



Archdiocese of Miami

Pastoral Bulletin

March 13, 2024

Volume 30 Issue 3

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski

Requiescat in pace:

† **Army Lt. Pat Medina**, a Vietnam veteran and father of Fr. Jesus 'Jets' Medina, died March 3 in the Philippines.

† **Fr. Arnaldo Bazán**, who served in the archdiocese for about 18 years, died on March 11 in the Dominican Republic. He was the last living priest among the 136 priests expelled by Fidel Castro from Cuba aboard the Covadonga in 1961. While living in the Archdiocese of Miami, he served at St. Agatha, St. Brendan, St. Michael, San Lazaro, Church of the Little Flower (Coral Gables), St. Joseph and Sts. Peter and Paul.

† **Fr. Antonio Marrero**, from Puerto Rico who was visiting Miami, died March 10.

Announcements:

Pontifical Good Friday Collection

Pastors: Please announce the following from the pulpit and in your bulletins:

Pope Francis has asked our archdiocese to support the Pontifical Good Friday, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, who now comprise less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and religious education. It also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Nazareth. The pandemic hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the children of God still living in this land and to maintain a Christian presence where Christ was born. When you contribute to this collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous! For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org.

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski (continued)

Announcements continued:

About the Passion Narrative

The Chairmen of the Committees on Divine Worship and Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs issued a memo to the publishers of worship aids, hymnals, and missals on February 1, 2023. The memo requires the following statement to be printed before the text of the Passion narrative on Good Friday in all future publications beginning in 2024. In the 1990s and again in the 2000s, the Committees provided guidance on the preparation of homilies and created a similar statement to be included in worship aids alongside the proclamation of the passion during Holy Week to help ensure that the proclamation of the Lord's Passion is not misused to promote anti-Jewish sentiment. The statement is available in English and Spanish:

The passion narratives are proclaimed in full so that all see vividly the love of Christ for each person. In light of this, the crimes during the Passion of Christ cannot be attributed, in either preaching or catechesis, indiscriminately to all Jews of that time, nor to Jews today. The Jewish people should not be referred to as though rejected or cursed, as if this view followed from Scripture. The Church ever keeps in mind that Jesus, his mother Mary, and the apostles all were Jewish. As the Church has always held, Christ freely suffered his passion and death because of the sins of all, that all might be saved.

Las narraciones de la pasión se proclaman en su totalidad para que todos vean vívidamente el amor de Cristo por cada persona. A la luz de esto, los crímenes durante la Pasión de Cristo no pueden atribuirse, ni en la predicación ni en la catequesis, indiscriminadamente a todos los judíos de ese tiempo, ni a los judíos de hoy. El pueblo judío no debe ser referido como si fuera reprobado de Dios o maldito, como si este punto de vista se dedujera de las Sagradas Escrituras. La Iglesia siempre tiene en mente que Jesús, su madre María y los apóstoles eran todos judíos. Como la Iglesia siempre ha sostenido, Cristo sufrió libremente su pasión y muerte a causa de los pecados de todos, para que todos pudieran ser salvados.

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski (continued)

Announcements:

Pastors: National Eucharistic Revival parish resources, which are free and ready to print, are available at this link: <https://store.eucharisticrevival.org/collections/digital-resources>

Memorandum from USCCB President Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio

Dear Brothers, all,

It appears that numerous parishes may be reproducing the daily and Sunday readings in their worship aids or bulletins without a license from the USCCB.

I encourage you to become licensees if you are not already. The current rate is from \$200 per year for up to 250 copies per Sunday to \$1,500 per year for 1,500 copies or more per week. (Fees are assessed separately for English and Spanish.) To license the readings properly, a parish can simply contact Mary Elizabeth Sperry at msperry@usccb.org.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Floridians Should Decline to Sign Petition for Dangerous Pro-Abortion Amendment

An extremely grave initiative is underway in Florida that seeks to erase pro-life protections by inserting language into the Florida Constitution banning regulation of abortion. Abortion activists are working to gather petition signatures to place a pro-abortion constitutional amendment on the Nov. 2024 ballot. This amendment would allow abortion up until birth, including when the baby is capable of feeling pain, and would eliminate laws requiring parental consent and safety protocols for women. Floridians should not sign the petition. Please spread the word to your spheres of influence and continue to pray for the protection of the unborn.

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski (continued)

Announcements continued:

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

Pastors: As is apparent to us all, our nation is seeing increasing displays of hyper-partisanship and division. As pastors, we offer neither support for nor opposition to any party or candidate. Rather, we seek to offer hope and encouragement by equipping Catholics to engage as faithful citizens, to set aside malice, and to put on “the mind of Christ” (1 Cor. 2:16). The USCCB webpage, [CivilizeIt.org](https://www.civilizeit.org), includes tools and resources to help Catholics practice civil dialogue in their families, parishes and communities. In addition, the materials accompanying Faithful Citizenship approved during the 2023 Fall Plenary Assembly have been completed. Please find for your consideration the following documents available in English and Spanish at faithfulcitizenship.org and ciudadanosfieles.org:

- New introductory note to Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship
- Bulletin insert on “The Role of the Church in American Political Life”
- Bulletin insert on “The Dignity of the Human Person”
- Bulletin insert on “The Common Good”
- Bulletin insert on “Solidarity”
- Bulletin insert on “Subsidiarity”

Please consider sharing these materials with the faithful in your diocese as we prepare for the upcoming election season.

Priest retreats

Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Retreat Center

- May 13 -17, 2024
Theme: TBA
Retreat Director: Msgr. Rick Hilgartner (Archdiocese of Baltimore)

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski (continued)

Priest retreats, continued

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola

The Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola will be offered at the Joseph and Mary Retreat House in Mundelein, IL from June 30 to August 2, 2024. 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 \$3,700 and includes all materials and stipend for spiritual direction. The 3, 5 and 8 day retreats cost \$125 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 frthomas@jesusyouth.us

Office of the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs

The Archdiocese of Miami received information from the Diocese of Syracuse about Rev. George Mattice, who has been removed from ministry in his own diocese. Apparently, he moved and resides within the Archdiocese of Miami. Should he present himself as an active priest, please do not allow him to concelebrate or minister. He will not be granted ADOM faculties.

Office of the Chancellor for Administration

Dear Monsignor/Father:

This serves as a reminder that the 2024 March Mass Attendance Census starts on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, March 2 -3, and it includes the five weekends of March, ending March 30- 31. **Please remember to count the number of penitents during these weekends.** The Excel Template to use is the same used last October.

The deadline to return the count electronically is **Monday, April 15**. 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. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

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 Development

Please share this information with your parish communities through your bulletins, websites, etc:

The **13th Annual Cheers to Charity at Joe's Stone Crab** event will take place on Tuesday, April 23 at 11:00 a.m. Information about sponsorships, tickets and registration can be found online at: Cheers to Charity at Joe's. For more information, contact 305-762-1051 or events@theadom.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

Office of Catechesis

RCIA Rite of Reception for Baptized Christians into Full Communion of the Catholic Church and Baptized Catholics completing initiation (Confirmation, Eucharist) will take place Sunday, April 14 at 2:30 p.m. at Cathedral of St. Mary.

Office of Vocations

On March 8 to 10, St. John Vianney College Seminary hosted their bi-annual Vocations Awareness Weekend. Of the 23 men in attendance, 14 were from the Archdiocese of Miami. This is a fruit of your prayer and of the invitation to consider the priesthood. Please encourage the young men in your parish to [sign up](#) for the next VAW in Nov. Please continue the good work!

Thank you for praying [#AHailMaryADay](#) as we are seeing men and women discerning their vocation because of your prayers! If your parish has not yet begun to pray a Hail Mary a Day, I encourage you to begin on Sunday, April 21 when we celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations. You can find resources to celebrate this day on the [USCCB website](#) and the [Vianney Vocations website](#).

This week we are celebrating Catholic Sisters Week, please find in this [link](#) some Prayers of the Faithful to pray for our Religious Sisters.

Principals: an email was sent a few days ago regarding FOCUS11. I look forward to welcoming your sixth graders on May 21-23.

Catholic Cemeteries

Honoring the children of Our Lady of Mercy Cemetery

Since the 1960s, more than 800 beloved infants and children have been buried at Our Lady of Mercy Cemetery. Thanks to a recent donation, we have begun giving these innocent souls the remembrance they deserve but there is still more to do. That's why Our Lady of Mercy Cemetery has launched the Footprints in the Garden fundraising campaign. A \$100 donation will pay for a 10 by 10 inch engraved stone memorial to be placed on the grave of a child. With your support, we can leave a sign that these small souls were loved in this world. Please consider donating today at www.catholiccemeteriesmiami.org/donate

Office of Detention Ministry

Pastors: Please consider announcing the following in your parish bulletins:

Volunteers Needed: The Office of Detention Ministry of the Archdiocese of Miami is looking for priests and lay volunteers for one of the 30 correctional facilities in Miami-Dade. For more information, please email Deacon Edgardo Farias at efarias@theadom.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 also are available to eligible individuals. For information, call 954-630-9501.

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, March 16, 2024 - 10am - 4pm in **English**
- Sábado, 6 de Abril 2024 - 10am - 4pm in **Spanish**

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

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 **in-form your Priest** in advance that you are attending the “Transformed in Love Group Marriage Preparation Program.”

- **Friday, April 19, Saturday, April 20 & Sunday, April 21** in **English**. Location: St. Augustine Church, 1400 Miller Road, Coral Gables. Register at: <http://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/76yvptg>

Natural Family Planning “Creighton Model” Introductory Session

Please join us for an introductory session of Natural Family Planning “Creighton Model” to prepare for your new marriage or for marriage enrichment and learn a medically safe, morally acceptable, and highly effective method of both postponing and achieving pregnancy.

Spanish Session: April 23 at 7:30 pm (Online/Free)

Register at: <http://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/pcpz8ev>

English Session: April 25, at 7:30 pm (Online/Free)

Register at: <http://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/84dtvrf>

Office of Communications

Follow the Archdiocese of Miami on Social Media:

Please include in your Parish Bulletin

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

Thy Kingdom Come, a five-week Bible study on the Our Father by Fr. Joseph Mary Rogers, SCTJM, will be on Thursdays beginning April 4 and ending on May 2 from 7:30-9 p.m. and will take place at the Saint John Paul II Evangelization Center, 3087 SW 15 Street, Miami. Registration fee is \$45, plus Eventbrite ticketing fee.

Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thy-kingdom-come-bible-study-on-the-our-father-tickets-853945904187>. *Habr  traducci n al Espa ol.* For those interested in joining through Zoom, contact veritatissplendor@piercedhearts.org after completing registration and payment.

Divine Mercy Sunday

The Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary invite you to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7 with 2 p.m. Mass and 3 p.m. Holy Hour and Divine Mercy Chaplet at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 2987 W. Flagler St., Miami. Confessions and veneration of the relics of St. John Paul II and St. Faustina will be available. Visit www.piercedhearts.org