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ARCHBISHOP WENSKI

Events will bring new archbishop to your area

Installation Mass is filled, but Archbishop Thomas Wenski will be visiting south Florida parishes in June

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — For everyone who wants to welcome Archbishop Thomas Wenski back home to Miami, here's the good news: He will be coming to visit you in June.

A series of welcome Masses has been planned in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties where the thousands of people who do not fit into St. Mary Cathedral for the installation ceremony will be able to pray with, meet and greet the new archbishop.

People also can watch the installation Mass live on their computers by logging onto the archdiocesan website, www.miamiarch.org, at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1.

Or they can tune into EWTN, which will broadcast it live in both English and Spanish; CatholicTV, which will broadcast it in English; and Radio Paz 830 AM, which will air it in Spanish.

After June 1, however, Archbishop Wenski will begin a whirlwind tour of the archdiocese, celebrating Masses at each of the three counties in order to reach out to all Catholics.

Some Masses will be mostly in English, others mostly in Spanish, others mostly in Creole. But all will include a smattering of the three languages spoken in the archdiocese and by the new archbishop; and the Mass at St. Clement will resemble the annual Migration Mass celebrated each year on the feast of the Epiphany, with all the cultural groups invited to come in their native garb.

Some of the Masses — such as the Red Mass for legal professionals and the Mass with mission groups — were already on the calendar and geared toward those groups, so there might not be a lot of space left for the general public. Other Masses, however, are specifically meant for the public.

Here is the schedule:

- Wednesday, June 2, 6 p.m., Red Mass, St. Anthony Parish, 901 N.E. Second St., Fort Lauderdale. Sponsored by the St. Thomas More Society for Catholics in the legal profession. 954-463-4614.
- Thursday, June 3, 7 p.m., welcome Mass (English) and reception, St. Gregory Parish, 200



ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO, FC

Archbishop Thomas Wenski smiles during the press conference where it was announced that he had been named fourth archbishop of Miami. He replaces Archbishop John C. Favalora, 74, who has headed the archdiocese since 1994. Archbishop Pietro Sambi, papal nuncio to the United States, made the announcement April 20 in Washington.

N. University Drive, Plantation. 954-473-6261.

- Friday, June 4, 7:30 p.m., welcome Mass (Spanish) and reception, St. Michael the Archangel Parish, 2987 W. Flagler St., Miami. Sponsored by Hispanic Apostolic Movements. 305-649-1811.

• Saturday, June 5, 2:30 p.m., School of Ministry graduation Mass, St. Mary Cathedral, 7525 N.W. Second Ave., Miami. Sponsored by Ministry of Christian Formation. 305-762-1086.

- Sunday, June 6, 10 a.m., welcome Mass (Creole) and reception, Notre Dame D'Haiti, 110 N.E. 62 St., Miami. 305-751-6289.

• Sunday, June 6, 4 p.m., Mass with mission groups, St. Thomas University, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens. Sponsored by the archdiocese's Mission Network. 305-762-1226.

- Tuesday, June 8, 7 p.m., wel-



St. Mary Star of the Sea, Key West (oldest parish in the archdiocese) June 8, 7 p.m. welcome Mass.

come Mass and reception, St. Mary Star of the Sea (oldest parish in the archdiocese), 1010 Windsor



St. Clement Parish, Fort Lauderdale June 9, 7 p.m. welcome Mass.

Lane, Key West. 305-294-1018.

- Wednesday, June 9, 7 p.m., welcome Mass (multicultural)

and reception, St. Clement Parish, 2975 N. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Sponsored by Office for Cultural Groups. 954-563-1183.

- Thursday, June 10, 7 p.m., welcome Mass and reception with papal knights and honors recipients, Epiphany Parish, 8081 S.W. 54 Court, Miami, for Knights of St. Gregory, Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulcher, Knights of St. Sylvester, Knights and Ladies of Malta (U.S. and Cuba), fourth-degree Knights of Columbus, Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver, *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*, *Benemerenti*, *Primum Regnum Dei* and *Legatus*. 305-667-8067.

• Sunday, June 20, 10 a.m., welcome Mass and reception with men and women religious, St. Mary Cathedral, 7525 N.W. Second Ave., Miami. 305-759-4531. ■

A knock, a papal bull and a chair

A guide to what will happen during Archbishop Wenski's installation ceremony

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — A knock, a papal bull, and a chair: Those are the ingredients of an archbishop's installation.

The chair is the reason why the ceremony takes place at the cathedral, explained Msgr. Terence Hogan, rector of St. Mary Cathedral, and director of the archdiocese's Office of Worship.

"In its role as the 'mother church' of the archdiocese, (the cathedral) is the site of the archbishop's *cathedra* or chair. The *cathedra* serves as a sign of unity for the faithful and reflects the archbishop's teaching office as well as his pastoral authority. It is from this chair that he leads prayer, proclaims the faith, and gathers his priests around him to celebrate the Eucharist and other sacraments," Msgr. Hogan said.

When he is installed as Mi-

WHY IS IT CALLED A PAPAL BULL?

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia:

"A *bull* was originally a circular plate or boss of metal, so called from its resemblance in form to a bubble floating upon water (from the Latin *bullire*, to boil). In the course of time, the term came to be applied to the leaden seals with which papal and royal documents were authenticated in the early Middle Ages, and by a further development, the name, from designating the seal, was eventually attached to the document itself. . . . For practical purposes a bull may be conveniently defined to be 'an apostolic letter with a leaden seal,' to which one may add that in its superscription the pope invariably takes the title of *episcopus, servus servorum Dei* (bishop, servant of the servants of God)."

ami's fourth shepherd June 1, Archbishop Thomas Wenski will begin by knocking on the great



FILE PHOTO

The site of Archbishop Thomas Wenski's installation: St. Mary Cathedral.

oak doors of St. Mary Cathedral. When the doors open, "he will be welcomed, presented with a crucifix to venerate and given holy

water to sprinkle upon all who have gathered within the cathedral," Msgr. Hogan said.

Archbishop Wenski will be ac-

companied by Archbishop John C. Favalora. They both will pro-

PLEASE SEE **INSTALLATION, A8**



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'To witness that God matters'

Archbishop Wenski previews his 'platform' for Miami

This is Archbishop Thomas Wenski's final column for the Orlando edition of the Florida Catholic newspaper. Not merely a look back at his tenure in central Florida, the column serves as a preview of what Archbishop Wenski calls his "platform" in south Florida.

Recently I reread the homily I delivered at the Mass that welcomed me as the Coadjutor Bishop of Orlando on Aug. 22, 2003. At that time, I attempted to articulate the vision that would guide me when I would become your bishop upon Bishop Norbert Dorsey's retirement.



FROM THE
ARCHBISHOP
Thomas Wenski

On Nov. 13, 2004, I did become the fourth bishop of Orlando — and we have been busy ever since. Together, we "started afresh from Christ" with our first Diocesan Synod with its themes of Communion, Conversion, Solidarity and Stewardship. Together we celebrated the diocese's 40th anniversary with our Festival of Faith and the Year of Evangelization. Together we sought to be "Witnesses to Hope" and "Alive in Christ" with the first diocesan-wide capital campaign despite a challenging economic environment. Together we grew — into more parishes and missions and, thankfully, together we welcomed many new priests and seminarians to serve the spiritual and pastoral needs of our people.

As I head to Miami, rather than enumerate a new list of priorities or goals, let me say that my "platform" remains essentially the same: simply to witness, as a religious leader in an increasingly secularized world, that God matters.

What Pope Benedict XVI has characterized as the "dictatorship of relativism" wishes to reduce faith to the realm of the "private" and the "subjective" and thus tries to exclude religious voices from the public square — as if God didn't matter. But, because God matters communities of faith are called to

model a life in which man, made in God's own image and likeness, matters as well.

For this reason, Catholics should involve themselves in the public square — and do so coherently and unapologetically. This is not to "impose our views" but to "make our proposal" about what is necessary for human flourishing in society. Thus, we bring to public policy debates on issues of human dignity, justice and peace, an understanding of the human person that, while founded on the Christian Scriptures, is also accessible to human reason.

While this understanding expressed in the Church's social teachings can seem to be quite complex, I believe it can be summarized in one simple phrase: No man is a problem. This why as Archbishop of Miami I will continue to proclaim — as I hope I did as Bishop of Orlando — a positive and consistent ethic of life.

No human being can be reduced to just a problem. When we allow ourselves to think of a human being as a mere problem, we offend his or her dignity. And, when we see another human being as a problem, we often give ourselves permission to look for expedient but not just solutions. The tragic history of the 20th century shows that thinking like this even leads to "final solutions."

For us, Catholics, therefore, there is no such thing as a "problem pregnancy" — only a child who is to be welcomed in life and protected by law. The refugee, the migrant — even one without "papers" — is not a problem. He may perhaps be a stranger, but a stranger to be embraced as a brother. Even criminals — for all the horror of their crimes — do not lose their God-given dignity as human beings. They, too, must be treated with respect, even in their punishment. This is why Catholic social teaching condemns torture and advocates for the abolition of the death penalty.

I am told that south Florida has its challenges — but, then, what else is new? At any rate, I pray that the lessons I learned here as the Bishop of Orlando will stand me in good stead as I assume the responsibilities that await me come June

'For this reason, Catholics should involve themselves in the public square — and do so coherently and unapologetically. This is not to "impose our views" but to "make our proposal" about what is necessary for human flourishing in society.'



FC FILE PHOTO BY VALETA ORLANDO

Archbishop Thomas Wenski speaks at the Orlando Public Library in 2008 on behalf of the Campaign to Ban Torture. He is among the U.S. prelates who have joined the campaign calling on the U.S. president to reject cruelty and torture.

1 when I become the chief shepherd of some 1.3 million Catholics in the three counties that make up the Archdiocese.

I will carry with me many memories of this dynamic and vibrant local Church. And, though words fail me, I am deeply grateful to all of you. I pray that you will remem-

ber me as fondly as I will remember you — and that we will never cease to pray for one another. ■

Look also on the archdiocesan website, www.miamiarch.org, for Archbishop Wenski's "Let's Talk" blog the week of June 7.




Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski

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prayerful best wishes on
your installation.*


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Pallium symbolizes authority, unity with pope

Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — On June 29, along with archbishops from all over the world, Archbishop Thomas Wenski will receive his pallium — the symbol of his office as metropolitan archbishop.

Pope John Paul II began the

tradition of distributing the pallium on the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul, which always falls on June 29, to emphasize the unity of bishops around the world with the successor of St. Peter.

The use of the pallium is reserved to the pope and archbishops. Worn by the pope, the

pallium symbolizes the plenitude of pontifical office; worn by archbishops, it typifies their participation in the supreme pastoral power of the pope, who concedes it to them for their proper Church provinces.

The pallium is a circular band about two inches wide, worn about the neck, breast, and shoulders, and having two pendants, one hanging down in front and one behind. The pendants are about 2 inches wide and 12 inches long, and are weighted with small pieces of lead covered with black silk.

The remainder of the pallium is made of white wool, part of which is supplied by two lambs presented annually on the feast of St. Agnes, solemnly blessed, and then offered to the pope.

The ornamentation of the pallium consists of six small black crosses — one each on the breast and back, one on each shoulder, and one on each pendant. The crosses on the breast, back and left shoulder are provided with a loop for the reception of a gold pin set with a precious stone. The pallium is worn over the chasuble.

Admission to the pallium ceremony at St. Peter's is by ticket only. For those traveling to Rome by themselves, and not part of the official Archdiocese of Miami pilgrimage, the address to request tickets for the pallium Mass is:

Bishops' Office for United States Visitors to the Vatican
c/o Rev. Msgr. Roger Roensch
Via dell'Umiltà, 30
00187 Rome, Italy
Europe

The request should be sent via fax and include the person's name, parish, and the names of other persons in the party requesting tickets. They can be picked up on Monday afternoon, June 28, at the same address.

The fax number (from the US) is (011)39-06-679-1448. The telephone number (from the US) is (011)39-06-690011. ■

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FILE PHOTOS

Archbishop Piero Marini is pictured in the above photo adjusting the pallium of Pope Benedict XVI during the pope's installation Mass April 24, 2005. The top photo is of a pallium presented to archbishops.

Welcome home, Archbishop Thomas Wenski,

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Archbishop Thomas Wenski: By the numbers

12— Number of years he spent in the seminary (he entered in ninth grade).

15 — Number of missions he and other Haitian priests cared for pastorally, from Homestead to Fort Pierce and Immokalee to Fort Lauderdale, during his 18 years with the Haitian apostolate in Miami.

4 — Number of missions he established as bishop of Orlando.

7 — Number of parishes he has established in Orlando.

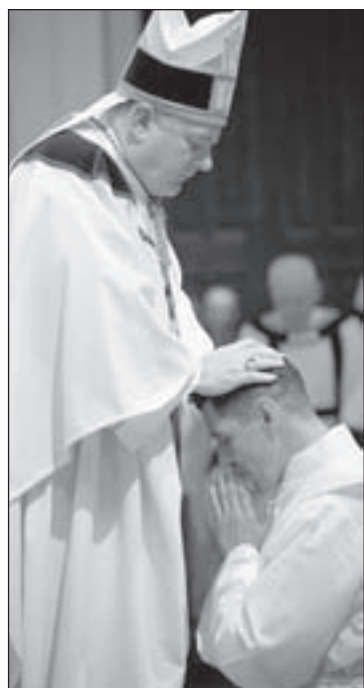
9 — Number of priests he has ordained in Orlando.

2 — Number of churches elevated to the status of basilicas during his tenure in Orlando (St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Daytona Beach and the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe).

25 — Number of seminarians currently studying for the priesthood in the Diocese of Orlando.

2 — Number of motorcycles he has owned (first a Honda and now a Harley).

300 — Or a little bit less: Number of hours he has logged piloting a Cessna. ■



FILE PHOTO

Bishop Thomas Wenski ordains Father Gilbert Medina through the laying on of hands during the June 17, 2007, ordination Mass at St. James Cathedral, Orlando.



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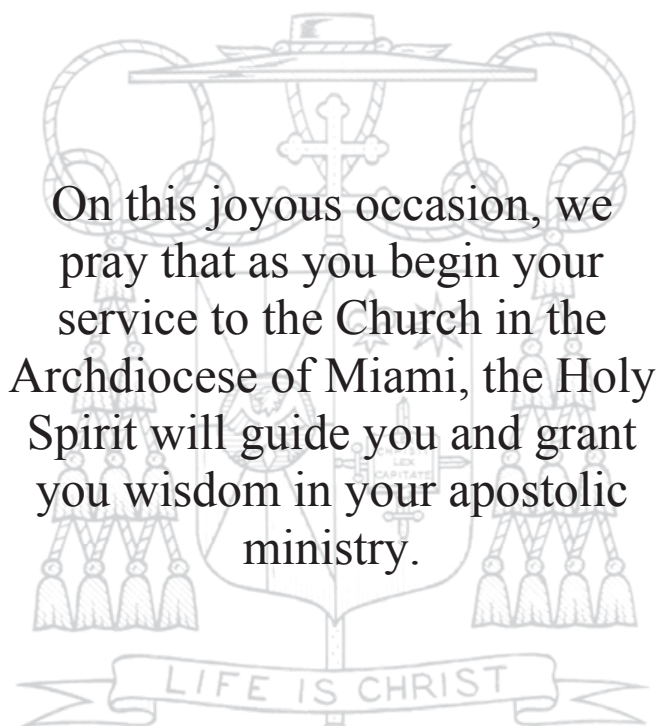
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Congratulations and Welcome!

Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski



On this joyous occasion, we pray that as you begin your service to the Church in the Archdiocese of Miami, the Holy Spirit will guide you and grant you wisdom in your apostolic ministry.

Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi,
Bishop Richard J. Sklba,
Bishop William Patrick Callahan

and the

Catholic community of
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INSTALLATION: The ceremony will be televised live on EWTN, CatholicTV and the archdiocesan website

FROM A3

ceed to the cathedral's Blessed Sacrament Chapel, where they will spend a moment in prayer. Then they will move to the sanctuary for the beginning of Mass.

After the greeting, the apostolic nuncio, Archbishop Pietro Sambì, will read out loud the apostolic letter — also known as papal bull — by which Pope Benedict XVI has appointed Archbishop Wenski as archbish-

op of Miami.

Msgr. Michael Souckar, the archdiocesan chancellor, will take the letter and show it to the college of consultors, a group of priests who advise the archbishop on the governing of the archdiocese.

Immediately after that, the nuncio and Archbishop Favalora will take Archbishop Wenski to the *cathedra*, or chair, and hand him the crozier, or bishop's staff.

At that moment, with that simple gesture, Msgr. Souckar said, Archbishop Wenski will officially assume his duties as chief shepherd of Miami's 1.3 million Catholics and metropolitan of the Province of Miami, which includes the seven dioceses of Florida.

After that, "The Ceremonial of Bishops" calls for representatives of the archdiocesan clergy and members of the faithful to formally greet "and offer some sign of obedience and reverence" to their new archbishop. The Mass then continues as usual, beginning with the "Gloria."

Archbishop Wenski's installation ceremony will be televised live on EWTN in English and Spanish, and can be viewed as well on CatholicTV and on the Internet at www.miamiarch.org, the archdiocesan website.

Admission to the cathedral June 1 is by ticket only, but the large number of bishops, priests and dignitaries expected leaves none available for the general public.

"Not only because of the historical importance of these ceremonies, but also because of the significance of the archdiocese within the Americas and the Caribbean, especially Haiti and Cuba, we are expecting a large number of bishops and priests, perhaps as many as 400," Msgr. Hogan said.

The cathedral can squeeze in around 1,250. The choir alone, composed of choir members and music directors from parishes throughout the archdiocese, numbers 60, not including members of a Polish choir who — in recognition of Archbishop Wenski's heritage — also will sing at the ceremony.

"Since the space is limited, the seating has been designated for members of his family, those associated with Archbishop Wenski during his many years of ministry, and then there will be representatives from each parish and the various other ministries from the archdiocese," Msgr. Hogan said.

"Realizing that there will be limited seating," he added, "it was Archbishop Wenski's request that during the weeks following the installation Mass there would be opportunities for the faithful of the archdiocese to celebrate the Eucharist with him and share some private moments with him at receptions following the welcome Masses."

The dates and times of those Masses can be found on Page A2 of this special edition. They also are posted on the home page of the archdiocesan website, www.miamiarch.org. ■

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Hebrews 3:2



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The Priests, Deacon and Parishioners of St. Agatha Parish and School rejoice with all our brothers and sisters in the Archdiocese of Miami on welcoming Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski.

Rev. Fr. Rolando G. Garcia
Pastor

ARCHBISHOP THOMAS WENSKI:

'I leave Orlando with mixed feelings'

TANYA GOODMAN
of the Florida Catholic staff

ORLANDO — The Chancery lobby downtown swarmed with media. Chancery staff members packed in behind them anxiously waiting to hear firsthand that their leader — the leader of central Florida Catholics — was leaving to head



FC PHOTO BY JACQUE BRUND

Archbishop Thomas Wenski gestures during an April 21 press conference in Orlando, held to announce his appointment as the fourth archbishop of Miami.

the Archdiocese of Miami.

As soon as Archbishop Thomas Wenski entered the lobby, Chancery employees erupted in ap-

plause — recognition of the honor of his appointment.

Archbishop Wenski, 59, acknowledged he will leave the Diocese of Orlando, where he was first coadjutor bishop and then bishop for nearly seven years, to serve as the fourth archbishop of Miami and metropolitan of the Province of Miami which includes all seven dioceses of Florida.

Archbishop John C. Favalora, 74, is retiring after 16 years of service.

"I leave Orlando with mixed feelings. I have come to love the people, the priests, religious and deacons," Archbishop Wenski said.

On April 20 at noon in Rome (6 a.m. Eastern time), Pope Benedict XVI announced that he had named Bishop Wenski as archbishop of Miami. Immediately, newspapers and agencies around the world published the news and photos. There is one photo, in particular, that was very popular: Archbishop Wenski wearing jeans and a helmet, sitting on his motorcycle.

At the press conference, Archbishop Wenski noted with a smile that central Florida has "great back roads for motorcycle riding. In Miami, it's a little more congested."

"I will miss his humor," said Hyun Peterson, director of archives for the diocese.

Many employees expressed their happiness at his appointment of archbishop, but expressed sadness to see him leave.

Yvette Hernandez of the Office of Hispanic Ministry said, "We are losing but someone else is winning. He's doing such a good job. It is sad for us but good for others."

Hernandez added that sometimes people get attached to a particular priest. She noted it is the job of a priest to minister to many people. "We have to let him go," she said.

TO STAY OR GO

Archbishop Wenski said he had a "mixed reaction" when the papal nuncio first called him about becoming archbishop of Miami.

"My first inclination was to stay put." With twinkling eyes and a

PLEASE SEE **ORLANDO, A11**

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as we begin this new
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together*



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ORLANDO

FROM A10

smile in his voice, the new archbishop elicited laughter, adding, "It is hard to say no to the pope."

Continuing, a bit more serious, he said, "When I became a priest, I promised obedience to my bishop."

CHALLENGES/
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Media throughout the state proclaimed "native son returns home." Archbishop Wenski grew up in Lake Worth and was ordained a priest in the Miami Archdiocese in 1976. He was appointed auxiliary bishop there in 1997. He knows Miami's flora and fauna and archdiocese well.

The Miami Archdiocese serves three counties and about 1.3 million Catholics. During his time there, Archbishop Wenski moved well in the multicultural Miami area, speaking Haitian Creole and Spanish. Many welcome him "home," but pastoral and financial challenges await. He leaves Orlando, however, from a position of strength.

At the press conference he was asked about his proudest accomplishment. Archbishop Wenski said when he came to Orlando, "I looked at what I should do. I looked at the job description from the Holy See."

He recounted convoking a synod — strategic planning for the diocese that met over an 18-month period. To learn more of what the people needed, he held listening sessions at the parishes.

The synod recognized a need to raise funds for individual parishes and the diocese. That need was met through the Alive in Christ Capital Endowment Campaign.

"We have passed \$100 million in pledges and still have one-third of parishes left (to participate)," Archbishop Wenski said.

During his time as bishop of the Orlando Diocese, he also established eight parishes or missions and oversaw the designation of two minor basilicas.

"If I do a good job, it will be because of my experiences in central Florida. It will stand me in good stead when I go back to Miami," Archbishop Wenski said.

Robert Diaz of the diocesan Office of Communications told the *Florida Catholic*, "I will miss Archbishop Wenski. He was like a boot camp commanding officer; molding us for the future."

Archbishop Wenski acknowledged his employees and the Catholic community. "I am grateful for your support of seven years. I ask you to accompany me to Miami through your prayers," he said.

Overheard after the press conference, Cristina Caban, executive assistant to the bishop, said of Archbishop Wenski, "He's a great boss."

Later, with misty eyes, she told the *Florida Catholic*, "No one will miss him more than me." ■



FC PHOTO BY JACQUE BRUND

Angel Rengifo, left, and Ann Farrell, both of the Orlando Diocese Mission Office, pray at the April 20 meeting announcing the appointment of Archbishop Thomas Wenski to Miami.

HIS EXCELLENCY,
THE MOST REVEREND GLEN JOHN PROVOST, D.D.,
BISHOP OF LAKE CHARLES,
WITH THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND LAITY
OF THE
DIOCESE OF LAKE CHARLES
WELCOMES
Archbishop Thomas Wenski
TO
THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI



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Welcomes

Archbishop Thomas Wenski



as the IV
Archbishop
of Miami

21822-0527

Congratulations and prayerful best wishes to

*Archbishop
Thomas G. Wenski*

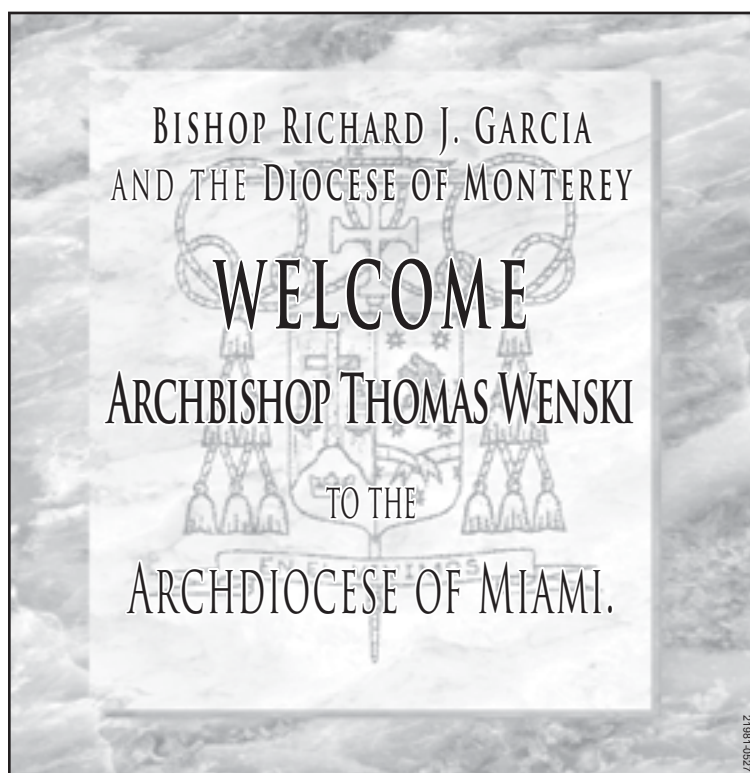
*on the occasion of your installation as fourth
Archbishop of Miami*

May God bless you in your new ministry



*Most Reverend Ronald P. Herzog, Bishop
and the clergy, religious and laity
of the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana*

21844-0527



Dear Archbishop Wenski,

Congratulations on your appointment to Archbishop of Miami.

We look forward to your leadership as our shepherd and welcome you on your return to Miami.

May the good Lord continue to guide and direct you in his infinite wisdom and love.

Rev. Msgr. M. J. Cassidy, Pastor
Priests, Staff and Parish Family
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church
Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, Fla.



FILE PHOTO

Archbishop Wenski stands next to Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa in this 1987 photo.

The picture: Archbishop Wenski and Lech Walesa

Miami Auxiliary Bishop Felipe Estevez was there (sort of) when it happened

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI — It's a picture Archbishop Thomas Wenski treasures immensely: he and Lech Walesa, both wearing the same mustache.

Auxiliary Bishop Felipe Estevez recalls how Miami's future archbishop came to take that photo with the leader of the Solidarity movement, friend of Pope John Paul II, future president of Poland and Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Bishop Estevez first met Thomas Wenski when he joined the faculty of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach back in 1975.

"I was his faculty his last year in the seminary," Bishop Estevez said. "We became friends quickly."

He remembers how the young man who would become his future archbishop "gave me the first tour of the Archdiocese of Miami. He showed me some parishes that excelled in pastoral care. And we went together to Poland" in 1987.

They both attended Mass one morning at St. Bridget in Gdansk. After Mass, Bishop Estevez excused himself to go to the restroom.

It turns out, Walesa was in attendance at the Mass. Archbishop Wenski followed him outside and asked to take a picture.

When Bishop Estevez returned, Archbishop Wenski told him, "Guess what? You missed a picture of Lech Walesa."

"I thought he was joking," Bishop Estevez recalled, noting that Archbishop Wenski "loves to joke and to laugh and to tease."

But this time it was no joke. And Archbishop Wenski has the proof. ■



*"If we have the Holy Spirit,
we have all."*

— St. Madeleine Sophie Barat
Foundress of the Society of the Sacred Heart

Since 1958, the spiritual, ecclesiastical and sacramental authority conferred to the Archbishops of the Archdiocese of Miami has been held in trust by pastoral leaders whose confidence in the Holy Spirit has borne great fruit.

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THOMAS G. WENSKI**

You have our prayers and best wishes
as you begin your episcopal ministry
in the Archdiocese of Miami



Most Reverend Joseph A. Galante, D.D., J.C.D.
BISHOP OF CAMDEN

*and the priests, deacons, seminarians, religious and
faithful of the Diocese of Camden*

DIOCESE OF ORLANDO

Churches elevated to basilicas under Archbishop Wenski

LAURA DODSON

Florida Catholic correspondent

DAYTONA BEACH — The elevation of a church to the designation of minor basilica — an honorific title bestowed on a church of historical or spiritual significance to the Holy See — is a major and rare privilege. Archbishop Thomas Wenski petitioned and was granted the designation for not one but two churches in the Diocese of Orlando within the brief tenure of his episcopacy.

“No bishop can claim the title of presiding over two basilicas,” declared Father Robert Webster, who is the diocesan director of liturgy and pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Clermont. He was the pastor of the Basilica of St. Paul the Apostle in Daytona Beach at the time of its elevation on Jan. 25, 2006, and served as emcee for the elevation of the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe on Aug. 22, 2009.

Father Webster added, “But then Bishop Wenski authorized the lengthy and extensive petition process for that to happen. He knew that there was an impetus for honoring one of the oldest churches in Florida — the Basilica of St. Paul the Apostle was honored on the occasion of the parish’s 125th anniversary, but the bishop also knew that the elevation of the national shrine

PLEASE SEE **BASILICAS, A26**



Archbishop Wenski celebrates Mass at the Basilica of St. Paul in Daytona Beach.

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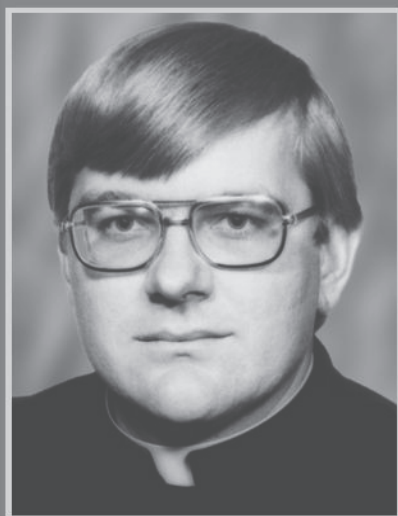


The Clergy, Faculty, Staff, and the Parishioners of Blessed Trinity welcome Archbishop Wenski to the Archdiocese of Miami!

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Archbishop of Miami
Most Rev. Thomas Wenski



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Archbishop Wenski
from the priest
and people
of
Sacred Heart Church,
Homestead

Saint Monica Catholic Church

The Pastor, Deacon, and the entire members of Saint Monica Catholic Church in Miami Gardens, wish to welcome our new Archbishop Thomas Wenski as the fourth Archbishop of Miami. We wish you God’s blessings as you begin to serve the People of the Archdiocese.

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*The Clergy, Religious and Laity of
the Diocese of Venice in Florida
join me in extending
our warm welcome and prayers to*

Archbishop Thomas Wenski

Archdiocese of Miami



*Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane
Bishop of the
Diocese of Venice in Florida*

Archbishop Wenski's coat of arms

An explanation of what the symbols represent

Now that he is archbishop of Miami, Archbishop Thomas Wenski has blended his coat of arms with that of the Archdiocese of Miami. Here is an explanation of what the combined coat of arms represents.

The left side of the coat of arms represents the Archdiocese of Miami. The palm tree in gold speaks the territory of the archdiocese, where this tree grows plentifully and luxuriously, so much so that it is practically a symbol of this area.

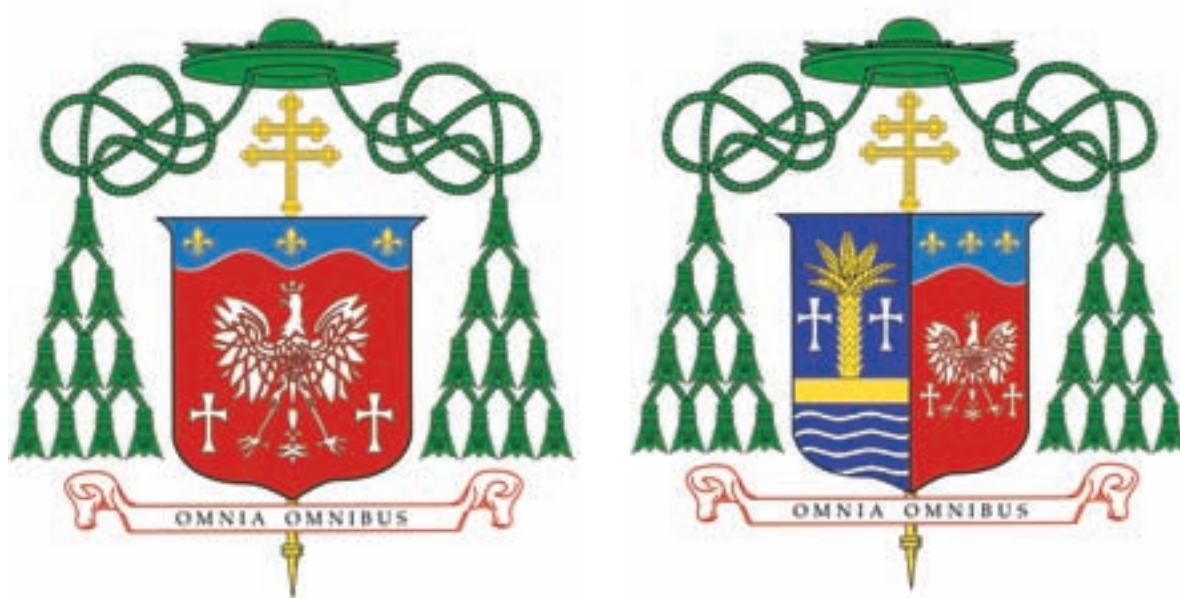
On a field of blue, the hue of the sky, the tree issues from a golden fess or horizontal bar between two silver crosses, as emblems of the Catholic faith. The base of the shield displays wavy and silver blue bars, the heraldic equivalent of water, to signify that the See City (of the Metropolitan Province of Florida) is encompassed by water.

The right side of the coat of arms is Archbishop Wenski's personal heraldry. The archbishop's episcopal motto is "Omnia Omnibus," which means "All things to all men." The scriptural text is taken from St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, "I have become all things to all men, to save at least some" (1 Cor 9:22).

His coat of arms shows a white eagle in the center, symbolic of Poland, his ethnic heritage. At the feet of the eagle are two silver crosses originally taken from the archbishop's home diocese of Miami and now retained as a sign of God's divine providence as the archbishop returns to his birthplace and the seeds of his early ministry.

Above the eagle are three fleurs-de-lis, which are taken from the shield of the Diocese of Orlando where he served as bishop. These ancient symbols represent the Virgin Mary under the three titles that have marked the archbishop's pastoral ministry: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, patroness of Haitians; Our Lady of Charity, patroness of Cubans; and the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the United States. The background of the shield is blue and red, the colors of the Haitian flag.

The entire design is surmounted by the metropolitan cross and the traditional galero, or tasseled hat, indicating the rank of archbishop. ■



Left, Archbishop Thomas Wenski's personal coat of arms; and at right, his coat of arms blended with the Archdiocese of Miami



Welcome

Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski
Our New Chief Shepherd

From

Father Michael Davis

and all of us at

St. Jerome in Fort Lauderdale



Congratulations,
Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski



God bless you as you build up
the Lord's Church in Miami.

May your days there be many, fruitful and joyful.



Daniel Cardinal DiNardo

Archbishop Emeritus Joseph A. Fiorenza

Retired Auxiliary Bishop Vincent M. Rizzotto

and the faithful of the

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

wish you continued blessings in your ministry.



2010 GOOGLE MAPS

from MIAMI

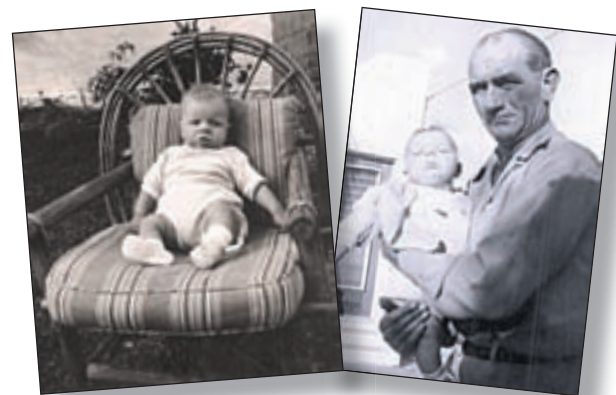
to ORLANDO

and back again



2010 GOOGLE MAPS

A GLIMPSE AT THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF ARCHBISHOP THOMAS WENSKI



OCT. 18, 1950

Born in West Palm Beach, in the middle of Hurricane King, to Chester S. Wenski and Louise M. (nee Zawacka) Wenski; one sister, Mary Engle, resident of Lake Worth.



1958

Makes his first Communion at Sacred Heart Church in Lake Worth.

1961

Becomes an altar server.



1963

After completing eighth grade at Sacred Heart School in Lake Worth, enters St. John Vianney, then a high school seminary, in Miami; begins to learn Spanish by mingling and working with Miami's large Cuban community.

1972

Obtains Bachelor of Arts in philosophy from St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach.

1975

Graduates with a Master of Divinity from St. Vincent de Paul Seminary.

MAY 15, 1976

Ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Miami by Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll.



JUNE 1976

Appointed associate pastor, Corpus Christi Parish, Miami.

SUMMER 1979

Travels to Haiti to learn Creole in order to minister to a growing immigrant community in Miami.

JUNE 1979

Named associate director, Haitian Apostolate (until January 1984).

1981, 1983

Attends summer courses in Polish language and culture, Catholic University, Lublin, Poland.

1981-1984

Named associate rector, St. Mary Cathedral.

JANUARY 1984

Named director, Haitian Apostolate, which includes the Pierre Toussaint Haitian Catholic Center; in addition to providing for the pastoral and spiritual needs of the Haitian communities of south Florida, the center also provides numerous social, educational and legal services to newly arrived Haitian immigrants.

Throughout the 1980s, he conducts a circuit-riding ministry that leads him to help establish Haitian Catholic communities from Homestead in the south to Fort Pierce to the north, Immokalee to the west and Fort Lauderdale to the east. In the early 1980s, his outreach to Haitians also extended to Wachula, Winter Haven and Ruskin on Florida's west coast.

1985-1997

Serves as pastor, Notre Dame d'Haiti Mission, Miami; also serves concurrently as pastor of two other Haitian missions in the archdiocese, Divine Mercy in Fort Lauderdale and St. Joseph in Pompano Beach.

1987

Receives St. Vincent de Paul Seminary award to outstanding priests.

APRIL 1990

Named coordinator, archdiocesan Ministry to Non-Hispanic Ethnic Groups (now known as Ministry to Cultural Groups).

1994

Receives Charles Whited Spirit of Excellence Award, presented by the *Miami Herald*.

JANUARY 1996

Named director, Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Miami, one of the largest Catholic social service agencies in the United States. In this capacity he helps forge a collaborative relationship with Caritas Cuba, the social service arm of the Catholic Church in Cuba. He has since traveled to Cuba on many occasions on behalf of the Church.

In late 1996, spearheads a relief operation that delivers more than 150,000 pounds of food to Caritas Cuba for distribution to people left homeless



by Hurricane Lily. This marks the first time Cubans in Miami participate in a humanitarian relief effort directed to Cuba. In subsequent years, similar relief efforts are directed to Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and the countries of Central America and Colombia.

FEBRUARY 1996

Named archdiocesan director: Catholic Relief Services; Campaign for Human Development; Disaster Relief; Catholic Commission for Social Advocacy; Ministry to Sexual Minorities.

1996

Receives Father Moczygemba Award, presented by the Polish American Priests' Association.

JUNE 24, 1997

Appointed titular bishop of Kearney and auxiliary bishop of Miami; chooses for his motto: "All Things to All Men" (1 Cor 9:22)

SEPT. 3, 1997

Ordained to the episcopacy by Archbishop John C. Favalora in the Miami Arena, along with Auxiliary Bishop Gilberto Fernandez.



1998-2001

Chairs CLINIC (Catholic Legal Immigration Network Inc.).

2001-2004

Chairs U.S. Bishops' Committee on Migration; serves on numerous boards including Catholic Hospice, Catholic Charities, Catholic Charities Legal Services, and St. Thomas University; serves on a number of community and civic organizations, including Miami-Dade County's Homeless Trust, the Coordinating Council of Broward, Florida Council on Homelessness, and Governor's Task Force on Haiti.

JULY 1, 2003

Appointed coadjutor bishop of Orlando, succeeding Bishop Norbert Dorsey (also a former Miami auxiliary bishop); welcome Mass celebrated Aug. 22, 2003, at Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine in Orlando

2004

Establishes St. Philip Phan Van Minh Parish for the Vietnamese community.

2004-2008

Chairs U.S. Bishops' Committee on International Policy.

2005

On March 23, convokes the first synod for the Diocese of Orlando, "Starting Afresh from Christ."

Establishes three new parishes: Corpus Christi in Celebration, Most Precious Blood in Oviedo, and St. Mark the Evangelist in Summerfield.

Establishes Buena Nueva FM radio and *El Clarin* newspaper to communicate the good news to the Hispanic community.

2006

St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Daytona Beach is elevated to the first diocesan basilica.

Establishes two new parishes: St. Faustina in Clermont and St. Maximilian Kolbe in the Avalon Park area of Orlando.

2007

Mary, Queen of the Universe Shrine in Orlando is elevated to the status of national shrine.

Is selected to serve on the board of directors of The Florida Specialty Crop Foundation, a nonprofit public charity that responds to challenges that confront specialty crop producers and their stakeholders.

2008

Hosts Festival of Faith, May 8-10, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, concluding the Year of Evangelization, which celebrates the 40th anniversary of the diocese. At the festival, 200 ministries displayed information, six pavilions showcased important aspects of the

Catholic faith, 30 choirs performed on three stages and 15 speakers discussed evangelization.

Establishes Centro Católico La Guadalupe Mission in Ocala.

2009

National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe in Orlando is elevated to the status of basilica.

Establishes Santo Toribio Romo Mission in Mascotte.

Joins the Catholic Leadership Institute's national advisory board for their "Good Leaders, Good Shepherds" program.

Is elected to a four-year term on the board of trustees of The Catholic University of America.

2010

Serves as consultant to the Committee on Migration, and member of the bishops' Secretariat for the Church in Latin America, the committee for International Justice and Peace, and CLINIC.

Serves as Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Health Services for the Florida Catholic Conference.

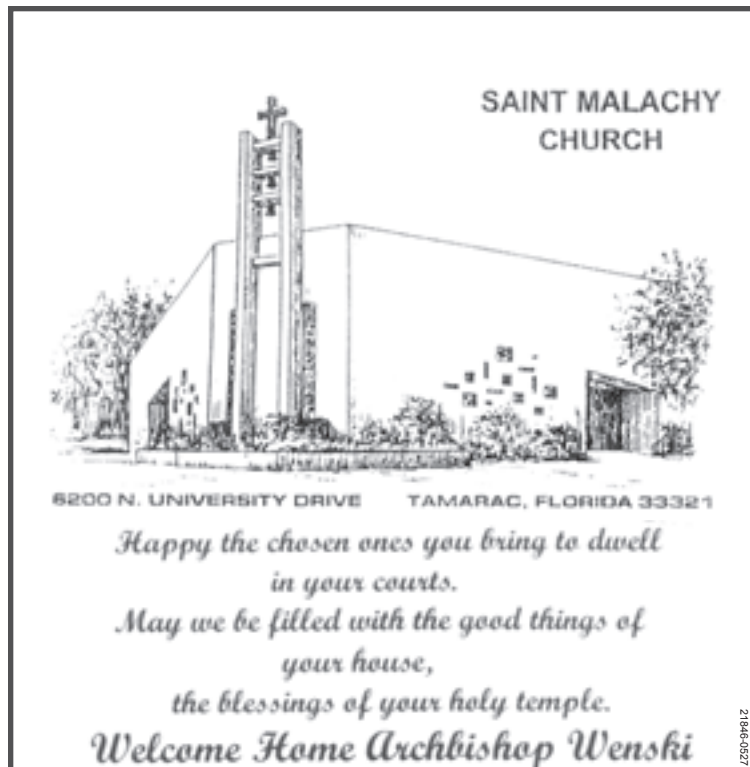
APRIL 20, 2010



Is appointed by Pope Benedict XVI as the fourth archbishop of Miami and metropolitan of the Province of Miami (which includes the seven dioceses of the state of Florida).

JUNE 1, 2010

Will be installed as archbishop in Miami in a ceremony at St. Mary Cathedral. He is the only Florida native serving as a bishop in the state.



What do you call it?

A glossary of Catholic terms surrounding the installation of an archbishop

The source for most of these definitions is the Catholic Encyclopedia.

Apostolic nuncio: Church term for the Vatican ambassador to another country and the papal liaison with the Church in that country. An apostolic nuncio, also called a papal nuncio, is always an archbishop. In a country with which the Vatican does not have diplomatic relations, the official Vatican liaison with the Church is called an apostolic delegate. Papal representatives in the United States were apostolic delegates until 1984, when full diplomatic relations were established.

Archbishop: An archbishop or metropolitan, in the present sense of the term, is a bishop who governs a diocese strictly his own, while he presides at the same time over the bishops of a well-defined district composed of simple dioceses but not of provinces. Hence none of these subordinate bishops rule over others. These bishops are called the suffragans. The archbishop's own diocese is the archdiocese. The several dioceses of the district form the archiepiscopal, or metropolitan, province. The title of archbishop is given automatically to bishops who govern archdioceses. It is also given to certain other high-ranking church officials, notably Vatican ambassadors, the secretaries of Vatican congregations and the presidents of pontifical councils.

Archdiocese: This term does not designate an ecclesiastical province, but only that diocese of the province which is the archbishop's own, and over which he holds immediate and exclusive jurisdiction.

Auxiliary bishop: A bishop assigned to a Catholic diocese or archdiocese to assist its residential bishop. Whether in a diocese or archdiocese, his title is bishop.

Bishop: The highest order of ordained ministry in Catholic teaching; the title of an ecclesiastical dignitary who possesses the fullness of the priesthood to rule a diocese as its chief pastor, in due submission to the primacy of the pope.

Cathedra: The chair of a bishop in his cathedral church at which he presides at solemn functions.

Cathedral: The chief church of a diocese, in which the bishop has his chair. It is, properly speaking, the bishop's church, wherein he presides, teaches, and conducts



FC FILE PHOTOS

Archbishop Thomas Wenski is pictured wearing his mitre and holding his crosier.



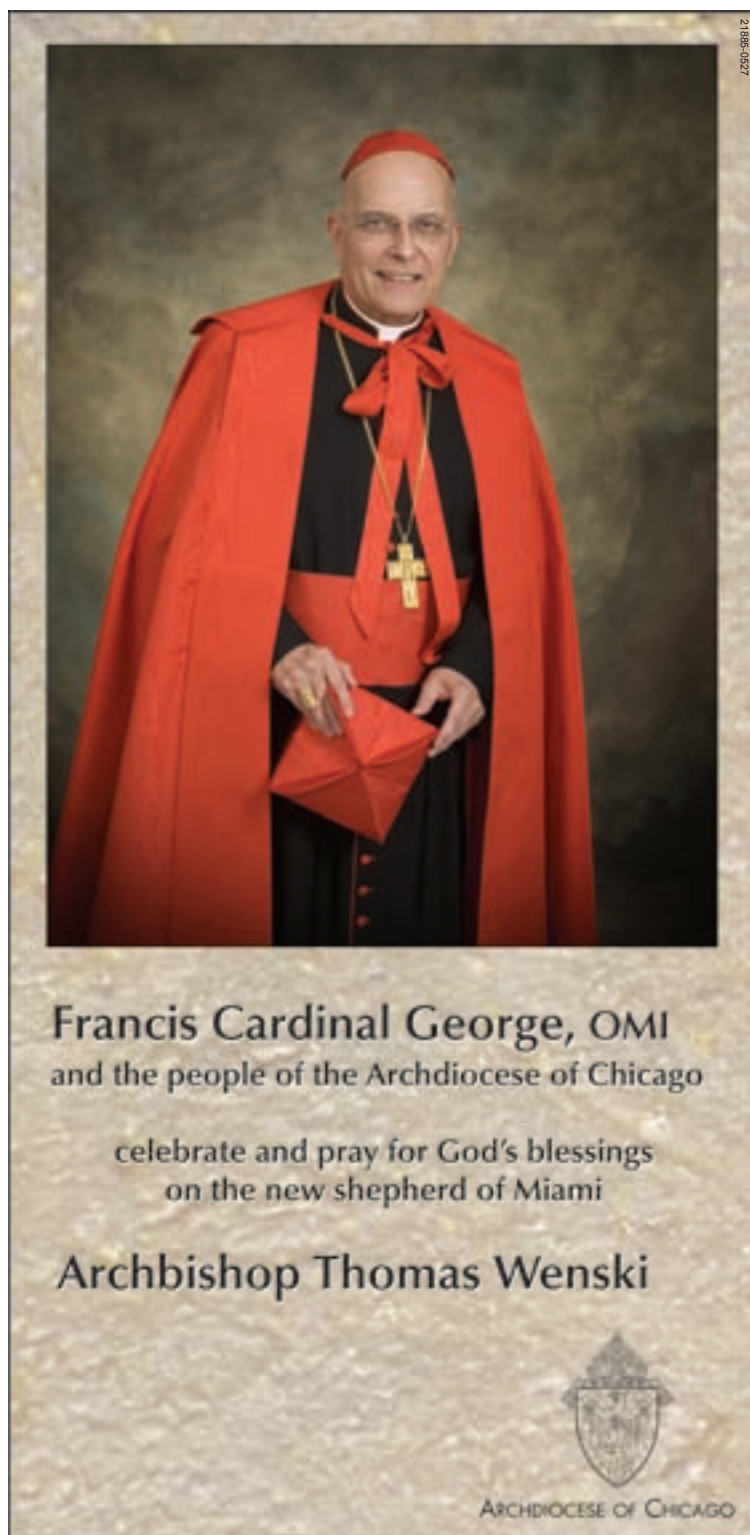
St. Mary Cathedral. A cathedral is the chief church of the archdiocese, in which the bishop has his chair. It is, properly speaking, the bishop's church, wherein he presides, teaches, and conducts worship.

worship.

College of consultors: A stable body involved in the governance of a diocese. It is composed of between six and 12 priests and is presided over by the diocesan bishop.

Members are chosen by the bishop from among the members of the presbyteral council. The bishop is required by canon law to consult with the college on certain matters

PLEASE SEE **SYMBOLS, A20**





ST. THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL

welcomes Archbishop Thomas Wenski!

The St. Thomas Aquinas Family rejoices in the arrival of Archbishop Thomas Wenski as chief Shepherd of the Archdiocese of Miami. It is our delight to join him in the spiritual formation of the families of our area. May he have the blessings and the guidance of the Lord as he undertakes his new mission. *Witamy!*

2801 SW 12th Street, Ft. Lauderdale, 33312 (954) 581-0700 www.aquinas-sta.org


The Church of Jackson wishes the Church of Miami many blessings as they welcome their new shepherd, Archbishop Thomas Wenski



We offer our heartfelt gratitude to
Archbishop
John C. Favalora
for his many years of dedicated, selfless service to our Catholic Church as priest, bishop and servant of God. May your retirement be blessed and spirit-filled.

*+Joseph N. Latino
Bishop of Jackson*





Bishop Roger P. Morin,
the clergy, religious,
and faithful of the
Diocese of Biloxi


*Send prayers
and congratulations to*

Archbishop Thomas G. Wenski

on his appointment to the

Archdiocese of Miami

21988-0527




Bishop Frederick Campbell and
the people of the Diocese of Columbus

Welcome and Congratulate

Archbishop Thomas Wenski

as you begin your service to the
Archdiocese of Miami.



21988-0527

SYMBOLS

FROM A18

and to obtain their consent on other matters about which he must make a decision (Canon 502).

Crosier: The crosier is an ecclesiastical ornament, resembling a shepherd's staff, which is conferred on bishops at their consecration and on mitered abbots at their investiture, and which is used by these prelates in performing certain solemn functions. It is a symbol of the office of bishop.

Dean/vicar: The title of a priest appointed by the bishop to aid him in administering the parishes in a certain vicinity, called a "deanery." The function of a dean involves promotion, coordination and supervision of the common pastoral activity within the deanery or vicariate.

Diocese: The territory or churches subject to the jurisdiction of a bishop.

Holy See: The primary official term of reference for the Diocese of Rome, as the chief diocese of Catholic Christendom; used to refer to the pope and the Roman Curia — congregations, tribunals, and various other offices — in their role of authority over and service to the Catholic Church around the world.

Installation: In common usage, installation usually refers to the assumption of duties by a local ordinary, generally the diocesan bishop. The technical assumption of duties by the bishop-designate basically occurs when he presents his apostolic letter of appointment to the diocesan college of consultors. One frequently sees, however,



Zucchetto



Shown is St. John Lateran Basilica, the cathedral church of the Holy See, the Diocese of Rome.

and with ample appropriateness, a more ceremonial and public liturgical celebration of that ecclesial event in the form of an "installation Mass," which opens the pastoral administration of the new bishop.

Miter: The miter is the tall, pointed ceremonial cap worn as part of liturgical dress by a pope, bishop or abbot. It consists of two like parts, each stiffened by a lining and rising to a peak; these are sewn together on the sides, but are united above by a piece of material that can fold together. Two lappets trimmed on the ends with fringe hang down from the back.

Pallium: Special stole made of lamb's wool worn over the chasuble by the pope and archbishops;

it signifies the communion of archbishops with the Holy See. (See Page A6)

Province, ecclesiastical: An ecclesiastical administrative district under the jurisdiction of an archbishop. The seven dioceses in the state of Florida — St. Augustine, Miami, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Pensacola-Tallahassee, Palm Beach and Venice — make up one province that is led by the metropolitan archbishop of Miami. The Code of Canon Law spells out certain limited obligations and authority that the metropolitan archbishop has with respect to the dioceses within his province.

Vespers: Also called evening prayer, vespers is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, the series of psalms, prayers and readings for different parts of the day that Catholic priests and deacons are obligated to pray daily. Often a new bishop will present his letter of appointment to the priests of the diocese during a vespers service at the cathedral.

Vicar general: A priest, auxiliary bishop or coadjutor bishop who assists the diocesan bishop in the governance of the entire diocese.

Zucchetto: Skullcap worn by the pope (white), bishops (purple) and cardinals (red). ■

Crosier



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67	6.2%	74	6.9%	81	8.0%	88	9.6%
68	6.3%	75	7.0%	82	8.3%	89	10.0%
69	6.4%	76	7.1%	83	8.5%	90	10.5%
70	6.5%	77	7.3%	84	8.7%	91+	11.0%
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Thank you, Archbishop Thomas Wenski,
for your ongoing support of the *Florida Catholic*
during your tenure in the Diocese of Orlando.

You will remain in the daily prayers of the
Florida Catholic staff when we gather
in the chapel each workday.

May God's blessings be yours as you begin your
tenure as the fourth Archbishop of the
Archdiocese of Miami.

May the powerful presence of Jesus Christ
be with you always.

*Thank you, Archbishop Wenski.
We will miss you.*

FLORIDA*Catholic*



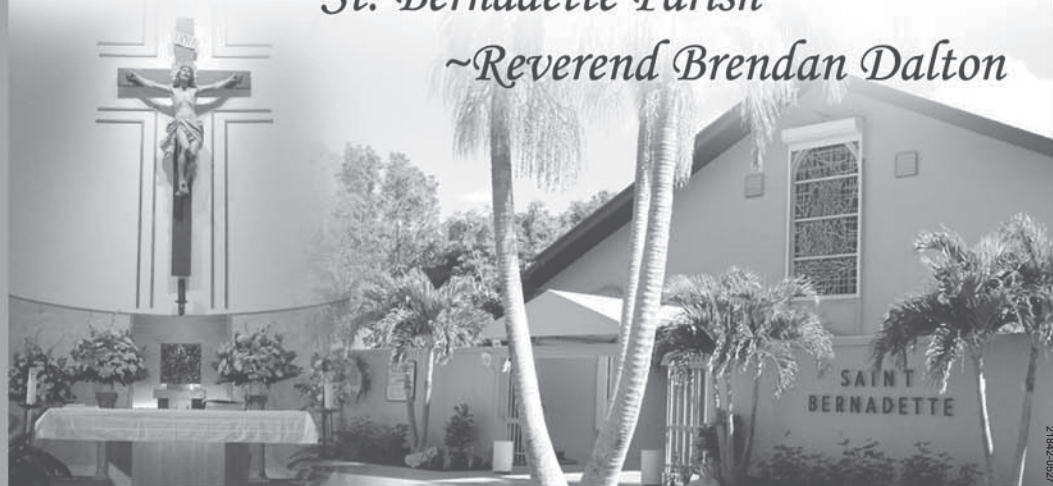


Welcome Archbishop Wenski

We hope and pray that you will be a good shepherd with great courage, with spiritual insight, and a great love for all people. May all of the people of the Archdiocese be blessed with your presence.

*From the people and families of
St. Bernadette Parish*

~Reverend Brendan Dalton



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Fiesta Tropical, *sábado, 29 de Mayo, 8 p.m., iglesia de St. John Bosco, salón San José, 1349 W. Flagler St., Miami. Cena bailable y concursos a beneficio de los ministerios musicales Alabando a Dios, Milagros y José, y los Hijos de Dios. \$20/ persona. 305-649-5464.*

Blessed Trinity 24th annual golf tournament, Saturday, June 5, 7 a.m. Fun, fellowship and great prizes. Awards ceremony, auction and luncheon at the parish hall immediately following the tournament. Participants and sponsors welcome. 305-807-3736, ivannia@mac.com.

Summer gospel concert, Thursday, June 10, 7:30 p.m., St. Martha, 9301 Biscayne Blvd., Miami Shores. Features Seraphic Fire singers and Patrick Dupré Quigley. www.seraphicfire.org or 1-888-544-FIRE.

Giant used book sale, Friday, June 11; and Saturday, June 12, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul Center, 6350 N.W. 18 St., Margate. Books at low, low prices: biography, adventure, romance, mystery, in several different languages. Sponsored by St. Vincent Council of Catholic Women. 954-531-2096.

"Festival of June 2010," June 12-13, St. Vincent, 6350 N.W. 18 St., Margate. Annual festival of Our Lady Aparecida Brazilian community, featuring foods, games, dancing, Brazilian folklore. Free. www.catolicosnaflorida.org.

"Ecological Integrity: Reconnecting Humans, Health and Habitat," Tuesday, July 13, Sofitel Miami, 5800 Blue Lagoon Drive, Miami. Conference, dinner sponsored by Center for Earth Jurisprudence, an initiative of Barry and St. Thomas universities. Keynote: Dr. Vandana Shiva, renowned environmental activist, author and founder of Navdanya, a movement that created the largest fair-trade organic network in India. Conference: \$45, general public; \$15, students. Dinner and keynote address with Dr. Shiva: \$50. Both events: \$80; \$90 after June 15. www.earthjuris.org/events.

FAITH EDUCATION

Southeast Pastoral Institute, SEPI, 7700 S.W. 56 St., Miami. Registration: 305-279-2333, www.sepimiami.org:

- Immersion in Spanish language and culture, May 30-June 17. A three-week course providing necessary communication skills in Spanish for daily life situations. Designed for priests, laity and religious.

Mission Network's second annual gathering, Sunday, June 6, 1:30 p.m., Convocation Hall, St. Thomas University, 16401 N.W. 37 Ave., Miami Gardens. Afternoon of reflection, action to deepen our understanding of mission and discipleship in the Church

and world today. Mass with Archbishop Thomas Wenski at 4 p.m. 305-762-1226, www.missionnetworkmiami.org.

Summer Institute courses, sponsored by the Department of Religious Education. Registration: \$35; \$45 after June 1. Information: 305-762-1107:

- Broward County: June 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, All Saints School, Sunrise, 9-11 a.m.: Teaching Religion Today (I), Foundations of Catholicism (II), Intro to the Old Testament (II), Christology (III); 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.: Introduction to the Sacraments (I), Church History (IV); 2-4 p.m.: Teaching Religion Today (I), Principles of Christian Morality (III), Becoming Peacemakers (IV).

- Miami-Dade County: June 14, 16, 18, 22, 24, St. Thomas the Apostle School, Miami, 9-11 a.m.: Teaching Religion Today (I), Foundations of Catholicism (II), Intro to the Old Testament (II), Christology (III), Liturgy (IV); 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.: Introduction to the Sacraments (I), St. Paul's Letters (III), Church History (IV); 2-4 p.m.: Introduction to the New Testament (II), Principles of Christian Morality (III), Becoming Peacemakers (IV).

TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) spiritual directors workshop, June 21-24, La Salle Retreat Center, Wildwood, Mo. office@TECConference.org or 636-933-9233.

Tercera Conferencia Hispana para Músicos Pastorales del Este, 29 de julio-1 de agosto en Tampa. Con el Padre Juan Sosa, Mary Frances Reza, Damaris Thillet, Diego Correa, Pedro Rubalcava y Jaime Cortez, entre otros. La conferencia brindará la oportunidad de enriquecer y fortalecer los conocimientos musicales y litúrgicos. 856-583-8273, www.amphe.org.

MASSES

Gaelic Mass, Sunday, May 30, 3 p.m., Little Flower Parish, 1805 Pierce St., Hollywood. Commemorates victims of the great Irish famine (An Gorta Mor) who are buried in mass graves in Ireland and around the world. Main celebrant: Auxiliary Bishop John Noonan. Sponsored by Irish-American organizations in south Florida. www.littleflowerhwd.org or 954-922-3517.

School of Ministry graduation, Saturday, June 5, 2:30 p.m., Cathedral of St. Mary, 7525 N.W. Second Ave., Miami. Sponsored by Division of Christian Formation. Join Archbishop Thomas Wenski as he celebrates Mass and the accomplishments of the graduates of the School of Ministry. 305-759-4531.

RETREATS/DAYS OF REFLECTION

MorningStar Renewal Center, 7275 S.W. 124 St., Pinecrest. Registration required for all programs. 305-238-4367, ext. 102, or visit www.

morningstarrenewal.org:

- "The Body of Christ: Called and Gifted," Monday, June 7, 6-9:30 p.m. Evening of celebration, music, prayer and discovery, with the music ministry of Roger Grenier, longtime friend of the Church community of south Florida. \$25 per person, includes dinner at 6 p.m.

"Pentecostés: Soplo de Vida", 28-29 de mayo, iglesia All Saints, 10900 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Sunrise. Retiro de pentecostés con los sacerdotes Anibal Morales y Néstor López. Ven y recibe un nuevo pentecostés que cambiará tu vida. Invita el ministerio católico Holy Trinity. 954-588-7229, www.holytm.org.

To Encounter Christ, SONshine TEC 10, May 29-31, Youth Center, 3333 S. Miami Ave., Miami. Offers youths and young adults an experience of the paschal mystery of Jesus. 305.664.0086, www.teconference.org.

Retiro "El Laico y la Palabra", sábado, 29 de mayo, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. iglesia de St. John Bosco, salón San José, 1349 W. Flagler St., Miami. Información e inscripción: 305-649-5464.

Taller sobre cómo hablar con los hijos sobre el sexo, sábado, 6 de junio, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Salón Félix Varela, Ermita de la Caridad. Con consejeros y terapeutas en comunicación asertiva en la familia, expertos en computadoras y programas de filtros para internet. Donación: \$35/persona, incluye materiales, refrigerios y almuerzo. Inscripción: 786-488-4072.

Emmaus experience for men, June 11-13, Our Lady of Lourdes, 11291 S.W., 142 Ave., Miami. The experience, based on Luke 24:13-35, leads participants to discover Jesus in their lives. Registration: 305-345-5386.

Women's Emmaus retreat, June 11-13, Youth Center, 3333 S. Miami Ave., Miami. Hosted by St. Augustine Parish. emmaus25@gmail.com.

Seminario de crecimiento espiritual, 12 y 13 de junio, iglesia All Saints, 10900 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Sunrise; con la Dra. Gloria Polo. Auspiciado por el ministerio católico Holy Trinity. Donación \$10. www.holytm.org o 954-588-7229.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

Virtus workshops: To help parents, teachers and anyone who works with children recognize signs of sexual abuse and spot abusers. Free. All sessions in English, except where noted. Information: 305-762-1250 or jrayburn@theadom.org:

- Wednesday, May 26, 6 p.m., Archbishop Edward A. McCarthy School, Southwest Ranches

- Thursday, May 27, 3 p.m., St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, Pembroke Pines.

- Saturday, June 5, 9 a.m., St. Peter Parish, Big Pine Key.

- Saturday, June 19, 9 a.m., Mother of Christ, Miami (en

MIAMI ARCHDIOCESE COMMUNITY PAGE SUBMISSION DEADLINES

The Florida Catholic welcomes calendar items of parish/organization events that are open to the whole archdiocese. There is no charge but items must be in the Miami office at least six weeks before the event. To list an event both on the Web site and in the newspaper, go to www.miamiarch.org, click on the banner "announce your event for free" and follow the instructions. For publication dates and deadlines, go to www.miamiarch.org and click on "news." Notices may be sent by e-mail: arsono@theadom.org; fax: 305-762-1132; mail: The Florida Catholic, 9401 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, FL 33138.

español).

SCHOOL EVENTS

Summer Knights performing arts/athletic camp, June 14-July 16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Archbishop Curley Notre Dame High School, 4949 N.E. Second Ave., Miami. For fifth-graders to incoming ninth-graders to learn the fundamentals of drama, acting, singing and musical instruments. Students will focus on the creation and performance of a Broadway play for the community. Athletic camp features basketball, football, softball and baseball fundamentals, seven on seven flag football, and a competition course. 305-751-8367, ext. 22.

St. Theresa School summer camp, 2701 Indian Mound Trail, Coral Gables, 33134. Camp dates: June 14-July 30; closed on Monday, July 5. For ages 5-14. Extended care available 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. One price includes everything: camp, extended care, field trips, T-shirts, lunch and snacks. Contact Patsy Linares, 305-720-3533.

Kidventure, June 14-Aug. 6, St. Timothy School, 5400 S.W. 102 Ave., Miami. Open to students in PreK2 through grade eight. Fun activities, sports, field trips. 305-274-8229 or myyoung@sttimothymiami.org.

Immaculata LaSalle summer camp, June 21-July 16, 3601 S. Miami Ave., Miami. Activities and experiences to

enhance Christian development. www.ilsroyals.com.

Summer camp and summer school, Good Shepherd, 14187 S.W. 72 St., Miami. Summer camp: June 21-July 30; summer school: June 21-July 16. Registration: 786-715-4188 or gscscamp@gmail.com.

Immaculate Conception summer school, June 21-July 17, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 125 W. 45 St., Hialeah. Remedial summer school classes for kindergarten-seventh grade in reading, language arts, math. Cost: \$350. 305-822-6461.

"Jump Start" summer enrichment program, June 21-July 16, Archbishop Edward McCarthy High School, 5451 S. Flamingo Road, Southwest Ranches. Students entering grades seven or eight can earn a half credit toward high school graduation by enrolling. Classes in personal fitness, computer/ keyboarding, art, band or drama. sbrown.mccarthyhigh@comcast.net or 954-434-8820, ext. 206.

SPIRITUAL

Magnificat luncheon, Saturday, May 29, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Bernadette Hall, 11291 S.W. 142 Ave., Miami. Come together in God's presence to listen, eat, sing and pray. www.magnificatmiami.com, 305-205-5599.

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NEWS**briefs****St. Maurice Parish marks 40th**

St. Maurice Parish in Dania Beach invites former parishioners and the community to the celebration of its 40th anniversary.

The celebration will begin with a dinner dance June 11 at 6:30 p.m. and conclude with a Mass at 10 a.m. June 13. The Mass will be concelebrated by current pastor Father Roger Holoubek, along with founding pastor Father David Russell and former pastor Father Sean Mulcahey.

The Mass will be followed by a picnic for the whole family.

St. Maurice is located at 2851 Stirling Road, Dania Beach. For more information, call 954-961-7777.

Bishop Noonan to celebrate Gaelic Mass

Irish-born Auxiliary Bishop John Noonan will be the main celebrant of the annual Mass to commemorate the victims of the great Irish famine (*An Gorta Mor*, 1845-1850). The Mass will be celebrated Sunday, May 30, 3 p.m., at Little Flower Parish, 1805 Pierce St., Hollywood.

It will be followed by a "waking" for famine victims at The Field Soup Kitchen, 3281 Griffin Road, Dania Beach. The waking will feature free soup, music by

"Echoes of Erin," Irish dancers and storytelling.

The Mass is sponsored by Irish-American organizations in south Florida and the goal also is to raise awareness about hunger in the world today. The date has been designated by the Irish government to commemorate this watershed event in Irish history.

"During the 'Great Hunger,' the Irish Catholics were put to the extreme test in keeping their faith, dying of pure hunger rather than accept soup from the Protestant missionaries," said Marie Smith, a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Miami Shores who is helping to organize the event.

For information, call 305-891-0715 or 954-522-4948.

Carmelite Friars return to Miami

The Discalced Carmelite Friars, who led the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Spiritual Life Center until its closing in July 2008, are opening a new house of prayer at 15710 N.W. 44 Court, Miami Gardens.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel House of Prayer opened to the public May 17, continuing the work started by Carmelite Fathers Eusebio Gómez and Lucio del Burgo and Brother Jorge Llorentes.

The new house of prayer will be staffed by Carmelite Fathers Lázaro René de la Fe, Miguel Gil-Díaz and Jorge Zurek, and Brother Llorentes.

Their mission will be to promote Carmelite spirituality in all

its expressions and to accompany the different groups that come to the house searching for God in their lives.

The house will offer the following services in Spanish: courses in Christian and Carmelite spirituality for prayer groups, leaders of Christian communities, clergy, and religious; guided individual and group retreats; group retreats with their own guide; sacrament of reconciliation and spiritual direction (by appointment only); Mass on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 8 a.m.; and Mass with adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

For information, call 305-816-6468.

Gallery features works by disabled artists

Schott Communities will open its art gallery, featuring the creative art and spirit of Schott's disabled artists, on Thursday, June 3, 6:30 p.m., at 6591 Flamingo Road, Cooper City.

Cooper City Mayor Debby Eisinger will be on hand for the official ribbon cutting, and attendees will be able to meet the artists and enjoy refreshments. The event is sponsored by the Prestige Club, which provides support to disadvantaged children and families in Broward County.

There is no charge, but reservations are required. Call 954-434-3306 for information.



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NEWSbriefs

Catechist courses offered in summer

The archdiocese's Religious Education Department has scheduled its annual summer institutes for catechists in both Miami-Dade and Broward counties. The dates and courses to be offered are as follows:

Dade Summer Institute, June 14, 16, 18, 22 and 24, St. Thomas the Apostle School, 7303 S.W. 64th St., Miami:

- 9-11 a.m.: Teaching Religion Today (Level 1), Foundations of Catholicism (Level 1), Intro to the Old Testament (Level 2), Christology (Level 3), Liturgy (Level 4).

- 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.: Introduction to the Sacraments (Level 1), St. Paul's Letters (Level 3), Church History (Level 4).

- 2-4 p.m.: Intro to the New Testament (Level 2), Principles of Christian Morality (Level 3), Becoming Peacemakers (Level 4).

Broward Summer Institute, June 15, 17, 21, 23 and 25, All Saints School, 10900 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Sunrise:

- 9-11 a.m.: Teaching Religion Today (Level 1), Foundations of Catholicism (Level 1), Intro to the Old Testament (Level 2), Christology (Level 3).

- 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.: Introduction to the Sacraments (Level 1), Church History (Level 4).

- 2-4 p.m.: Teaching Religion Today (Level 1), Principles of Christian Morality (Level 3), Becoming Peacemakers (Level 4).

Fees are \$35 per course (\$45 after June 1). Checks should be made payable to the Archdiocese of Miami. For more information,

call Anyely Garcia at 305-762-1107.

St. Stephen opens retreat center

St. Stephen Parish now has a retreat center on the site of the old convent at 6081 S.W. 21 St., Miramar.

The St. Eugene De Mazenod Spiritual Center has 44 beds and a full kitchen with a stove and refrigerators. Each room is equipped with an air conditioner. There is a large meeting room along with two smaller rooms and a chapel.

"We have done some major renovations and have made it very comfortable for everyone," said parishioner Mary Raynor.

The rates are: \$40 per person, one night only; \$50 per person, two nights; \$65 per person, three nights; and \$30 per person, for team members or adult leaders staying overnight. Parish groups are welcome.

To tour the center, call Raynor at 954-981-4589 or 954-270-2770; or contact the parish office at 954-987-1100 and ask for Oblate Missionary Father Jonathan Closner.



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— PSALM 121:1

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BASILICAS

FROM A13

was a long shot because it didn't have a long history. It was awarded because of its tourist ministry."

There are only 63 basilicas in the United States (all minor) and three basilicas in Florida: The first is the Cathedral Basilica in St. Augustine and of course now two in the Diocese of Orlando. Four historical churches in Rome are referred to as major basilicas.

"On this the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, patron of this parish Church," Bishop Wenski said in his homily at the dedication of the Basilica of St. Paul the Apostle, "we give thanks to God for the favor shown to our diocese and this pioneer parish of Volusia County by Pope Benedict XVI in raising this beautiful and historic church to the status and dignity of a minor basilica."

The church built in 1927 and restored in 1996 is irreplaceable. It was built in the Spanish-mission style with 3-foot-thick walls and includes the classic architectural elements of a long center aisle with high ceiling and columns separating the low-



Shown is artist Jerzy Kenar's 30-foot archway above the holy water font at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe in Orlando.

ceiling side aisles.

"This beautiful and inviting church — and I am speaking not only of the physical stones that make up this building but also of the living stones that make up this parish community," then-Bishop Wenski had continued in his homily, "is situated not on the road to Damascus but on U.S. 1; and along this road, this church must also be an instrument to help others experi-



COURTESY PHOTOS ARCHIVES DIOCESE OF ORLANDO

This interior view of the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe provides a good view of the six-tier marble sanctuary with artist Jerzy Kenar's 12-foot wood sculpture of a crucified Christ suspended before a glass cross above the altar.

WELCOME HOME!

Archbishop Thomas Wenski,

with joy we welcome you back to be our Archbishop and promise
you our prayers and loyal support. May the Good Shepherd bless
and guide you as you become our Shepherd.

Msgr. Brice, Frs. Maroor and Alonso Sch. P,
and the faithful parishioners of
St. Paul the Apostle Church, Lighthouse Point



ence the one savior of all mankind, Jesus Christ."

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE

Although the ministry to tourists began in 1979, groundbreaking for what has become the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe in Orlando was Aug. 22, 1990. The structure itself is so new in comparison to its sister basilica in Daytona Beach, but it too possesses the classic architectural elements, and both churches boast magnificent masterpieces of art.

"We gather today on this feast of the Queenship of Mary," then-Bishop Wenski said in his homily at the dedication, "to give thanks for the favor shown to this national shrine dedicated to Mary, Queen of the Universe, and once again to our diocese. ... It's indeed fitting that Mary Queen of the Universe is given the dignity of being a basilica for, because of the thousands of visitors who come here from everywhere, it is a parish church for the whole world."

Father Edward McCarthy, rector, commented, "The archbishop is an unbelievable worker. His work ethic is unbelievably huge. He gave the final push (for the basilica designation) at the end before the summer began and that paid off."

"Today's feast of the Queenship of Mary, as well as elevation of this shrine as a minor basilica," then-Bishop Wenski's homily continued, "is for us an invitation to trust in God and also to imitate Mary in what she herself said: 'Behold, I am the hand-maiden of the Lord.' As she put herself at the Lord's disposal, so may we — and in doing so be made worthy of the promises of Christ."

As a basilica, the pope's church is honored to bear the coat of arms of Vatican City on its façade and display the tintinnabulum — a bell on a long staff which rings to announce the approach of the pope — and the ombrellino — an elaborate umbrella made of alternating red and yellow fabric — to protect the pope in inclement weather. It remains half-open in preparation to welcome him.

"On the afternoon of the shrine's investiture, the ombrellino and tintinnabulum were St. Paul's," explained Father Webster. "There wasn't enough time for them to come from Rome. It linked the two basilicas — the premiere church of Mary, Queen of the Universe and the oldest church building in our diocese. I don't believe we'll ever see that again."

Father Webster concluded: "Archbishop Wenski was very happy to see Daytona Beach honored and no one would question the worthiness. The same was very much true for the shrine — the number of people who visit from around the world. They were two really good days in the Church of Orlando — days we'll always remember." ■

Family offers praise to their 'Tommy' as a man, leader

This story is reprinted from the 2003 special section when Archbishop Wenski became bishop of Orlando

JULIE GREENE

ORLANDO — Angela Kopelakis, Bishop Thomas Wenski's only niece, was only 4 years old when her beloved "Uncle Tommy" became a priest 27 years ago.

"I remember swinging back and forth on the front pew," said the 30-year-old dental hygienist who lives in Lake Worth with her husband, J.J., and 2-year-old daughter, Briana. "And when the bishop who ordained him placed his hands on his head, I remember yelling 'Get your hands off my Uncle Tommy.' I guess I thought he was hurting him. Uncle Tommy kind of glanced at me trying not to laugh but he did real well; he kept a straight face."

That protective and loving feeling that Kopelakis shared in a telephone interview with the *Florida Catholic* illustrates the pride of his immediate and extended blood family who live in Florida, Michigan and New York. Moreover, that does not even touch on the many Haitian and Cuban Catholics in Miami who view him as an adopted son or brother, one of their own.

Bishop Wenski is nothing if not close to his only sister, Mary Engle, who, only 11 months younger than he, still lives in the Lake Worth home where they grew up, raised by loving and devoted parents, Chester, a Polish immigrant, and his second-generation Polish wife, Louise Zawacki, both now deceased.

Engle recalled her childhood memories when she and her brother rode their bikes in the neighborhood and hung out at the local Polish Club and Knights of Columbus hall. They also experienced typical sibling rivalry.

"Tommy used to read a lot and was a very good student," she said. "I used to tease him because I was a little jealous. He always did well in school and I didn't."

Bishop Wenski's cousin, Gloria Kraczon of Warren, Mich., one of several extended family members from up north with whom he remains in contact, remembered visiting her Florida relatives when she was 11 and "Tommy" was 9 or 10. Bishop Wenski's mother and his cousin's mother were sisters.

"I remember Tommy leading us down to the railroad tracks not far from their house to watch the trains go by," Kraczon said. "It was typical kid stuff. We

weren't rich so I remember sharing a lot of home-cooked meals, going to the beach, talking and playing outside."

The Wenski household was a close one. Although the Polish community was small in Lake Worth, Bishop Wenski and his sister heard their parents speak Polish, listened to Polish music and kept their Catholic faith, another Polish tradition, at the forefront.

From early on, Engle knew her brother would grow up to be a priest.

"He used to play Mass in his room and he'd always make me be his altar boy. He must have been 7 or 8 and he knew then he wanted to be a priest."

Engle felt her brother's absence when he left at 13 to enter

St. John Vianney Seminary in Miami.

"I was very lonely when he left but we wrote letters all the time and he used to be able to come home once a month," she said.

Engle said her brother often spent his breaks from school working at his parish and school, Sacred Heart, cleaning and painting the walls, a trade he might have inherited from his father who ran his own stucco painting business, Colorcrete. His mother kept the books.

When Bishop Wenski finished high school and college in Miami, he moved right on to his theological training at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach.

PLEASE SEE **FAMILY, A28**



FC FILE PHOTO

Archbishop Wenski's niece, Angela Kopelakis, right, and her mother, Mary Engle, hold a picture taken from a wall in the Kopelakis home, dedicated to her uncle.

Welcome
Archbishop Thomas Wenski



The appointment of a native born son as our Archbishop - shepherding a South Florida born population and a growing band of clergy born and educated in South Florida - is indeed a cause for rejoicing and an occasion to thank our God for a Church that has now matured as a flourishing and self-sufficient Church.

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FAMILY

FROM A27

Later on, after Engle had her daughter, Bishop Wenski served as an active godfather and was like a second father to the child.

"He taught me how to skate and ride my bike," Kopelakis said.

"He used to take me to Lake Worth Beach and he used to give me these cool gifts like calculators and things that would help me with school."

At his ordination to the priesthood, several extended family members attended. Kraczon remembered how proud her parents, Veronica and Raymond Smith, were to have a priest in the family.

"My mother and his mother were very close and every time my aunt would send a letter we'd always hear about what Tommy was doing," Kraczon said. "They had a lot of respect for him."

His family's pride and awe of him grew as Bishop Wenski made strides in his work with Haitian and Cuban immigrants.

"My brother has always been very down to earth and he's always tried to stay connected to the people," Engle said. "The Haitian and Cuban people love him so much, they feel like he's one of them."

His niece pulls no punches when it comes to expressing her admiration for Uncle Tommy. "My uncle is the best guy and he's so smart," she said. "He learned so many languages and he's real-

ly gone out there to help people, going to the detention center to help the Haitians who've been put in jail after they come here. He's even gone to Guantanamo Bay. He's not afraid to do what's right even if it isn't the popular thing to do."

When Bishop Wenski became bishop in 1997, family gathered around him to show their support. Although his parents were no longer living by that time, Bishop Wenski remembered his father by putting the stone from his father's ring into his bishop's ring.

Although his cousin Gloria could not attend Bishop Wenski's ordination as bishop herself, she made sure her mother did.

"She came back with all sorts of stories," Kraczon said.

Kraczon had extended such an offer several years before when her father was still alive.

"When my parents were getting ready to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary we had thought about putting a party on for them but they didn't really want that," Kraczon explained. "Instead I took the money and paid for them to go see Tommy."

Bishop Wenski celebrated a 50th wedding anniversary Mass for his aunt and uncle at Notre-Dame d'Haiti, attended by several of his Haitian parishioners and his parents.

"My mother told me later it was the best gift I could have given them," Kraczon said.

Kraczon recalled after Bishop Wenski became bishop, his photograph took center stage on her



FC FILE PHOTO

Enrolling for first time in school with his sister, 1956.

mother's refrigerator, with only a picture of the pope accompanying it.

"Every morning she would come out and say a little prayer in front of it," Kraczon said. "She said that she fully expected him to make it to cardinal."

Bishop Wenski's niece has higher hopes.

"I truly believe that one day my uncle will become the pope and he deserves it," Kopelakis said. "I don't know a better man than him. He's a role model for priests everywhere."

Kopelakis said a wall in her

home is dedicated to her uncle, and it features family mementos, including her uncle's bronzed baby shoes, her grandmother's Bible and a variety of family photographs, with Bishop Wenski's in the center, surrounded by cherubs.

Since becoming bishop, Bishop Wenski's travel has increased, making his visits to Michigan to see relatives more frequent. Bishop Wenski performed the nuptial Mass for Kraczon's son, Jon, and his wife, Jill, in 1999, and returned recently to perform the baptism of the couple's

first child, Kurt.

"Whenever he comes to town he always wants to go to a Polish restaurant in Hamtramck, which is a Polish suburb of Detroit, where his mother and my mother were born," Kraczon said.

Like his sister and niece, Kraczon said it is Bishop Wenski's down-to-earth personality and sense of humor that stand out.

"He's a great guy," she said. "He and my husband both love motorcycles and every time he comes to visit, the two of them always gang up on me to allow my husband to buy one. That's not going to happen, but they keep trying," she said with a laugh.

When family members heard he was moving from Miami to Orlando after 27 years, they admitted to being shocked and, in some cases, heartbroken.

"I cried and cried when I heard," Kopelakis said. "I was being selfish I know but I felt like he was being taken away from me. When he was in Miami, we used to enjoy going down to visit him. He's tried to assure us we could still visit him and go to Disney but it's further in the center part of the state where it's hotter and more humid. I just hope the people of Orlando appreciate him."

Engle agrees.

"It will be different but this will be a new adventure for him and a new challenge," she said. "I am sure he will do a good job."

■

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Archbishop Wenski heads home to Miami

After almost seven years of ministry to the Orlando Diocese, Bishop Thomas Wenski heads back to Miami as archbishop

This article appeared in the April 23 issue of the Florida Catholic Orlando after his announcement as archbishop of Miami

MARY ST. PIERRE
of the Florida Catholic

ORLANDO — As the newly appointed archbishop of Miami, one thing is certain — Bishop Thomas Wenski will immediately know where he is going. He's been there before.

The Vatican announced April 20 that Bishop Wenski, 59, shepherd of the Diocese of Orlando since 2004, has been named by Pope Benedict XVI to succeed Archbishop John C. Favalora as archbishop of Miami. The Archdiocese of Miami is the metropolitan see for the Ecclesiastical Province of Miami, which covers Florida.

When the call first came from Archbishop Pietro Sambi, apostolic nuncio to the United States, Archbishop Wenski suggested a few other names to him.

"I suggested to him other names I thought should be considered but he insisted that many thought I should be the person for this time," said Archbishop Wenski. "I did not want to say no to the pope."

The son of a first-generation Polish immigrant and his second-generation Polish wife, Thomas Gerard Wenski was born Oct. 18, 1950, in West Palm Beach, and grew up in Lake Worth. Both of his parents are deceased. His only sibling, Mary Engle, and a niece live in Lake Worth. Archbishop Wenski believes his parents would have been pleased to hear the news.

"When I was a priest working in the Haitian community in Miami, my parents often times came to Mass there but didn't understand what I was saying because I preached in Creole," he said. "My parents died in the early 1990s before I was even an auxiliary bishop. I do hope they would have been happy with the news."

He studied at St. John Vianney Minor Seminary in Miami and then St. Vincent de Paul Major Seminary in Boynton Beach, earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy and a master of divinity degree. He was ordained a priest of the Miami Archdiocese on May 15, 1976. He later earned a master's degree in sociology, with emphasis



VALETA ORLANDO | FC

Then-Bishop Thomas Wenski addresses the faithful at the 2008 Festival Faith in Orlando. Pope Benedict XVI announced April 20 his appointment as archbishop of the Metropolitan See of Miami. Archbishop Wenski will succeed Archbishop John C. Favalora, becoming the fourth archbishop of Miami.



FC FILE PHOTO

Then-Bishop Thomas Wenski leads the Palm Sunday Mass procession with St. Andrew Parish's Haitian community in Orlando.

on pastoral planning, from Fordham University in New York in the early '90s.

Archbishop Wenski, a native Floridian, speaks, English, Spanish and Creole. He was once described

as "an ethnic chameleon," who is equally at home among Haitians, Cubans and other Americans. He learned to speak Spanish (spoken with a Cuban accent) during his seminary years. Archbishop Coleman Carroll had insisted future priests be familiar with the Spanish language and Hispanic culture.

Shortly after his ordination, however, coinciding with the beginnings of the Haitian migration to south Florida, he learned to speak Haitian Creole and spent 18 years ministering to the Haitian population as a parish priest. He became well known as a tireless advocate on their behalf at a time when U.S. policy was to reject their pleas for asylum and safe haven.

While serving as pastor of three Haitian missions and the Archdiocesan Director of Catholic Charities, he was ordained auxiliary bishop Sept. 3, 1997. Just shy of six years later, Pope John Paul II named him coadjutor bishop of the Diocese of Orlando on July 1, 2003. He then succeeded Bishop Norbert M. Dorsey as the fourth bishop of

the Diocese of Orlando on Nov. 13, 2004.

On June 1, Archbishop Wenski will leave his assignment as the fourth bishop of Orlando to be installed as the fourth archbishop of Miami, replacing Archbishop John C. Favalora, whose retirement has been accepted by Pope Benedict XVI, after serving there since Nov. 3, 1994.

A new bishop has yet to be named for the Orlando Diocese. According to canon law, consultors will have to meet within eight days after Archbishop Wenski's June 1 installation to select a diocesan administrator among the clergy. The administrator will oversee operations of the diocese until a bishop is appointed.

During his tenure in the Diocese of Orlando, Archbishop Wenski has been aggressive in his approach of securing a stable financial future for the nine-county diocese by establishing the Alive in Christ Capital campaign, which was formulated following a yearlong diocesan synod, "Starting Afresh From Christ," in 2005.

"The synod enabled so many people of the diocese to get involved with the Church and the visioning of where we should be as Church in responding to the challenge of evangelization in the 21st century," said Archbishop Wenski.

As a staunch defender of the Catholic faith, he has not been shy in expressing Church teachings in the public square on hot-button issues such as immigration, human trafficking, pro-life concerns, and care for the poor.

"There is a great freedom in proclaiming the social doctrine of the Church, for in doing so I do not speak in my own name, but in the name of Christ and his Church," said Archbishop Wenski. "As a bishop, it is not as if I am giving my own opinions; I simply wish to be coherent and consistent in applying what the Church teaches."

As a teacher, stated Archbishop Wenski, you don't teach if you are silent.

"At my opening Mass as coadjutor I said, 'As Church we have a word to share and that word is Jesus Christ,' and that's the word I am trying to spread," he said. "I don't pontificate about who has

PLEASE SEE ORLANDO, A31

Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory
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upon his appointment by

Pope Benedict XVI

as the fourth archbishop of
The Metropolitan See of

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YOUR WORK OF FAITH AND LABOR OF LOVE.

1 THESSALONIANS 1:3 (RSV)

ORLANDO

FROM A29

the best basketball team, I speak of our faith and from our moral traditions.”

As Roman Catholic leader of the Diocese of Orlando, Archbishop Wenski has established eight new parishes and/or missions. At his welcome Mass as coadjutor bishop of the Orlando Diocese, he said, “The Lord always has surprises but the Lord always promises that he is with us.” At the Miami press conference April 20, he acknowledged in his statement that “Miami has its challenges but the Lord tells us, ‘Do not be afraid.’”

“You can find 365 references in Scripture where God, or one of his angels says, ‘Do not be afraid,’ so that’s a Scripture verse for every day of the year,” said Archbishop Wenski.

The history of Miami, he said, has always been a cycle of boom and bust. While the present cycle is one of bust due to the economic crisis, he believes the boom of recovery will return within the next few years if not sooner.

“We see the airlines have less planes flying now than before — if they didn’t cut back they would not have been able to stay in business,” said Archbishop Wenski. “Similarly the archdiocese had to make some difficult adjustments to protect its mission, which is to proclaim the Gospel to all. Now this mission is entrusted to me and with God’s help and with the support of the

priests and people of the archdiocese, we will carry on with faith and trust in God’s providence.”

Reflecting on his time as shepherd of the Orlando Diocese, Archbishop Wenski expressed his appreciation for the priests of the Diocese of Orlando, which he described as a “wonderful presbyterate.”

“I have come to know them and to love every one of them and I appreciate the hard work they do day in and day out to serve the people of God here,” he said. “Whatever parish I have gone to, I have been very welcomed by the people and the priests. They all have responded well to my leadership.”

Archbishop Wenski noted with satisfaction that the number of seminarians studying for the Diocese of Orlando has more than doubled in the past five years. Also, during the same time, more than 35 priests were recruited to work in the Diocese of Orlando.

While there are many major projects unfinished as he leaves, Archbishop Wenski joked that if he knew his tenure in Orlando was coming to an end, he would have worked harder to get them all finished. But he noted that, as St. Paul said, one plants and another harvests.

“Hopefully,” Archbishop Wenski added, “what I have planted or initiated will result in stronger parishes and a stronger diocese so that always, ‘Alive in Christ,’ the Catholics of central Florida will continue to bear witness to the hope that does not disappoint — Jesus Christ.” ■



FC FILE PHOTO

Then-Bishop Thomas Wenski, followed by Archbishop John C. Favalora, waves to the crowd during the entrance procession at Miami’s Notre Dame d’Haiti 25th anniversary celebration in 2006.

FAST FACTS: ARCHBISHOP-DESIGNATE THOMAS WENSKI

Miami Experience

- Served three years as associate pastor of Corpus Christi Church, a mainly Hispanic parish in Miami.
- In 1979, after briefly ministering in Haiti, he was assigned to the newly established Haitian Apostolate of the archdiocese. He was associate director and then director of the Pierre Toussaint Haitian Catholic Center in Miami from that time to his appointment as a bishop in 1997.
- He also served concurrently as pastor of three Haitian mission parishes in the archdiocese including: Notre Dame d’Haiti in Miami; Divine Mercy in Fort Lauderdale; and St. Joseph in Pompano Beach.
- Through the 1980s he also conducted a circuit-riding ministry that led him to help establish Haitian Catholic communities from Homestead in the south to Fort Pierce to the north, Immokalee to the west and Fort Lauderdale to the east.
- He celebrated the weekly televised Mass in English for shut-ins on Miami’s local ABC affiliate from 1992-1997.
- He directed the Archdiocese of Miami Ministry to non-Hispanic ethnic groups.
- In January 1996, then-Father Wenski was appointed the archdiocese director of Catholic Charities, one of the largest

Catholic social service agencies in the United States. In this capacity he helped forge a collaborative relationship with Caritas Cuba, the social service arm of the Catholic Church in Cuba. Since early 1996 he has traveled to Cuba on many occasions on behalf of the Church. In late 1996, he spearheaded a relief operation that delivered more than 150,000 pounds of food to Caritas Cuba for distribution to people left homeless by Hurricane Lily. This was the first time that Cubans in Miami participated in a humanitarian relief effort directed to Cuba.

- Appointed auxiliary bishop of Miami June 24, 1997, he was ordained to the episcopacy Sept. 3, 1997, along with Bishop Gilberto Fernandez in the Miami Arena.

Orlando experience

- Pope John Paul II appointed Bishop Wenski as coadjutor bishop of the Diocese of Orlando July 1, 2003.
- Bishop Wenski assumed the role of the fourth bishop of the Diocese of Orlando on Nov. 13, 2004.
- In March 2005, he convoked the first-ever Diocesan Synod, ‘Starting Afresh ffrom Christ.’
- He established 11 parishes or mis-

sions in the Diocese of Orlando from 2004 to 2010. These include:

- Centro Católico La Guadalupe Mission, Ocala
- Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Celebration
- Most Precious Blood Catholic Church, Oviedo
- St. Faustina Catholic Church, Clermont
- St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, Summerfield
- St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church, Orlando
- St. Philip Phan Van Minh Catholic Church, Orlando
- St. Vincent de Paul Church, Wildwood
- San Juan Diego Mission, Mulberry
- San Pedro de Jesus Maldonado Mission, Wildwood
- Santo Toribio Romo Mission, Mascotte

- During his episcopate in Orlando, two minor basilicas were designated: the Basilica of St. Paul, Daytona Beach, in January 2006; and the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe, Orlando, in August 2009.

- He established *El Clarín* and Buena Nueva FM, two communication ministries for the Hispanic people.

- He emphasized vocations to the priesthood and religious life, establishing a full-time director of vocations. Currently, there are 25 seminarians in the Diocese of Orlando.



PHOTO BY VALETA ORLANDO | FC

Then-Bishop Thomas Wenski speaks to well-wishers after his Mass of Welcome in August 2003 in Orlando.

BUILDING THE CITY OF God

Born in a storm:

His birth took place "during the middle of Hurricane King. When I was growing up in Lake Worth my mother would talk about how difficult it was to get to St. Mary's Hospital in West Palm because of the rain, wind and downed power lines."

When he knew he wanted to be a priest:

Sometime during the third grade "I began telling people that I wanted to be a priest."

Person or event that triggered his vocation:

"I am not sure, but one memory I have is when I was in the second grade my parents took me to the wake of our pastor, the priest who baptized me, Msgr. James Cann. (His nephew is Father Carl Morrison, a Miami priest). ... I still remember vividly seeing him laid out in the casket in church and what impressed me was the fact that he was dressed in his vestments as if he were about to celebrate Mass. 'A priest forever...'"

What he would be doing if he had not become a priest:

"It's hard to say — since I've always had a hard time imagining me doing anything else. Nothing else ever held the allure or the excitement that priesthood offered me."

Favorite priestly assignment:

"Perhaps the one I did the longest. I spent 18 years as a parish priest among the Haitian communities of south Florida. 'Favorite' doesn't mean it was necessarily the easiest but it afforded me the opportunity to work among the poor and disenfranchised and to be in a sense 'a missionary priest' in my own backyard."

'Nothing else ever held the allure or the excitement that priesthood offered me.'

Most difficult aspect of being a priest:

"When John the Baptist introduced his disciples to Jesus he said, 'He must increase and I must decrease.' I think that's always been for us the challenge — to get out of the Lord's way so that our failings, our idiosyncrasies, our own ego does not distract our people from encountering Jesus in and through our ministry."

His description of the ideal priest:

"The ideal Christian, priest and bishop I have encountered has been John Paul II. He was a man happy in his own skin, proud of his ethnic and cultural identity as a son of the Polish nation, and totally given over to Christ."



Bishop Wenski, shown here leading the "Bike with the Bishop" fundraising run in Orlando in 2009, says "a motorcycle ride helps clear the 'cobwebs' from the mind."

What he does on his day off:

"A lot of times, since I am so busy on my days 'on,' I just like to chill and do nothing; but, if I have the time and the weather is good, a motorcycle ride helps clear the 'cobwebs' from the mind. It's exhilarating and, believe it or not, relaxing."

Favorite TV series:

"When I get the time to watch TV, I like 'House.'"

Last book read:

"What Your Money Means — And How to Use It Well" by Frank J. Hanna. "Not that I have any money to speak of, but Hanna writes from the conviction of his Catholic faith about how he and other persons of influence and affluence can avoid the dangers of wealth and in fact use it as a school of virtue."

Favorite type of music:

"On the CD player in my car, I have a disk of Polish folk songs, one of Haitian 'Kompa,' one of Cuban salsa and one of Gregorian chant."

His greatest disappointment:

"That I haven't learned to speak Polish well; I've tried but it's a very hard language to master."

His greatest joy:

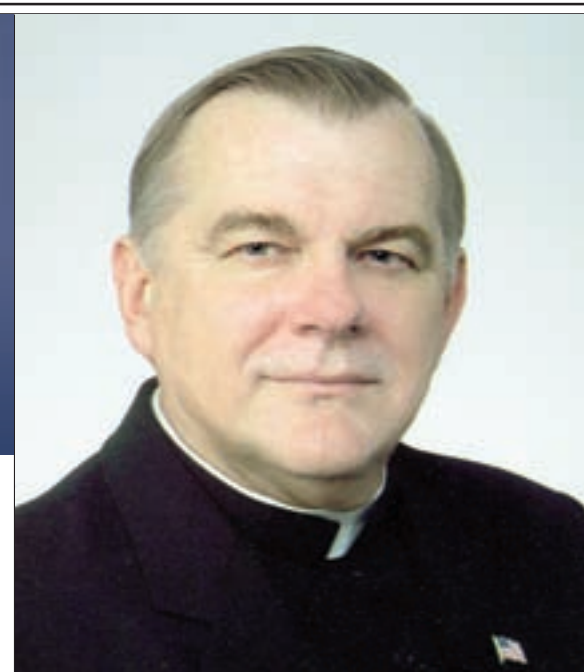
"To pass on the priesthood of Jesus Christ through the laying on of my hands when I ordain someone a priest."

His greatest accomplishment:

"That despite my shortcomings and human weakness I was ordained a priest 34 years ago."

His harshest critic:

"Probably that person who wrote the last angry letter to me — today, many people are angry and frustrated and it's amazing how vehemently and often uncharitably people will disagree with something I say in my capacity as a bishop and teacher of the faith."



ARCHBISHOP THOMAS WENSKI

Born Oct. 18, 1950, in West Palm Beach,

Archbishop Wenski is the son of first- and

second-generation Polish immigrants. He

attended Sacred Heart School in Lake Worth

and in ninth grade entered what was then the

high school seminary of St. John Vianney. He

continued his studies at St. Vincent de Paul

Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach and was

ordained for the Archdiocese of Miami on May

15, 1976. He was named auxiliary bishop of

Miami in 1997; coadjutor Bishop of Orlando in

2003; and will assume his duties as Archbishop

of Miami and Metropolitan of the Province of

Florida on June 1, 2010.



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