



Archdiocese of Miami

Pastoral Bulletin

April 9, 2025

Volume 31 Issue 4

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski

Announcements

International Firefighters' Day

Please consider placing the following in your parish bulletin:

Archbishop Wenski will celebrate the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, May 4th, at Cathedral of St. Mary in observance of the International Firefighters Day and the Feast of St. Florian, patron saint of firefighters. All firefighters in Miami-Dade County are invited to join the City of Miami Fire Rescue personnel at this Mass in which we will pray for all firefighters in gratitude for their dedicated service. Firefighters are invited to attend in uniform. For more information, call Ana Acle-Menendez, administrative assistant to Fire Chief Robert Hevia at anaacle@miamigov.com.

Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN)

The following message can be used in parish bulletins to promote FLCAN and encourage subscribers to opt-in:

The annual Florida legislative session starts soon and your elected officials need to hear from you. Are you a Florida Catholic who wants to put your faith into action? The Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) provides opportunities to stay informed and use your voice to advocate for the protection of human life and dignity in our state's law and public policies. As an FLCAN subscriber, you will receive important updates and calls to action directly from the public policy office of the bishops of Florida. Sign up now and start advocating on behalf of vulnerable and marginalized populations who often have no voice of their own, including pre-born babies, low-income families, children, individuals who are sick and dying, immigrants and refugees, persons who are incarcerated, and others in need. To learn more and opt in to receive FLCAN emails and/or text messages, visit flaccb.org/flcan.

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, continued

Announcements, continued:

The Process of Ecclesial Integration of Hispanic/Latinos Into Intercultural Parishes

This workshop sponsored by the Southeast Pastoral Institute (SEPI) will take place May 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at SEPI, 7700 SW 56 St., Miami. Guest speaker will be Alejandro Aguilera-Titus, assistant director for Hispanic Ministry for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Workshop will be in English with simultaneous translation available. Cost is \$30. To register or for more information, call 305-279-2333 or visit www.sepi.us.

Jubilee Year 2025 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 the faith. The following churches and shrines are designated as special places of prayer for pilgrims:

- **Cathedral of St. Mary, Miami**, 7525 NW 2nd Avenue, Miami
- **The National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity (La Ermita)**, 3609 S. Miami Ave., Miami
- **Our Lady of Schoenstatt Shrine**, 22800 SW 187th Ave, Homestead
- **St. Mary Star of the Sea Basilica**, 1010 Windsor Lane, Key West
- **Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish**, 11691 NW 25th Street, Doral
- **St. Clement Catholic Parish**, 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.

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, continued

Announcements, continued:

2025 International Priests Tennis Tournament

This tournament will take place July 10-12, 2025 in Overland Park, Kansas in the Archdiocese of Kansas City. Accommodations with host families or hotel. Divisions: Singles - Open, Over 50 and Over 65; Doubles - Open and Over 120. For more information, contact Fr. Connor at Fr.Brian-connor@cdolinc.net or visit <https://tinyurl.com/PriestTennis>.

Priestly faculties in Ireland

The Archbishop of Dublin, Ireland, has asked the USCCB to inform local U.S. bishops that any priest who travels to Ireland and seeks to exercise public ministry (whether as a resident or visitor) needs to be vetted and cleared by the Irish Police first. This requirement is in addition to their bishop's testimonial letter. It is important that at least one month's notice be given for this clearance to come through. To initiate this process of police clearance, it is best to make contact with the Irish diocese in which they hope to minister publicly.

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.

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, continued

Announcements, continued:

National Association of Catholic Chaplains (NACC)

Please consider publishing in your bulletins:

The NACC provides grace-filled encounters to the sick, the imprisoned, and all those in need of Christ's healing presence. As they celebrate their 60th anniversary and a Jubilee Year, they have launched Works of Hope, a free digital resource highlighting the transformative work of pastoral care ministers throughout the United States. The publication debuted February 11 in honor of the World Day of the Sick. You and your communities are invited to engage with this resource and share it with your parishes and pastoral care ministers dedicated to serving those in need. Works of Hope can be accessed by visiting www.nacc.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. 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

Important Notice

Rev. Carmelo González González, a priest of the Diocese of Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain, was recently reported to the Archdiocese of Miami as offering his services to various unsuspecting parishioners within our territory. Please note that Rev. Carmelo González González is not a priest in good standing according to his own diocese and certainly does not have authorization (faculties) to work in the Archdiocese of Miami. Kindly, be on alert about his whereabouts and report them when known. Obviously, please do not engage him in any ministerial activities and warn your parishioners about him.

Office of the Chancellor for Administration

Dear Monsignor/Father: This serves as a reminder that the 2025 March Mass Attendance Census starts on the weekend of Saturday-Sunday, March 1 & 2. It includes the five weekends of March, ending March 29 - 30. Please remember to count the number of penitents during these four weekends.

The deadline to return the count electronically is **Friday, April 11, 2025**. 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, the staff may contact Mayra Rossell in the Chancellors' Office at 305-762-1220 or mrossell@theadom.org to assist them in uploading the parish data.

Office of Development

14th Annual Cheers to Charity at Joe's Stone Crab

The Archdiocese of Miami is hosting the 14th Annual Cheers to Charity on Tuesday, April 29 at 11:00 a.m. at Joe's Stone Crab, 11 Washington Ave., Miami Beach. This special annual event hosted by Archbishop Thomas Wenski is a great opportunity for our Catholic community to unite in fellowship and enjoy delectable stone crabs alongside friends and families while also raising significant funds to support the charitable work of Church.

Visit www.adomdevelopment.org/joes for more information about sponsorship opportunities or to buy tickets. This event is quick to sell out, so make sure to register before it is too late. For more information, call 305-762-1051 or email events@theadom.org.

Office of Youth and Young Adults

Truth, Beauty and the Great Outdoors

This camping retreat, which brings together all archdiocesan young adult groups, will take place May 3-4, 2025 at Camp Elmore Scout Reservation, 3551 SW 142 Ave. (Boy Scout Rd.) in Davie. It is a 24-hour unplugged outdoor retreat combining both activity and contemplation of God in and through nature. Early bird special is \$50 and ends April 11. Regular price is \$60; college seniors graduating in 2025 are \$25. Registration deadline is April 25. Register at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/u9xp3f3>.

Office of Marriage and Family Life

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

- **English Session:** April 10, 2025 at 7:30 p.m. (online/free)
Register at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/xp8baxd>.

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.”

- **7 y 8 de junio de 2025 en Español.** Location: San Isidro Parish, 2310 Martin Luther King Blvd., Pompano Beach. Register at: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/9sd9rhh>.

For more information contact cshaw@theadom.org or call 305-762-1128.

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.

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, email Deacon Edgardo Farias at efarias@theadom.org, or <https://detentionministry.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 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 efforts to protect children and vulnerable adults.

Office of Vocations

Eight New Transitional Deacons: On March 29, Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski ordained eight men as transitional deacons for the Archdiocese of Miami. Each has been assigned to the following parishes for their diaconal year:

Deacon Adam Paul Cahill – St. Coleman, Pompano Beach
Deacon Henry Jair Cardenas Afanador – St. Benedict, Hialeah
Deacon Tomasz Koziel – Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, Fort Lauderdale
Deacon Aristides Luis Lima – St. Michael the Archangel, Miami
Deacon Carlos Eduardo Luzardo – St. David, Davie
Deacon Saint-Clos Papouloute – St. James, North Miami
Deacon Pietro Pironato – St. Lawrence, North Miami Beach
Deacon Michele Segal – Our Lady of the Lakes, Miami Lakes

Let us rejoice and give thanks to God as these men continue their journey toward the priesthood, joyfully embracing their call to serve Christ and His Church.

Priestly Ordination

With praise and gratitude to Almighty God, the Archdiocese of Miami and the Office of Vocations joyfully announce the upcoming ordination to the Sacred Order of the Priesthood of the following Transitional Deacons:

Deacon Jakub Bereza
Deacon Jorge Reyes

The Ordination Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, May 10, 2025, at 10:00 AM by Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski at the Cathedral of Saint Mary in Miami, Florida. To accompany Deacon Jakub and Deacon Jorge with our prayers, we will begin a special novena for priestly vocations on our Miami Vocations social media platforms beginning Thursday, May 1, 2025. We encourage everyone to join us in lifting up these men and all those discerning a vocation to the priesthood.

Office of Vocations, continued

St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering

This month's St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering will take place on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at St. Martha Parish at 11:00 a.m. All priests of the Northeast Dade Deanery are encouraged to invite at least one potential candidate to join those discerning the priesthood by completing [the registration form](#).

Upcoming gatherings:

- May 17, 2025: Southwest Broward Deanery at St. Katharine Drexel Parish

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

Focus 11

We are excited to host the Focus 11 Vocations Rally for sixth-grade students over four days, May 13-16, 2025. To better accommodate schools and minimize overcrowding, we have added an extra day to the Broward County rally, ensuring ample space for schools in Broward and North Dade. The rally will take place on May 13 and 14 at St. Gregory the Great in Plantation, and on May 15 and 16 at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami. School principals: Please refer to the email sent on February 12, 2025, for further details and registration instructions.

"One Hail Mary a Day for Vocations" Prayer Cards

The Office of Vocations has prayer cards available in both English and Spanish for distribution to the faithful. These cards encourage the simple yet powerful practice of praying one Hail Mary each day for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, religious life, and sacred matrimony. If your parish would like to receive prayer cards, please email us at mmartinez@theadom.org.

Catholic Health Services

Catholic Home Health Services

Please consider publishing in your bulletins:

Catholic Home Health Services is here to support you and your loved ones with care rooted in faith and compassion. For over 30 years, Catholic Home Health Services has been providing compassionate and professional home care to our community. As part of Catholic Health Services, a ministry of the Archdiocese of Miami, we are committed to delivering care with dignity, respect, and a strong faith-based approach.

Our services are designed to be delivered in the comfort and privacy of your home, hospital room, or assisted living facility. Services include skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, and medical social services, all tailored to meet your specific needs.

We are also looking to expand our team! If you are a registered nurse (RN), licensed practical nurse (LPN), or home health aide, we would love to have you join our dedicated team of professionals. For more information or to inquire about services, please contact Carol Hylton, Executive Director, at chylton@chsfla.com.

Availability at St. Joseph's Assisted Living

St. Joseph's Assisted Living currently has availability for new residents. If you or a loved one are seeking a caring, faith-based community with compassionate support, we welcome you to consider making St. Joseph's your home. For more information or to schedule a visit, please contact Elanie Chambers at 954-739-1483 ext. 1619 or echambers@chsfla.com.

Catholic Hospice

The Volunteer Services Department offers volunteer opportunities for individuals looking to join an organization committed to providing care to vulnerable populations. You can choose to join: 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:

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 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) |



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



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

Office of Communications, continued

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.

Office of Communications, continued

Events:

Italian Mass

Church of the Little Flower in Coral Gables has begun celebrating a new Mass in Italian on the first Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. The parish is located at 2711 Indian Mound Trail, Coral Gables, and is pleased to offer this new Mass in the service of the Italian community of South Florida.

Camp Erin

We are now accepting applications for our Family Bereavement Camp on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at Tree Tops Park in Davie. Our one-day Family Bereavement Camp combines grief education and emotional support with fun, traditional camp activities for youth campers and their families. All adults (18 and older) – including parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and so forth – are highly encouraged to attend. Contact 954-944-2709.

Brief video on Camp Erin:

<https://youtu.be/gyOfID0EZj8?si=CjifOkmyswUMd3yD>