



Archdiocese of Miami

PASTORAL BULLETIN

September 8, 2021

Volume 27 Issue 9

OFFICE OF ARCHBISHOP THOMAS WENSKI

Archbishop Thomas Wenski has made the following appointment:

Effective September 1, 2021:

- Fr. Gilberto Amórtegui Peña, A.I.C., Parochial Vicar, St. Boniface.

Boy Scouts of America

The Archdiocese of Miami has a long history of supporting the Boy Scouts of America program as an integral part of our parish's Youth Ministries. As I am sure you have read, the national Boy Scout organization has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection because of many past claims of abuse. There have been no claims of abuse brought in connection with any scouting unit chartered by an ADOM entity. The BSA bankruptcy case is ongoing and complicated and is being monitored by our attorneys and the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops. In the meantime, we will continue to support those BSA units, both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts that are already chartered in our parishes. However, for the time being, no new BSA units are to be chartered at any ADOM parish or school.

Covid-19 Mask Policy

As of July 7, 2021, mask-wearing and social distancing remain a requirement for gathering in churches "and other (parish) spaces," according to an updated COVID policy issued by the Archdiocese of Miami. The full policy can be viewed here: https://www.miamiarch.org/atimo_s/articles_images/2021/07/COVID_policy_update_July_7_1625880596.pdf

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

October Mass Census

Bishop / Monsignor / Father:

It is again time for counting and reporting the weekly Mass census for the weekends in October. The 2021 October Mass Attendance Census includes the 5 weekends of October, beginning with the weekend of Saturday-Sunday, October 2-3, and ending October 30-31.

Please remember **to count the number of penitents** during these five weekends.

The deadline to return the count electronically is **Monday, November 15, 2021**. 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.

OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT

New Online Training Option in the Virtus Registration Process

In these extraordinary times, the Safe Environment Office has reviewed the current process of Virtus training and how it should proceed in an effort to still provide quality education of awareness and prevention of child sexual abuse and do so in a safe and logistically viable procedure.

In response we have worked with Virtus National to provide temporary online training as an option. It is available in English, Spanish and also Korean and Vietnamese subtitles.

This means the participant must have access to the internet. For those few who do not, and do not have another option, then their site—meaning parish or school—is to provide them with a computer on site for them to complete this training.

All those completing the online training option will have an active Virtus account and will be required to read their monthly bulletins just as is required with the live training. The Local Coordinator at each site will have access to all accounts affiliated with their location just as before. Compliance responsibilities will not change.

Register for online class at www.virtus.org. For questions regarding the new online training option please contact Jan Rayburn at jrayburn@theadom.org

OFFICES OF THE CHANCELLOR AND OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

Alert / Warning:

Please be advised that Walter Gerald Jacome is not a deacon of the Roman Catholic Church. He is not allowed to visit, give talks, teach, celebrate baptisms, witness weddings nor renewal of matrimonial vows for Catholics in the Archdiocese of Miami.

Should he attempt to present himself for ministry as a deacon, please call the Chancery or the Office for the Permanent Diaconate.

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Stewardship and Ambassador of First Impressions Day

This trilingual one-day conference for pastors, staff and parish and ministry leaders will take place Saturday, Oct. 2 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Belen Jesuit Preparatory School, 500 SW 127 Ave., Miami. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Wenski at 11:30 a.m. The conference will consist of 16 breakout sessions featuring special guest speakers in English, Spanish and Creole. Keynote speaker will be Cande de Leon, author of *Heart of the Mission* and Executive Director of the Office of Mission Advancement for the Archdiocese of Phoenix. Registration fee is \$35 and will include breakfast and lunch. Register online at www.adomdevelopment.org/sd or for more information, contact Grace Veloz at 305-762-1064.

OFFICE OF VOCATIONS

Labouré Society Seminarians

Dear brothers in the presbyterate, the Archdiocese of Miami currently has two men participating in the Labouré Society program. This program helps to remove the obstacle of student loan debt during the years of formation. According to the National Religious Vocation Conference, of the approximately 10,000 men and women discerning a call each year to the priesthood or religious life, 42% of them are blocked due to student loan debt. Since 2003, this 501(c)(3) organization has helped deliver over 300 men and women into religious formation who otherwise would have been turned away or put on hold due to student loans. If you would like to assist, please email Fr. Matthew Gomez at mgomez@theadom.org to put you in contact with the two men who are diligently working in this program to alleviate their student loan debt before entering the priesthood.

OFFICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Transformed in Love is a marriage preparation program which uses a house-building metaphor to illustrate the concepts of establishing and nurturing marriage and family life. It includes many topics that contribute to building a marriage for a lifetime.

Please be aware that due to the current situation with COVID-19, the Archdiocese of Miami is making a unique exception, allowing our office to provide the group program online as a Live Interactive Webinar. This is not a Self-Paced Class, it is a LIVE Class with real-time lectures:

- Saturday, September 25 & Sunday, September 26, 2021 (8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) in **Spanish. Live Interactive Webinar.** Register at: <https://conta.cc/2XIF44R>
- Saturday, November 13 & Sunday, November 14, 2021 (8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) in **English. Live Interactive Webinar.** Register at: <https://conta.cc/3mqbEGj>

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:** September 28, 2021 at 7:30 pm (Online)
Register at: <https://conta.cc/3x062Vy>
- **English Session:** September 30, 2021 at 7:30 pm (Online)
Register at: <https://conta.cc/3vVu8zl>

Wedding Anniversary Mass 2022

All couples married in the Catholic Church celebrating their 1st, 25th, 50th or 50 plus wedding anniversary in 2021 are invited to attend a Mass at St. Mary Cathedral on Saturday, February 12, 2022 and receive a blessing from Archbishop Thomas Wenski.

Couples interested in having their picture taken with Archbishop Wenski should arrive by 4 p.m. Mass will start at 5:30 p.m. Participants will sit in a special designated area in the front pews.

To register, visit <https://conta.cc/2TCUSXY> or contact your Parish Office.

OFFICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE (CONTINUED)

Retrouvaille Weekend for Couples

Retrouvaille is for couples who need or want to rekindle and strengthen their marriage or get it back on track. It is also for couples who may be cold and distant, and believe that there is no hope for their marriage. The program helps couples that are struggling in their marriage, even those who are considering marriage separation or who are already separated or divorced. We welcome couples of ALL ages, regardless of how long they have been married, or have been in trouble. Retrouvaille has helped heal tens of thousands of marriages worldwide. The next event will be: **October 8, 2021 in ENGLISH**

For more information, contact the Registration Team at 305-915-4607, email miami@retrouvaille.org or visit HelpOurMarriage.com

OFFICE OF RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Walking with Moms Initiative

Walking with Moms is a USCCB initiative that Archbishop Wenski adapted and launched through the Secretariat of Parish Life to renew the existing structure of Respect Life Ministry in the Archdiocese of Miami and integrate it, through outreach and service, more fully into the parish community so that every woman in need knows where to turn for support and abortion becomes unthinkable.

For the past year, pastor-appointed parish leaders and core teams have participated in monthly *Walking with Moms* webinars, completed inventories and assessments of local resources, visited their assigned Respect Life Pregnancy Help Center locations, created and implemented Parish Action Plans, and are currently submitting their results which we'll celebrate in Phase Seven at the *Congreso Pro Vida*. Learn more at respectlifemiami.org/walking-with-moms.

Sidewalk Advocacy Training

Respect Life Ministry has partnered with Sidewalk Advocates for Life in launching Sidewalk Advocates: South Florida to train and equip the faithful for prayerful, peaceful presence and effective outreach outside the abortion clinics in our Archdiocese. The first training will take place at Madonna Retreat Center on Sept. 11 at 12 pm. Register at respectlifemiami.org/events

OFFICE OF RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY (CONTINUE)

Respect Life Month

October is Respect Life Month and parishes throughout the Archdiocese are hosting Baby Bottle Drives to support their assigned Respect Life Pregnancy Help Center. The links to donate online for participating parishes are available at respectlifemiami.org/baby-bottle-drive.

To schedule a Baby Bottle Drive or for help promoting the Gospel of Life at your parish, contact respectlife@theadom.org

6th National Congreso Pro Vida

Join us for this pro-life event hosted by Archbishop Thomas Wenski October 29-31 at St. Thomas University, Miami Gardens. Workshops will be available in English, Spanish, and Creole. To learn more and purchase a ticket to attend in-person or online, visit www.congresoprovida.com

CATHOLIC CHARITIES

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

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)

Volunteer lectors

The Office of Communications is looking for volunteer lectors for the Spanish language Televised Masses. The volunteers must have fingerprints and Virtus training. Please contact Bernarda Bustamante at 954-294-7817 for more information.

Online Events Calendar postings

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many events are taking place online only. Events taking place in person are subject to CDC guidelines, including restrictions on capacity and requirements for social distancing and mask-wearing. When you submit an event, please make clear in the description whether it is taking place online or in person.

Beware of scammers

The Archdiocese of Miami has heard reports of scammers impersonating Archbishop Thomas Wenski on Instagram. If you, your friends, or family receive a direct message from accounts impersonating Archbishop Wenski, please do not respond. Report the account immediately to the social media platform, and let us know someone impersonating Archbishop Wenski has tried to contact you.

Events

Pastors: Please place in parish bulletins:

34th Annual Our Lady of Mercy Mass

Every September 24th, Catholics celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy as a powerful symbol of faith while enduring physical, psychological and spiritual suffering. Her image across many countries is associated with health, healing and peace of soul.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS (CONTINUED)

This year, Mercy Hospital will celebrate its 34th annual Mercy Mass and Our Lady of Mercy as the hospital's patroness. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Thomas Wenski on Friday, Sept. 24 and will begin with the Holy Rosary at 6 p.m. and the Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Due to safety precautions surrounding COVID-19, the chapel and hospital grounds will be closed to the general public and the Mass will be livestreamed on Mercy Hospital's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/MercyHospitalMiami.