



Archdiocese of Miami

Pastoral Bulletin

Nov. 13, 2024

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Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski

Requiescat in pace:

† **Father Daniel Houde, O.S.S.T.**, pastor of Holy Rosary-St. Richard Church in Palmetto Bay, died Oct. 11 after several months of battling cancer. Mass of Christian burial took place Oct. 16 at his parish.

† **Andre Gregoire Mersenne Saint Jean**, brother of Fr. Kidney St. Jean, died Oct. 22 in Haiti. The funeral Mass took place Oct. 26 at St. Rose of Lima in Grande Riviere du Nord, Haiti.

† **Deacon Charles Edel**, who served at Mary Help of Christians Church until his retirement, died recently. He was ordained a deacon in 2008.

† **Sister Lilia Fernandez, SSJ**, died Oct. 26 in St. Augustine, Florida. She served primarily in South Florida in Catholic education, parish religious education, and in pastoral care at Mercy Hospital. One of her brothers, the Most Rev. Gilberto Fernández, served as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Miami. The funeral Mass and burial took place Oct. 31 in St. Augustine.

† **Father Joseph Angelini**, who served as pastor of Visitation Parish in North Miami for 10 years prior to retiring in 2002, died Nov. 4 in Massachusetts. He was a priest in the Archdiocese of Miami for more than 30 years.

Archbishop Thomas Wenski has made the following appointments:

Effective Aug. 10, 2024

- **Father Humphrey U. Ani**, professor, St. John Vianney College Seminary

Effective Oct. 7, 2024

- **Father Damien Flanagan**, parochial vicar, St. Brendan, Miami

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, continued

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.

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. For application for the 3, 5, and 8 day retreats, contact Fr. Thomas Pulickal at retreats@amorischristi.org. For more information, visit www.spiritual-exercises-ac.org

Announcements:

Retirement Fund for Religious collection

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) announces the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection, scheduled in parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Miami on the weekend of Dec. 7-8. Escalating healthcare costs and a lack of traditional retirement plans have created financial challenges for many religious communities. The Retirement Fund for Religious addresses this need, supporting more than 20,000 religious over the age of 70. The collection will help address the significant lack of retirement funding for Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. For more information, visit retiredreligious.org

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, or their spiritual advisor Fr. Michael Greer at 954-941-7647 or 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 2nd 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.

Here in the Archdiocese of Miami, designated as special places of prayer for Jubilee Year Pilgrims are the following churches and shrines.

- **Cathedral of St. Mary, Miami**, 7525 NW 2nd 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 the 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.

Office of Worship & Spiritual Life

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Dear Fathers, Monsignors, and Bishops:

This year, Dec. 8th is the Second Sunday of Advent. As a result, the observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America, will be transferred to Monday, Dec. 9th.

Office of Worship & Spiritual Life, continued

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, continued

In previous years when Dec. 8th fell on a Sunday, it was the practice in our country to indicate that the obligation to attend Mass does not transfer with the liturgical observance. However, the Dicastery for Legislative Texts has recently clarified that the feast “must be observed as a day of obligation on the day to which it is transferred.”

Therefore, to fulfill the obligation for Solemnity on Monday, Dec. 9, parishes should accommodate mass times for the faithful to attend on Monday, Dec. 9.

Note: Parishes should *not* anticipate the Solemnity on Sunday evening but celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent for the entirety of Sunday. The Liturgy of the Hours for the Immaculate Conception will also be transferred to Monday, Dec. 9. The optional Memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin is omitted.

Since the Dicastery’s response will effect a change in our practice, we provide this information now in the hopes that appropriate explanations to the Catholic faithful can be provided.

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.

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

Office of the Permanent Diaconate

Convocation of Deacons is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at St. John Vianney College Seminary. Deacons are expected to participate; wives are invited to attend. Candidates in the third year of diaconate formation will be admitted to Candidacy by Archbishop Wenski.

Convocation Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Mass, The Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Ordination as Deacons,

Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski

10:30 a.m. Msgr. Darius J. Zielonka, J.C.D.

12:00 noon Lunch at refectory

1:00 p.m. Closing

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).

- Sábado, 7 de diciembre 2024 - 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 or call (320) 258-7611.

Natural Family Planning - Couple to Couple League

- Nov. 21 and Dec. 19, 2024, at 7 to 9 p.m. (In-person)
St. Hugh Catholic School, 3460 Royal Rd, Coconut Grove.
For more information, please click on the following link:
[ADOM :: Events Marriage Enrichment \(miamiarch.org\)](https://miamiarch.org/ADOM-Events-Marriage-Enrichment)

Office of Respect Life

Entering Canaan

This post abortion healing program of the Archdiocese of Miami offers a Day of Prayer and Healing retreat, which is a one-day retreat that provides a safe and confidential place filled with love, compassion, and prayer. The men and women who attend can begin their post-abortion healing journey. The goal of the day is for each person to leave with the hope that healing is possible. There is no cost to attend.

- Day of Prayer and Healing for **Men in Spanish**: Saturday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For confidentiality reasons, the location of the retreat will be provided upon registration. Contact projectrachel@theadom.org or call 954-981-2984.

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

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.

Office of Safe Environment

Safe Environment policy update

All those seeking employment or volunteer opportunities can complete Virtus training online which must be completed prior to employment/volunteer/vendor positions begin.

Online training can be accessed 24/7. Both, fingerprinting and the initial Virtus training session, must be completed (and for fingerprinting the results must be received prior to serving as an employee, vendor, or volunteer). New hires may take the online training during their first day as part of their orientation. Any other scenario requires the training to be completed prior to working or volunteering.

You can verify participants' status through your location's Virtus User Reports (accessible by your Local Coordinator) or by having the participant turn in their Training Report.

Virtus Training Online

You may register for the initial Virtus training session at www.virtus.org.

Registration Instructions:

For English: Click [here](#)

Para Español: Oprima [aquí](#)

Once the initial training is complete, your account will be automatically activated. Continuing training is in the form of online monthly bulletins. For more information contact Jan Rayburn at jrayburn@theadom.org

Virtus Emails

To help ensure VIRTUS Online messages are delivered properly to your Inbox (not spam or junk folders), please add system@pub.virtus.org to your Address Book and/or Safe List. If you follow these directions (adding system@pub.virtus.org to your Address Book and/or Safe List), but reminders default to your **spam** folder, or you do not receive your reminders at all, we recommend that you check directly with your email provider to see if they are blocking or otherwise affecting delivery of email communications from VIRTUS Online (system@pub.virtus.org) to your email account.

Office of Safe Environment, continued

The Safe Environment Office is sharing a new addition to the Virtus training requirements for employees and educators in Archdiocesan parishes, schools, and entities.

Healthy Boundaries for Adults: Development and Implementation

This module addresses the proper development of healthy boundaries, and the implementation of them within the ministry environment. The module seeks to equip caring adults with the information needed to move past simply understanding boundaries and helps to put them into practice. Best practices of appropriate and inappropriate behavior will be discussed including such practices between adults, as well as between adults and children.

Participants should log into their accounts on www.virtus.org and click on the **Home** tab followed by the **Current Training** box to complete the training.

New employees need to be assigned the module at time of hire by the local coordinator at their site or by requesting it from J. Rayburn via email at jrayburn@theadom.org.

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 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

Catholic Charities

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

Hurricane Helene Relief Fund

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami Inc. announced a relief fund to support those affected by Hurricane Helene. They are accepting monetary donations through its secure website. To donate, visit www.ccadm.org. One hundred percent of all funds received will be directed to providing humanitarian relief and assistance to those affected by the hurricane.

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

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 also are 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](#) |



[@CatholicMiami](#) |



Instagram [@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](#) | 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.

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.

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](#).