



Archdiocese of Miami

Pastoral Bulletin

Feb. 12, 2026 Volume 32, Issue 2

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski

Requiescat in pace

† **Reverend Fernando Heria**, retired priest who previously served as pastor at St. Brendan Catholic Parish and rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity, died Feb. 10 at age 75.

† **Msgr. Pedro Garcia**, retired priest, former pastor of St Ann Mission in Naranja, died Jan. 25 at age 90.

† **Mrs. Ana Teresa Rivera**, mother of Reverend Alexander Rivera, died Jan. 22 in Pembroke Pines at age 65 after battling a brain tumor for 21 years.

† **Mrs. Irene Terenzio Tomonto**, former Director of Marriage Preparation and Enrichment for the Archdiocese of Miami, died on Jan. 15 at age 91.

Assignments

Appointments effective Feb. 1, 2026:

- **Fr. Andrew Carlos Del Valle, OP**, parochial vicar, St. Dominic Catholic Parish, Miami.
- **Fr. Eliosbel Pereira Almaguer**, parochial vicar, Our Lady of Charity National Shrine, Miami.

Announcements

Courage and EnCourage Conference

Priests, save the date for Clergy Study Day July 15, 2026 during the Annual Courage and EnCourage Conference July 16-19, 2026 at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary Conference Center in Mundelein, IL. For more information, contact Fr.Blatchford@couragerc.org

Office of Archbishop Thomas Wenski, continued

Announcements, continued

Priest retreats

Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola

The Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius of Loyola will be offered at Grand Coteau Retreats in Grand Coteau, LA from June 30 to Aug. 2, 2026. 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 \$4,400 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.com.

St. Paul Center Priest Conferences

Experience four days of spiritual and intellectual renewal for priests, presented by the St. Paul Center. Three different dates and locations are offered:

- April 13-16, 2026 in Austin, TX
- July 6-9, 2026 in Wheeling, WV

Costs vary, from \$425-\$700. Register online at StPaulCenter.com/Priests or contact events@stpaulcenter.com or call 740-264-9535 ext. 20 for more information.

St. Paul Center Priest Lifetime Membership

The St. Paul Center is offering free all-access membership for priests. Resources include:

- The Word of the Lord weekly reflections on the Sunday Mass Readings
- Over 20+ course on Scripture and Theology
- Flagship Journey through Scripture studies on the Mass, the Virgin Mary, and more

Priests may visit StPaulCenter.com//Priest-Membership to register.

Office of the Chancellor for Administration

2026 March Mass Attendance Census

Dear Monsignors / Fathers,

This serves as a reminder that the 2026 March Mass Attendance Census starts on the weekend of Saturday-Sunday, March 7-8. It includes five weekends in March, and one weekend in April, including Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, ending April 4-5.

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

The deadline to return the count electronically is Monday, April 27. 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, contact Mayra Rossell in the Chancellors' Office at 305.762.1220 or mrossell@theadom.org.

Office of the Chancellor for Canonical Affairs

Requests for Faculties

We kindly request the cooperation of all Pastors of the Archdiocese of Miami regarding the submission of requests for faculties for visiting priests. Please, remember that all requests must be submitted at least two weeks in advance. Requests received after this timeframe may not be processed in a timely or proper manner. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 Vocations

St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Fr. Robert M. Ayala, pastor of Nativity Catholic Parish in the Southeast Broward Deanery, for hosting last month's St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering. Your gracious hospitality and welcoming spirit were a true gift to all who attended.

This month's St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering will be hosted at St. Augustine Catholic Parish in the East Dade Deanery on Saturday, Feb. 28. All priests are encouraged to invite at least one young man between the ages of 16 and 35 to participate. Young men within this age range are warmly welcome to gather for prayer, fraternity, and support as they continue discerning the Lord's call in their lives.

Registration can be completed using [this form](#). For more information, please contact the Office of Vocations at 305-762-1137 or reach out to Fr. Milton Martínez at mmartinez@theadom.org.

The Archdiocesan Vocational Chalice

The Vocational Chalice is now present at St. Augustine Catholic Parish as it continues its pilgrimage among the parishes hosting the St. Andrew's Discernment Gathering. The chalice stands as a visible reminder of our shared responsibility to pray for priestly vocations. Each host parish places the chalice in a place of prominence during Mass, inviting the faithful to pray that more young men may generously respond to the Lord's call to the priesthood and that a spirit of prayerful openness to God's will may grow within the parish community.

Archbishop's Cup 2026

The IV Annual Archbishop's Cup was once again a great success. We are grateful to all who gathered as one family for a spirited and friendly match filled with fraternity, joy, and good sportsmanship. The seminarians claimed victory with a final score of 7-1, adding to the lighthearted celebration. Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, and supported this cherished event.

Vocation Awareness Weekend Spring 2026

Registration is now open, and space is limited. If you know any young men between the ages of 17 and 35 who may be discerning a call to the priesthood, please encourage them to attend the upcoming Vocation Awareness Weekend, to be held at St. John Vianney College Seminary from March 6-8, 2026. They can register [here](#).

Office of Vocations, continued

Focus 11 Vocations Rally 2026

Mark your calendars! We will be hosting the Focus 11 Vocations Rally for sixth-grade students over four days, May 12-15, 2026—with two days in Broward County and two days in Miami-Dade County. To better accommodate schools and reduce overcrowding, we will continue the extra day for the Broward County rally, as it worked well last year, ensuring ample space for schools in Broward and North Dade. School principals, please be on the lookout for an email with further details and registration instructions.

One Hail Mary a Day for Vocations

Thank you for continuing to pray [#AHailMaryADay](#)! Please pray for the seminarians and their vocation as well as for new vocations.

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 for Religious

World Day of Consecrated Life

The annual celebration to honor consecrated men and women will take place March 8 at Cathedral of St. Mary, beginning with a Holy Hour at 3:30 p.m., which will be offered in thanksgiving and for the intentions of Archbishop Thomas Wenski as he marks the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination. Following the Holy Hour, the Archbishop will celebrate Holy Mass at 4:30 p.m., during which our Jubilarians will be recognized. After Mass, consecrated women and men only are warmly invited to a dinner at the Archdiocesan Parish Hall.

Office of Marriage and Family Life

Wedding Anniversary Mass

All couples married in the Catholic Church celebrating their Paper (1st year), Silver (25th year), or Gold+ (50th+ year) wedding anniversary in 2026 are invited to renew their marriage promises on Saturday, Feb. 21 at Cathedral of St. Mary, 7525 NW 2nd Ave. Miami. Couples interested in having their picture taken with Archbishop Wenski should arrive by 4:00pm with Mass starting at 5:30pm. Register at: [Wedding Anniversary Mass Feb. 21, 2026](#)

Fully Engaged Training for Mentor Couples

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

- **Saturday, March 21, 2026** - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. in English (online)
- **Sabado, 11 de abril de 2026** – 10 a.m. a 4 p.m. en español (en línea)

Please register at least 10 days prior to the class. To register, email Jill at jill.svihel@gw.stcdio.org, visit <https://getfullyengaged.com/new-mentor-training/> 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:** 14 de abril de 2026, a las 7:30 p.m. (En línea / Gratis). Register at: [Planificación Familiar Natural "Modelo Creighton" Sesión Introductoria - Abril 14, 2026](#)
- **English Session:** April 16, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. (Online / Free). Register at: [Natural Family Planning "Creighton Model" Introductory Session April 16, 2026](#)

Office of Marriage and Family Life, continued

Life-Giving Wounds (LGW) Online Spring Support Group

This seven-week virtual support group offers adult children of divorce or separation a powerful opportunity to begin or deepen their healing journey in communion with one another under the guidance of LGW leaders and expert speakers.

- Dates: Thursdays, Feb. 26–April 16, 2026 (with the exception of April 2)
- Time: 8:15–10:00 p.m. ET
- Format: 100% online, with live presentations and small groups
- Early-bird registration is open now through Feb. 12

Register at: lifegivingwounds.org/online-support-group

Life-Giving Wounds Retreat for Adult Children of Divorce or Separation

Join us for a two-day retreat Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19, 2026 from 8:30am-6:30pm (not an overnight retreat) designed to help you explore and heal the wounds of your parents' divorce or separation. Through reflection, shared community, and an encounter with Christ, you will receive guidance on love, trust, and personal growth that leads to deeper self-understanding and healing.

Register at: [Life-Giving Wounds Retreat April 18 and 19, 2026](https://lifegivingwounds.org/retreat)

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.

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 with the name and email address of the candidate to receive 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 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

Archdiocesan website

In an effort to update and maintain current information on our website, we ask parishes and schools to review their contact information on the archdiocesan website and email Maria Alejandra Rivas-Ávila at mrivas@theadom.org to request changes to your profile pages.

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

Camp Erin

Family Bereavement Camp, will take place on Saturday, June 20 in Davie, FL. This special day is completely free of charge, and we warmly invite the whole family to attend together with campers ages 6 – 17 (18 if still in high school, or 5 if turning 6 within three months). The final day to apply is Friday, May 29.

Caregivers and family members are invited to join gentle, supportive workshops where they can reflect on their own experiences with grief and loss, connect with others who understand, and take a moment for themselves, while still being present alongside their children.

Campers will take part in separate, age-appropriate activities that encourage expression, connection, and healing in a space created just for them. If you know a child or family who might benefit from Camp Erin, applications are available at www.camperinsouthflorida.org.

If you have any questions or would like to talk more about the camp, call 954-944-2709 or 786-459-6539, or email CampErin@catholichospice.org