholic Parish

For more information, contact the Vocations Office at 305-762-1137 or reach out to Father Milton Martínez at [mmartinez@theadom.org](mailto:mmartinez@theadom.org).

## Office of Vocations, continued

**The New Archdiocesan Vocation Chalice** is a pilgrim chalice that will travel from one discernment group's hosting parish to the next. Each host parish will welcome the chalice, placing it in a place of honor during all Masses to invite the faithful to pray "One Hail Mary a Day" for priestly vocations in the weeks leading up to the St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering. St. John Bosco Catholic Parish has been hosting the Archdiocesan Vocation Chalice at every Mass since Monday, Nov. 25, 2024.

**The 2024-2025 Archdiocesan Vocations Poster** will be delivered to your parish & school before Christmas along with the Archbishop's Cup & Vocation Awareness Weekend flyers. Please ensure that the posters are placed in a visible area and encourage the faithful to continue praying "One Hail Mary a Day" for vocations to the priesthood, as well as for the seminarians and those who are discerning.

### Mark Your Calendars!

**The next Archbishop's Cup** match will take place on Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, at St. Thomas University, 16401 NW 37th Ave., Miami Gardens. Doors will open at 6 p.m., with kickoff at 7:30 p.m. Although admission is free, we are kindly asking for a donation to the [Burse Fund](#) for the seminarians' formation program. Priests and seminarians are already warming up and practicing for this exciting event! All parishes and schools are invited to come out and cheer for their favorite team, supporting either the priests by wearing blue or the seminarians by wearing yellow. A variety of Food Trucks will be available for the evening. Don't miss out on the fun! A digital flyer is available [online](#).

**Vocation Awareness Weekend Spring 2025:** If you know any young men between the ages of 17 and 35 who might be good candidates for the priesthood, please invite them to the next Vocation Awareness Weekend, taking place at St. John Vianney College Seminary from March 7-9, 2025. They can register [here](#).

## Office of Detention Ministry

**Pastors, please consider announcing the following in your parish bulletin.**

**Volunteers Needed:** The Office of Detention Ministry of the Archdiocese of Miami is looking for priests and lay volunteers for one of 30 correctional facilities in Miami-Dade. For more information, please email Deacon Edgardo Farias at [efarias@theadom.org](mailto:efarias@theadom.org) or visit <https://detentionministry.org/>.

## Catholic Hospice

The Volunteer Services Department offers an array of volunteer opportunities for individuals like you looking to join an organization committed to providing care to vulnerable populations. By volunteering with us, you can choose to join our many special programs: Companion Care, Acts of Kindness Project, Camp Erin, We Honor Veterans, Pet Peace of Mind and more! For more information, email [volunteerservices@catholichospice.org](mailto:volunteerservices@catholichospice.org).

## Catholic Charities

**Pastors, please consider announcing the following in your parish bulletins:**

**Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program** is looking for adults to become foster parents to refugee minors. The requirements to be a foster parent include:

- Be at least 21 years old.
- Be able to provide adequate bedroom space and a separate bed for each foster child.
- Have reliable transportation.
- Be willing to participate in a 30-hour free training.
- Be prepared for adults in your household to undergo complete background checks.
- Be able to meet basic resources to support the household.

Catholic Charities provides 24-hour case management, monthly stipend to help with the care of the refugee minor or youth, continuing education, and more. For more information, call 305-883-3383 or visit [www.ccadm.org](http://www.ccadm.org)



## Catholic Charities, continued

### Catholic Charities provides adult day care

Catholic Charities has been providing adult day care services for over 35 years at its Wilton Manors Adult Day Center, located at 1503 N.E. 26 St., Wilton Manors. Trained professionals care for adults requiring supervision during the day, including those with Alzheimer's or other dementia disorders. Nutritious meals, socialization, music therapy, exercise, and games are among the services provided in a safe and secure environment. Free adult day care services are also available to eligible individuals. For information, call 954-630-9501.

## Office of Communications

### Follow the Archdiocese of Miami on Social Media:

*Please Include in your Parish Bulletin:*



Facebook [@ArchdioceseofMiami](https://www.facebook.com/ArchdioceseofMiami) |



X [@CatholicMiami](https://twitter.com/CatholicMiami) |



Instagram [@CatholicMiami](https://www.instagram.com/CatholicMiami)

### Pastors, please add the following announcements in your parish bulletins:

#### Sunday Mass for shut-ins: online, on TV and on YouTube

The greatest gift that you could give a sick or homebound person is to remind them that hearing God's word in livestreamed and recorded Masses is only a few clicks away. To watch the Mass in English or Spanish, visit [miamiarch.org](http://miamiarch.org) | Offices & Ministries | Communications | Television Mass; or watch the Spanish Masses on our YouTube channel, CatholicMiami. Mass recordings become available at 6 p.m. every Saturday through midnight Sunday, and a direct link is posted on the News Center on the home page of the archdiocesan website. Masses also are broadcast in Spanish on Univision 23 on Sundays at 6:30 a.m. Those who are homebound and would like a visit from an extraordinary minister of Communion may contact their parish office directly.

## Office of Communications, continued

### **Beware of scammers**

The Archdiocese of Miami has heard reports of scammers impersonating Archbishop Thomas Wenski and some of our priests on Facebook, Instagram and other social media platforms, as well as via texts and phone calls. Please be aware that no archdiocesan priest or bishop will ever contact you directly asking for money, gift cards or anything else.

If you, your friends, family, or parish staff receive a direct message from anyone impersonating Archbishop Wenski or one of our priests, please do not respond. Report the fake account immediately to the social media platform and let the archdiocesan Communications Office know by emailing [mrivas@theadom.org](mailto:mrivas@theadom.org).

Impersonator scams also should be reported to the Federal Trade Commission by calling 1-877-382-4357; or Florida's Consumer Protection Division, 1-866-966-7226. Find out more about the types of scams making the rounds at [myfloridalegal.com](http://myfloridalegal.com).