A tribute to Miami’s third shepherd on the occasion of his retirement

Gracias • Mesi
Obrigado • Salamat
Grazie • Imena
Merci • Hvala Vam
Dziękować
Cảm ơn Bạn
谢谢
감사합니다
Parting words

Archbishop John C. Favalora’s takes on some hot-button issues

Most of the following quotes come from the press conference April 20 announcing the appointment of Archbishop Thomas Wenski as the fourth archbishop of Miami.

ON IMMIGRATION
“It was precisely our new archbishop (Archbishop Wenski) who taught me the complexities of immigration law. In a sense, even though I was his mentor, he was my mentor in this.”

“All of us are immigrants. It’s totally unacceptable that we don’t address the immigration problems we have in this country. (While we need better enforcement and control of our borders) we don’t solve those problems on the backs of families that are here, whether they’re legal or illegal.”

ON THE CLERGY SEXUAL ABUSE SCANDAL
“The Church is the leading organization in the U.S. that has (taken steps to ensure children are safe from abuse). The Church has been challenged. The Church has come forth. Others could very well learn from the lead the Church has taken in the United States.”

ON RETIREMENT
“I believe that it’s time for me to get off the stage. I think it’s time for me to move on. And I think that’s a bit of wisdom that God has given me.”

ON HIS LEGACY AS ARCHBISHOP
“History can judge that no matter what I say, I was given the mission to sanctify, to govern and to teach. I think that I have done that. In the time I’ve been here, I’ve kept the ship afloat.”

ON THE NEED FOR PRAYER
“His last words to the Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, gathered for their annual convention May 2.

He recalled that he had always asked the women to “pray for me by name” rather than in a general way. Now, he said, “Pray for your new archbishop by name.”

Because as chief shepherd, he will need your prayers, just as I needed your prayers.”

ON THE FUTURE
Referring to the first reading at the Mass he celebrated with Archbishop Wenski on the day of the announcement, which told of the stoning of St. Stephen:

“I’m trying to figure out whether that is a providential reflection on my tenure or a prophetic voice for your tenure,” he said, turning to his successor. “I think the truth of the matter is both.”

Archbishop Favalora during the chrism Mass in 2007. Liturgical celebrations such as that one with his priests are among the archbishop’s fondest memories of his time in Miami.

Archbishop Favalora: By the numbers

61 The number of priests Archbishop Favalora has ordained during his tenure in the Archdiocese of Miami.

6 The number of archdiocesan priests who have been named bishops during Archbishop Favalora’s tenure in Miami. In addition to his successor, Archbishop Thomas Wenski, they are: Bishop Robert Lynch of St. Petersburg; Auxiliary Bishops Gilberto Fernandez, Felipe Estevez and John Noonan; and Bishop Fernando Isem of Pueblo, Colo.

11 The total number of archdiocesan priests who have been named bishops since the archdiocese was established. They include Bishop John Fitzpatrick of Brownsville, Texas; Bishop Rene Gracida of Pensacola-Tallahassee, and Corpus Christi, Texas; Auxiliary Bishops Agustin Roman and John Nevins (who retired as bishop of Venice); and Archbishop Ambrose Battista De Paoli, who served in the Vatican’s diplomatic corps.

4 The number of pastoral letters written by Archbishop Favalora. His first two — “The Great Jubilee Year” and “The Star of Bethlehem” — coincided with the beginning and the end of the Jubilee Year 2000. His last two — “We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe” and “The Rosary: A Prayer for the Family” — coincided with the beginning and the end of the archdiocese’s 50th anniversary celebration in 2008.

39 Number of seminarians studying for the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Miami. Archbishop Favalora has supported both St. John Vianney College Seminary and St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary by being a strong role model of priestly formation and by attending Mass with the seminarians.

$108 million Amount raised by the Vision 2000 endowment campaign.
God did provide

Archbishop Favalora reflects on the joys and disappointments of his time in Miami

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI — In April 1995, just a few months after being installed as archbishop of Miami, Archbishop John C. Favalora began the practice of sitting down each Monday morning to record “Conversations with the Archbishop.”

He explained that was his “media time” and it remained so for the next 15 years, interrupted only by travel, funerals or summer vacation.

The program consists of five segments, ideally no longer than 10 minutes each, which aired weekdays on Radio Peace, 710 AM and later 1040 AM. Since spring of last year, the program can be heard online at www.miamiaarch.org.

On April 26, Archbishop Favalora sat down once more for another taping of “Conversations.” This time, he looked back on his tenure in Miami and his plans for retirement. Following is an edited version of those recordings.

Q: Last week at this time it was being announced that your retirement had been accepted by the Holy Father and that Bishop Thomas Wenski of Orlando is going to be Miami’s new archbishop. He’s returning to the place where he was ordained a priest, where he was auxiliary bishop. So we want the inside story. The rumors had been flying for months. Tell us how this process came about.

A: At the age of 75, every bishop has to turn in a letter of resignation to the Holy Father, and then the Holy Father makes a decision if he accepts it or not. Sometimes it can take a year or more for him to accept it. So I decided that was best for the archdiocese that I do something on the front end instead of waiting for someone to be appointed a year or so later, because of the complications of this diocese and the international complexities that are involved here.

Number two, because of the financial situation that we have been going through for the past two or three years, it would be important for the person who was going to come in to have time to understand. That’s the reason why I asked for a coadjutor. A coadjutor is your successor being appointed ahead of time — usually not more than a year. Then he has the time to understand things and to get an idea of what the situation is before he has to take over and make decisions. It’s also easier because sometimes in your last years as bishop you have to make decisions that will affect his future tenure, and it would be better to have him on the spot to be able to discuss things before you make the decision.

So I began a year and a half or so ago (September 2007) because the Roman congregation doesn’t move very quickly. The process is you have to request to make a request. In other words, I had to request permission to ask for a coadjutor. That took about two or three months.

Then I had to prepare a complete report on the state of the diocese, and give three recommendations of (possible candidates) to the congregation. All of that was sent to Rome in January of 2009.

My understanding is that by May they actually began their investigation. They probably sent out 30 or 40 letters to people in the archdiocese — laypeople, religious, priests; then to bishops of the province; and then I don’t know to whom else.

I discovered this February who the successor was going to be. When I discovered it was the man who had worked here 25 years and knew the place, spent more time here than I did, there didn’t seem to be much sense in having him appointed as a coadjutor. He knew the place very well. There was no need to delay the transition, no reason for me to stay on until December. So I pursued with the papal nuncio the possibility of my presenting my resignation and having him appointed straightaway as the archbishop instead of the coadjutor.

So then I had to request permission to send a letter of resignation. That took a couple of months. It was all concluded the Monday of Holy Week. That’s when I knew that my resignation had been accepted and that we would make the announcement on April 20. So that’s the whole story. There’s nothing more.

As I said at the press conference, it isn’t my health. It’s simply the circumstances here. And frankly, I don’t have the stamina or the spirit that I had when I came here 15 years ago. It’s time for new eyes to look at things and new energy to be brought to the situation. As I said to somebody, being 74 is a health problem, no matter what your physical condition is: 74 should automatically be a health problem.

Q: So you’re going to stay in Miami. You’re not going to go to New Orleans?

A: I have my family home there so I’ll go back and forth. I haven’t decided exactly when. My suspicion is that I’ll spend winter there, or some of the winter there, and the summers here. It’s better here in the summer than it is in New Orleans. It’s too humid in New Orleans. The breezes here are much better and it will give me a little taste of winter — not that there’s much in New Orleans normally.

Q: What strengths do you think Archbishop Wenski brings to Miami?

A: He’s returning to the place where he was ordained a priest, where he was auxiliary bishop, so he there will be much familiarity with the area. He’s been a long-time resident of the area. And he’s been someone who has really worked with the people of the archdiocese.

Q: When will you leave?

A: My resignation takes effect April 20, which is the end of the month. Then I have to stay on until December because I have to pursue giving the过渡 to the successor. I have to stay until then to understudy things and get an idea of what the situation is before he has to take over.

Q: When will you live?

A: I don’t know to whom else.

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Q: What will you do now?

A: I will be moving into the house that Archbishop Edward McCarthy used to live in when he was archbishop. That has been converted into a residence with three suites in it. Auxiliary Bishop Felipe Estevez lives there and Msgr. William Hennessey, the vicar general, lives there. I will live there with them.

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Thank you, Archbishop Favalora

The Faithful of
St. Louis Catholic Church
7270 S.W. 120th Street • Pinecrest, FL 33156

“He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in God’s house.”

Hebrews 3:2

FAREWELL

and Thank You
Archbishop Favalora

For always being so supportive of our school and for your many years of dedicated service leading our community’s Catholic faithful.

May God Bless You!

The Marist Brothers and the Christopher Columbus High School Community

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Your Excellency
Archbishop John C. Favalora

THE PARISH FAMILY
OF
ST. JOHN THE APOSTLE
PRAISES AND THANKS GOD FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THIS ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI.

IT HAS BEEN A GREAT BLESSING.
MAY GOD GRANT YOUR EXCELLENCY CONTINUED HEALTH AND BLESSINGS IN YOUR RETIREMENT.

St. John The Apostle Catholic Church
475 E. 4th St.
Hialeah, Florida 33010

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“Thank you, Archbishop Favalora

The Marist Brothers and the
Christopher Columbus High School Community

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appointed him, just as Moses was
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Hebrews 3:2

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Thank you,
Archbishop Favalora
Parting gifts

Gardening tools, a chef’s hat make for joke-filled farewell from auxiliary bishops

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI SHORES — Archbishop John C. Favalora’s auxiliary bishops had a little fun while wishing him well in retirement.

During a farewell lunch attended by Pastoral Center employees May 6, Auxiliary Bishop John Noonan confirmed his “prankster” reputation by unveiling a slew of retirement gifts for his boss. And he recruited his “brother Bishop” Felipe Estevez to help him pull it off.

Since the archbishop loves to cook and garden, Bishop Noonan’s retirement gifts (which arrived hidden inside a black garbage bag) were:

• a genuine chef’s hat;
• a straw hat for protection from the sun;
• assorted gardening tools;
• gardener’s gloves;
• a set of barbecue utensils;
• a lawn chair;
• a hammock;
• a can of mosquito repellent; and
• a gardener’s cart for storage.

Archbishop Favalora especially loved the straw hat, but upon seeing the low-slung chair, did inquire, “How am I going to get up from there?”

That’s when Bishop Noonan pulled out the hammock.

At the end of the presentation, Bishop Noonan had only one question: “Are we still auxiliary bishops?”

“Yes,” Archbishop Favalora deadpanned. “I no longer have a say on that.”

PHOTOS BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO | FC
Archbishop Favalora puts on the straw hat that will shield him from the sun when he is gardening.

Auxiliary Bishops Felipe Estevez, left, and John Noonan present Archbishop John C. Favalora with a garden tool cart as part of his retirement gifts.

At far left, Auxiliary Bishop John Noonan holds up the mosquito repellent that is part of Archbishop Favalora’s retirement gift. At left, the archbishop dons a chef’s hat.

The family of the Diocese of Palm Beach offers its prayerful best wishes to Archbishop John Clement Favalora on the occasion of his retirement as the Metropolitan Archbishop of the Province of Miami.

He has been a good shepherd and faithful friend to whom we offer our deep gratitude and assurance of continued prayers.

Bishop Gerald M. Barbarito
Bishop of Palm Beach
Thank you, Archbishop John Favalora, for 16 years of service to the Church of Miami
Benedic te Deus

Father William Elbert and Parishioners of St Lawrence Church, North Miami Beach

ARCHBISHOP: ‘My role as archbishop is to preach’

FROM A3

A: Well, the first and major strength is he knows the place. He has worked here over 25 years, as a pastor, as director of the Haitian apostolate. He’s been the one who has really developed the ministry to the Haitian community and put them on the road to the wonderful leadership positions that they’re taking not only in the Church, but in the civic community as well. He was director of Catholic Charities for a number of years and then he was auxiliary bishop here. So he has had hands-on experience to draw from.

Q: What about your most difficult time here, your worst memory?

A: Dealing with the sexual abuse crisis, for every bishop, has been a very painful situation. Also, every bishop for the past three years has been dealing with serious financial situations. We were fortunate that we only had 14 mergers to make; there are dioceses that have 20, 30, 40. I think God inspired me to bring them here because they are very special people in interceding on behalf of serious things. I wouldn’t call them for foolish things, but they have been wonderful.

Q: Your motto is “God will provide.” Have you found that to be true here in Miami?

A: Yes, absolutely. And if I ever had a concern about something, especially recently, after we’ve put a lot of effort and study and time into things, then I have Rosalia, my secretary, the Diocesan Carmitelle Sisters. And I say, “Sisters, I want you to pray very hard for this or that other.” Or sometimes I just say, “There’s something that needs your attention and your prayers, please pray for it.” I think God inspired me to bring them here because they are very special people in interceding on behalf of serious things. I wouldn’t call them for foolish things, but they have been wonderful.

A: “Deus PROVIDEBIT”

The seminary I’m from was established in 1923 by Archbishop John Shaw and his episcopal motto was “Deus PROVIDEBIT.” It was on the entrance to his house in Ovens. So every day I worked there as rector I saw it.

The Latin term “Deus PROVIDEBIT” comes really from the Hebrew. When Abraham was about to slaughter Isaac, he saw an angel...and a sudden the Lord kept his hand from doing so, and they discovered a ram and he slaughtered the ram. The Bible says this place shall be known as the equivalent in Hebrew of “Deus PROVIDEBIT,” God provides.

I really believe that. I’ve said that very often, even if I’m at my wit’s end about certain things, I’ve always had to come back to that. So it’s been a strength. It really has been something that’s not just put on paper or a coat of arms. It’s something that I believe in. It’s a theology that I believe in, that this is God’s Church, not mine. It isn’t so much what I want, it’s what he wants.

Q: What do you see yourself doing in retirement?

A: Well I like to read. I like to travel. I intend to visit friends, especially the retired bishops in the state. We worked together. I intend to visit with them, spend a little time with them, especially those who are old and ailing. I like to garden. I like to sit in the sun. I like to read outside. Then I’m going to work with the poor. That may take a number of dimensions, but when I’m here I intend to work at Mother Teresa’s soup kitchen as well as Camillus House.

Q: You won’t have meetings.

A: I will not attend another meeting. I will attend gatherings, but meetings, no — nothing official anyway. They don’t need me. They’ll have better insights from other people. I’ve done that enough.

A: I have many good memories. I just haven’t sorted them out. And of course sometimes just a brief meeting, someone comes to see you in the office for something. Some of those things can be highly memorable. Some of them you can speak about, some of them you can’t.

Q: Do you have a best memory or a best moment in Miami?

A: Well, I always remember liturgical things a great deal, and every year, one of the joys that I celebrated was the Rite of Election on the first Sunday of Lent. That’s when all of the people who are planning to be baptized and confirmed and receive Communion at the Easter Vigil come to the cathedral to be met personally by the archbishop.

Now we fill the cathedral three times (that weekend) — packed, jammed. Our numbers were hovering around 1,500 each year. As each one of them came up, I could shake their hand and look in their faces and just imagine what all of their grace stories are. That’s always a wonderful experience.

It’s also a wonderful memory to have the Chrism Mass with the priests on the Tuesday of Holy Week; to have that opportunity to speak to them as their bishop, as their spiritual father over the years. Those liturgical events are very, very meaningful.

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church offers most grateful thanks for your diligent stewardship in leading our Church through challenging times.

Thank you. All the best to you and the FC staff in these busy weeks!
OFFICIALS
Office of the Archbishop:
Official appointments
Archbishop John C. Favalora has made the following appointments:

Effective Aug. 1:
Father Enrique Delgado — pastor, St. Katharine Drexel, Weston.
Father Stephen Hilley — pastor, St. Justin Martyr, Key Largo.

Effective July 1:
Father Israel Mago — parochial vicar, Our Lady of the Lakes, Miami Lakes.
Father Bernard G. Kirlin — pastor, St. Mary Magdalen, Sunny Isles Beach.
Father Héctor Pérez — parochial vicar, St. James, North Miami.
Father Emmanuel Bastien — parochial vicar, Notre Dame d’Haiti Mission, Miami.
Father George Packuvettithara — parochial vicar, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Pembroke Pines.
Father Jean Jadotte — parochial vicar, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, Cutler Bay.
Father Miguel Sepúlveda — parochial vicar, St. Edward, Pembroke Pines.

Effective June 1:
Msgr. Tomás M. Marín — pastor, St. Timothy, Miami.
Father Lucien Pierre — to the faculty at St. John Vianney College Seminary, Miami.

Effective April 1:
Father Charnel Jeanty — Archbishop’s designee to the Board of Trustees of Barry University, Miami Shores, for a period of three years.

Effective March 22:
Deacon Henry González — permanent deacon, St. John Neumann Parish.

Effective June 14:
Father Pedro Corces to pursue religious life with the Franciscan Fathers of the Province of the Holy Name, New York.

Effective June 30:
Father Thomas G. Honold to retire, ending his appointment as pastor of St. Mary Magdalen, Sunny Isles Beach.

Effective July 1:
Father Patrick O’Neill to retire.

Effective Aug. 31:
Father Thomas Mannix Stack to retire.

From the Office of the Chancellor:
Our Lady of the Rosary Old Roman Catholic Church, Deerfield Beach, is not part of the Archdiocese of Miami nor is in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church and Pope Benedict XVI.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR
DEDICATED YEARS OF
SERVICE TO THE
PEOPLE OF THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI.
OUR LOVE AND PRAYERS
ARE WITH YOU.
The Parish Family of
ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE CHURCH

Dear Archbishop Favalora,
Having the honor of knowing and loving you as our shepherd was a blessing to the people of our parish and the Archdiocese of Miami.

We are truly grateful for your leadership and dedication.

Our heartfelt wish for you in your retirement is many years of happiness and good health.

May the good Lord shine his light upon you forever.

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

Dear Archbishop Favalora,
We give thanks to God for your dedicated service as Good Shepherd of the Church of Miami and ask the Divine Shepherd to grant you good health and blessings in your retirement.

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

Saint Monica Catholic Church
The Pastor, deacon and the entire members of St. Monica Parish thank the retiring Archbishop John Clement Favalora for his 16 years of dedicated service to the Archdiocese of Miami and wish him a happy retirement.

We also welcome Archbishop Thomas Wenski and promise him our full support and cooperation.

Fr. Samuel Muocioj C.S.Sp
Pastor

The Priests, Deacon and Parishoners of St. Agatha Parish and School say farewell to Archbishop John C. Favalora and wish him a very restful and blessed retirement.

Rev. Fr. Rolando G. Garcia
Pastor

Visit us on the web www.saintmonica.org

3490 N.W. 191st St., Miami Gardens, FL 33056
305-621-9846 • Fax: 305-621-5608

MIA A7
Congratulations and prayerful farewell to

Archbishop John C. Favalora

former Bishop of the Diocese of Alexandria

Thank you for your many years of service and may God bless you in your retirement

Most Reverend Ronald P. Herzog, Bishop
and the clergy, religious and laity of the Diocese of Alexandria, Louisiana
In Appreciation to Archbishop Favalora

For 16 years of Guidance and Leadership

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Staff and Management

Our Lady of Mercy
11411 N. W. 25th Street
Doral, FL 33172
305-592-0521

Our Lady Queen of Heaven
1500 S. State Road 7
N. Lauderdale, FL 33068
954-972-1234

With an attitude of gratitude, we thank you for your enduring support of Catholic education and prayerfully wish you many blessings for the road ahead.

The Archbishop McCarthy High School Community of Faith

www.mcarthyhigh.org • 954-434-8820
Thank you Archbishop Favalora

Bishop Victor Galeone

and the Mother Diocese of Florida

ask God’s blessing upon

Archbishop John C. Favalora

who for the past 16 years has led the

Archdiocese of Miami

with his pastoral wisdom, vision and love.

Ad Multos Annos!

Diocese of Saint Augustine
Appreciation and Prayerful Best Wishes

Archbishop John C. Favara

On your years of dedicated service to the Archdiocese of Miami

May God Continue to Bless You

Bishop Frank J. Dewane and the Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Diocese of Venice in Florida
Thank you, Archbishop Favalora

ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS
JOSEPH A. FIORENZA
RETIRED AUXILIARY BISHOP
VINCENT M. RIZZOTTO
AND THE FAITHFUL OF THE
ARCHDIOCESE OF
GALVESTON-HOUSTON

HIGHLIGHTS OF ARCHBISHOP FAVALORA

JUNE 24, 1997

Two new auxiliary bishops are appointed for the Archdiocese of Miami: Father Thomas Wenski, director of Catholic Charities and the Ministry to Cultural Groups, and Father Gilberto Fernandez, longtime south Florida pastor and native of Cuba. The ceremony of episcopal ordination takes place Sept. 3 at the Miami Arena, with thousands of south Florida Catholics joyously participating.

NOVEMBER 1997

Archbishop Favalora travels to Rome as a delegate to the Synod of Bishops for America. Many of the initiatives later pursued in the archdiocese, chief among them the emphasis on missionary activity at the parish and school levels, are in keeping with the recommendations of that synod.

JAN. 25, 1998

Archbishop Favalora leads a group of about 180 pilgrims on a nine-hour visit to Havana, to attend Pope John Paul II’s Mass in the civic plaza.

MARCH 1995

Archbishop Favalora pays a visit to the Cubans and Haitians detained at the refugee camps in Guantánamo. A week later, the archdiocese opens Varela Centers at several south Florida Catholic schools, in order to teach English to Cuban and Haitian children just released from the camps. The schools will help them and their parents prepare for life in the U.S.

MAY 27-28, 1995

Cardinal Jaime Ortega of Havana makes an official pastoral visit to south Florida, celebrating Mass at St. Mary Cathedral, vespers at the Shrine of Our Lady of Charity on Biscayne Bay and an outdoor Mass at St. Thomas University in Miami. His visit to south Florida is part of a pastoral visit to Cubans in exile which also includes stays in New York, Chicago and Tampa.

AUG. 9, 1996

Radio Paz, the Spanish-language archdiocesan radio programming, begins broadcasting 24 hours a day on WACC-830 AM. The archdiocese at first leases the station, then purchases it a year later.

MAY-JUNE 1997

Ground is broken for Archbishop Edward McCarthy High School in Southwest Ranches and Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School in Miami. When classes start in August 1998, they become the first high schools to be opened in the archdiocese since 1961.
A12 Thank you, Archbishop Favalora  Florida Catholic May 15, 2010

ARCHDIOCESE SPIRITUAL SERVICE ATTENDANCE

OUR LADY OF LOURDES ACADEMY

HERCULEAN MISSION OF REFORMATION

Archdiocese of Miami has been a leader in serving the people of God. Your years of service to the Archdiocese of Miami have been a source of inspiration to all archdiocesan employees, including priests, deacons, religious and volunteers.

NOVEMBER 1997

Archbishop Favalora travels to Rome as Bishop of the Archdiocese of Miami. Many of the initiatives later pursued in the archdiocese, chief among them the emphasis on missionary activity at the parish and school levels, are in keeping with the recommendations of that visit.

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Archbishop Favalora leads a group of delegates. His pilgrimage to Rome led to a visit to Havana, to attend Pope John Paul II’s Mass in Havana.

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AUG. 9, 1996

Radio Faz, the Spanish-language archdiocesan radio programming, begins broadcasting 24 hours a day on WACC-AM. The archdiocese first leases broadcasting space on WACC-AM in May 1993, and five months later on May 20, 1994, Radio Faz begins broadcasting 24 hours a day on WACC-AM.

MAY-JUNE 1997

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JUNE 24, 1997

Two new auxiliary bishops are appointed for the Archdiocese of Miami: Father Thomas Wenski, director of Catholic Charities and the Ministry to the Poor, and Msgr. John Noonan, who serves as rector of St. John Vianney College Seminary. The archdiocese also establishes a charter for the protection of children in June 2002, the archdiocese issues a charter for the protection of children, and Archbishop Favalora promulgates “Charter for the Protection of Children,” a program of spiritual preparation for the Great Jubilee 2000, a launching of the archdiocesan radio programming, begins broadcasting 24 hours a day on WACC-AM.

JAN. 6, 2001

Archbishop Favalora concludes Great Jubilee Year 2000 preparations with a Mass at a park in Key West, where he blesses the Holy Doors at St. Mary Cathedral to symbolize the official opening of the Jubilee Year.

APRIL 29, 2002

Auxiliary Bishop Edward Fernández, 67, announces his retirement from active ministry due to failing health.

OCTOBER 1998

Catholic Charities, under the leadership of Auxiliary Bishop Wenski, mobilizes to help the victims of Hurricane Mitch in Central America.

SEPTEMBER 1999

Catholic Charities announces plans for its fall gala, “An Evening in Rome,” to raise $1.4 million in support of its educational and charitable ministries into the 21st century.

JUNE 22, 2003

In a rite dating back to the early century of the Church, Kathleen Dames, 62, becomes the archdiocese’s first consecrated deacon. A member of St. John Vianney College Seminary, Msgr. John Noonan, 54, who serves as rector of St. John Vianney College Seminary, is consecrated a bishop in June 2003.

JULY 1, 2003


JUNE 7, 2005

Archbishop Emeritus Edward A. McCarthy dies in his sleep at the age of 87. His funeral Mass is celebrated June 13, 2005.

FALL 2006

Archbishop Dorsey promotes “Pilgrim Case,” a lifestyle booklet promoting a lifestyle of faith for the faithful. Archbishop Favalora opens the Holy Doors at St. Mary Cathedral to symbolize the official opening of the Jubilee Year.

OCT. 7, 2008

On its 50th anniversary, the archdiocese of Miami expands to 111 parishes, serving a population of 1.5 million in Broward and Monroe counties, with more than 750,000 registered Catholics.

JAN. 2, 2009

On the archdiocese’s 50th anniversary, six of the archdiocese’s 59 elementary schools announce they will close at the end of the school year due to falling enrollments and rising costs: Corpus Christi in Hollywood, Our Lady of Grace in North Miami Beach, St. Benedict in Pembroke Pines, St. Stephen in Miramar, St. Marguerite D’Youville in Hollywood and St. Cecelia in Coral Springs.

JUNE 7, 2007

Archbishop Emeritus Edward A. McCarthy dies in his sleep at the age of 87. His funeral Mass is celebrated June 13, 2005.

JUNE 21, 2005

Mgr. John Noonan, S.A., who serves as rector of St. John Vianney College Seminary, is appointed for the Archdiocese of Miami.

JUNE 7, 2007

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ALORA’S TENURE IN MIAMI

1999
On July 1, 2003, Archbishop John C. Favalora, a faithful servant of the Lord, upon your retirement. May the Lord’s abundant blessing upon you.

1999

2000
In compliance with the U.S. bishops’ “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young Adults,” approved in Dallas in June 2002, the archdiocese issues a revamped “Policy and Procedural Guidelines … Relating to Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults.” The new policy outlines guidelines that had been established in the archdiocese since the mid-1980s, and revised in the 1990s.

2000
In July 2003, Bishop Wenski is appointed coadjutor to Bishop John C. Favalora. His welcome is held Aug. 22, 2000.

2000
On its 50th anniversary, the archdiocese concludes Great Jubilee celebrations with a visit of the Epiphany Spirit, the next day, Dec. 11, 2000, at St. Mary Cathedral to symbolize the official end of the Great Jubilee.

2000
Also in compliance with the U.S. bishops’ charter, the archdiocese selects VIRTUS, a Safe Environment program, and appoints a victims assistance coordinator with a toll-free number where those who may have been abused by archdiocesan clergy or lay personnel may seek referrals and counseling.

NOV. 21, 2003
Mgr. Felipe de Jesús Estevez, former pastor of St. Agatha Parish in Miami (1987-2001) and spiritual director at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach, is appointed the auxiliary bishop of the archdiocese, becoming the fourth Cuban to be appointed bishop in the United States in modern times. His ordination ceremony takes place Jan. 7, 2004, at St. Mary Cathedral.

DEC. 11, 2003
The archdiocese publishes, “A Time to Heal,” an eight-page special section in The Florida Catholic and La Voz Católica, which reveals the total number of sexual misconduct allegations against archdiocesan priests, religious and laity since the archdiocese’s founding in 1958, as well as the dollar amount of settlements and legal fees paid out since the Archdiocese of Miami Insurance Programs were established in 1966. In a letter introducing the report, Archbishop Favalora says it is being published “to help restore the bonds of trust and communion … (and) report on where the Archdiocese of Miami stands in this national scandal and our response to it.”

JUNE 7, 2005
Archbishop Emeritus Edward A. McCarthy dies in his sleep at the age of 87. His funeral Mass is celebrated June 13.

JUNE 21, 2005
Mgr. John Noonan, 54, who serves as rector of St. John Vianney College Seminary, is appointed the ninth auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Miami. He is the first Irish-born Florida priest to be named a bishop since the death of Bishop Patrick Barry in 1940. His ordination takes place Aug. 24, 2005.

FALL 2006
Archbishop Favalora promulgates “Fountain of Grace,” a 50-page booklet containing a basic introduction to the teachings of the Catholic Church. The booklet was created at his request, to make sure that anybody engaged in ministry in the archdiocese has a fundamental understanding of the basic tenets of the Catholic faith. “Fountain of Grace” is required reading for anyone seeking to teach, sing, lector, distribute the Eucharist, or engage in any other type of parish service in the Archdiocese of Miami.

OCT. 7, 2008
On its 50th anniversary, the archdiocese consists of 111 parishes and 7 missions in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties, with more than 750,000 registered Catholics.

JAN. 22, 2009
Six of the archdiocese’s 59 elementary schools announce they will close at the end of the school year due to falling enrollments and rising costs: Corpus Christi in Wynwood, Our Lady of Divine Providence in Sweetwater, Sacred Heart in Homestead, St. Clement in Fort Lauderdale, St. Francis Xavier in Overtown and St. Stephen in Miramar. Eventually, charter schools move into all of those locations, leasing the buildings from the local parish.

Thank you, Archbishop Favalora www.thefloridacatholic.org May 15, 2010

Thank you, Archbishop Favalora www.thefloridacatholic.org May 15, 2010

THE ARCHBISHOP'S TENURE IN MIAMI

In compliance with the U.S. bishops’ “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young Adults,” approved in Dallas in June 2002, the archdiocese issues a revamped “Policy and Procedural Guidelines … Relating to Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults.” The new policy outlines guidelines that had been established in the archdiocese since the mid-1980s, and revised in the 1990s. Also in compliance with the bishops’ charter, the archdiocese selects VIRTUS, a Safe Environment program, and appoints a victims assistance coordinator with a toll-free number where those who may have been abused by archdiocesan clergy or lay personnel may seek referrals and counseling.

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Thank you, Archbishop Favalora www.thefloridacatholic.org May 15, 2010

THE PARISH FAMILY OF ST. RICHARD BIDS FAREWELL TO ARCHBISHOP JOHN C. FAVALORA

May God bless your retirement!

“The Lord bless you and keep you! The Lord let His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!”

— NUMBERS 6:22-27

We rejoice with you,

ARCHBISHOP JOHN FAVALORA,
a faithful servant of the Lord,
upon your retirement.
May the Lord’s abundant blessing upon you.

FILE PHOTO

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Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski
Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P.

THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND MEMBERS OF CHRIST’S FAITHFUL DIocese of Orlando

Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski
Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P.

THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND MEMBERS OF CHRIST’S FAITHFUL DEOse of Orlando

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THE CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND MEMBERS OF CHRIST’S FAITHFUL DEOse of Orlando

Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski
Most Reverend Norbert M. Dorsey, C.P.
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. 

ROMANS 15:13

ARCHBISHOP WILTON D. GREGORY, Atlanta

BISHOP J. KEVIN BOLAND, Savannah

BISHOP PETER J. JUGIS, Charlotte

BISHOP MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE, Raleigh

&

BISHOP ROBERT E. GUGLIELMONE Charleston

OFFER OUR GRATITUDE TO

ARCHBISHOP JOHN C. FAVALORA Miami

FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN FLORIDA AND OUR PRAYERFUL GOOD WISHES AS HE RETIRES.
TIMELINE: Archbishop Favalora’s tenure in Miami spanned 16 years of joy, challenges, faith-filled journeys

FROM A13

JUNE 30, 2009

Due to the ongoing financial crisis, the archdiocese announces the closing of its Youth Ministry Office. This means ministry to teens up to age 17 and young adults ages 18 and older will be handled entirely at the parish level. The Respect Life Office also will no longer receive any funding from the archdiocese, but depend entirely on donations to carry out its work.

AUG. 15-16, 2009

The archdiocese announces the merger of eight parishes, five missions and one apostolate. Effective Nov. 1: Divine Mercy Haitian Mission merges into St. Clement Parish in Fort Lauderdale; Resurrection Parish in Dania merges into St. Maurice in Dania Beach; St. Charles Borromeo merges into St. Matthew in Hallandale; St. George merges into Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in Fort Lauderdale; St. Joseph Haitian Mission merges into St. Elizabeth of Hungary in Pompano Beach; St. Luke Parish in Coconut Creek and Our Lady Aparecida Brazilian Mission in Hollywood both merge into St. Vincent in Margate; the Vietnamese apostolate becomes part of St. Helen Parish in Fort Lauderdale; Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Opa-Locka merges into St. James in North Miami; St. Cecilia merges into St. John the Apostle in Hialeah; St. Francis Xavier Mission in Overtown merges into Gesu in downtown Miami; St. Philip Neri Mission merges into St. Monica in Miami Gardens; St. Robert Bellarmine merges into Corpus Christi in Miami; St. Vincent de Paul in Miami merges into St. Rose of Lima in Miami Shores.

OCT. 8, 2009

On the 51st anniversary of its establishment, the Archdiocese of Miami numbers 103 parishes and two missions in Miami-Dade, Broward and Monroe counties with more than 750,000 registered Catholics.

SEPTEMBER 2009

St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami celebrates its golden jubilee with a record number of seminarians enrolled.

ARCHBISHOP THOMAS J. RODI AND THE PEOPLE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MOBILE OFFER PRAYERS AND BEST WISHES TO ARCHBISHOP JOHN C. FAVALORA AS HE BEGINS HIS RETIREMENT AFTER HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO GOD’S PEOPLE

BELIEVING THAT Deus Providebit, WE PRAY GOD WILL SHOWER ABUNDANT BLESSINGS UPON HIM.

ARCHBISHOP FAVALORA TAKES THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAISE THE EXEMPLARY FAITH AND FORTITUDE OF THE HAITIAN PEOPLE AND TO LOBBY YET AGAIN — THIS TIME SUCCESSFULLY — FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO GRANT TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS TO HAITIANS.

MARCH 2010

Two archdiocesan elementary schools announce they will close at the end of the school year due to rising costs and falling enrollment: St. Joseph on Miami Beach and St. Elizabeth of Hungary-St. Joseph in Pompano Beach. This brings the total number of elementary schools in the archdiocese to 48, along with 13 secondary schools.

The archdiocese announces that it is committing more than $1 million to immediate and long-term relief in Haiti, including giving $40,000 each to the country’s 10 dioceses. All the money comes from the special collection held in all the parishes the weekend after the earthquake. The pastoral plan for Haiti calls for mission teams composed of medical and religious personnel to travel to Haiti on a regular basis to minister to the spiritual, physical and psychological needs of the population. It also allocates $100,000 for support of orphanages in Haiti; $200,000 to help Haitian youths complete secondary school or obtain a technical education; $10,000 for liturgical and Mass supplies to Haitian churches; and $300,000 for the establishment of a permanent center in Port-au-Prince that would serve as a “home base” for the mission teams traveling there.

APRIL 20, 2010

Pope Benedict XVI names Bishop Thomas Wenski of Orlando, a former Miami priest and auxiliary bishop, as the fourth Archbishop of Miami, accepting at the same time the retirement of Archbishop John C. Favalora, who will turn 75, the Vatican-mandated retirement age, in December 2010. Archbishop Wenski will be installed June 1 at St. Mary Cathedral.

MAY 8, 2010

Archbishop Favalora ordains four men to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Miami. That makes 61 the number of men he has ordained priests during his tenure in south Florida. The ordination ceremony, for the first time ever, is video-streamed live on the Internet via the archdiocesan website, www.miamiarchr.org.
With profound gratitude to Almighty God we send our best wishes to Archbishop John C. Favalora.

May God bless you for your many years of leadership and service in the Church. You will remain in our prayers always.

“Well done, good and faithful servant” (Mt 25:21).

Most Rev. Robert W. Muench, Bishop of Baton Rouge and the People of the Diocese of Baton Rouge

Archbishop José H. Gomez, Auxiliary Bishop Oscar Cantú, and the clergy, religious and laity of the Archdiocese of San Antonio

Express our gratitude to Archbishop John Favalora on his retirement and dedicated service to the Church in Florida. Farewell and best wishes in your future endeavors.
Archbishop Favalora farewell vespers
May 16
Archbishop John C. Favalora will celebrate vespers with religious and laity of the Archdiocese of Miami on Sunday, May 16, 3 p.m., at the Cathedral of St. Mary, 7525 N.W. Second Ave., Miami.
This vespers service will be an opportunity for those who have known and worked with Archbishop Favalora to bid him good wishes as he enters his retirement years.
For information, call 305-759-4531.

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 Mór, 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.

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.
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.

Carmelite Friars return to Miami

The Discalced Carmelite Fathers, 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 will open 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.
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.

Thank you Archdiocese of Miami

His Excellency
The Most Reverend Glen John Provost
Bishop of Lake Charles
With the Clergy and People of the Diocese
Extend Congratulations
And Prayerful Best Wishes to
Archbishop John C. Favalora
On Your Retirement
After Nearly 24 Years
Of Episcopal Leadership
In the Dioceses of Alexandria, La.
And St. Petersburg
And the Archdiocese of Miami

To our dear friend,
Archbishop John C. Favalora
Thank you for proclaiming God’s greatness and Good News through your ongoing support of the Florida Catholic
You will remain in our prayers and our hearts. We wish you a blessed retirement fully directed by your motto, “Deus PROVIDEBIT” God Provides.
May Christ’s Peace Be With You,
The Staff of the Florida Catholic

Thank you for your years of service and leadership
Archbishop Favalora!
Gracias por su servicio y liderazgo

From the
St. Francis de Sales Parish Family
Miami Beach, Fla.

NAPRC
2010 CONFERENCE
National Alliance of Parishes
Restructuring into Communities

“Go Out into Deep Water”
Growing the Gospel
Transforming the Parish

A Hands-On Learning Experience of the NAPRC Vision & Keeping it Alive
Nativity Parish
Brandon, FL
(Diocese of St. Petersburg)
July 22-24, 2010

For more info & registration form:
Visit: www.naprc.faithweb.com
Call: 937-256-3600
Email: naprcoffice@ameritech.net
(Registration Deadline: July 1)
COMMUNITY EVENTS


“Celebrating Our Heroes,” Friday, May 21, St. Bonaventure Parish Center, 1301 S.W. 136 St., Davie. Schott Communities’ dinner dance and awards presentation, honoring Vicky Bovee, Ursula Evers, Rosa Martinez and Freda Stein. Information: 954-246-3306.

Communion breakfast, Broward Council of Catholic Women, Saturday, May 22, 7:30 a.m., St. Paul the Apostle, 2700 N.E. 36 St., Lighthouse Point. Begins with Mass at 9 a.m. followed by breakfast and speaker. $10 per person. Hosted by St. Paul the Apostle Council of Catholic Women. 954-941-3238.

Father James P. Murphy, 40th anniversary of ordination, Women. 954-941-3238.


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

• Broward County: May 15, 21, 23, 25, All Saints School, Sunrise, 9-11 a.m.: Teaching Religion Today (I), Overview of Christian Doctrine (II), Intro to the Old Testament (III), Christology (IV), 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 (II), Becoming Peacemakers (IV).

• Miami-Dade County: June 14, 16, 18, 21, 24, St. Thomas the Apostle School, Miami, 9-11 a.m.: Teaching Religion Today (I), Foundations of Catholicism (II), Intro to the Old Testament (III), Christology (IV), Liturgy (V); 11:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m.: Introduction to the Sacraments (I), St. Paul’s Letters (II); 2-4 p.m.: Teaching Religion Today (I), Principles of Christian Morality (II), Becoming Peacemakers (IV).

MASES


RETTRETS/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.morningstarnewalcenter.org.

• “Missionaries in Our Midst: The Church of the Americas,” Wednesday, May 19, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Share the experience of missions and pray. www.morningstarnewalcenter.org.

• “Oneness in Marriage,” Thursday, May 20, 7-9:30 p.m. Seminary of working through challenges, building commitment. Presentation by Revs. Peter and Carl Jannarone of St. John Neumann Marriage Couples Ministry. $30 per couple, includes wine and cheese reception.

SCHOOL EVENTS


“St. John the Apostle open house and school fair,” Saturday, May 22, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 479 E. Fourth St., Hialeah. Come see what the school is all about. Offering Catapult Title I YMCa after-school care and summer camp. Learn how you may qualify for free tuition, lunch and breakfast. Meet Home and School Board current students and parents. Applications will be available. Limited space remains in some programs. 954-388-6819.

Agatha School, 1125 S.W. 107 Ave., Miami, accepting applications for PreK through grade seven until May 31. Fully accredited by the Florida Catholic Conference. Religious education based on Catholic principles; after-school program available. Now accepting Corporate Tax Credit Scholarship program. 305-858-3722.

SPIRITUAL

Vespers with Archbishop Favalora, Sunday, May 16, 3 p.m., St. School Board, current students and parents. Applications will be available. Limited space remains in some programs. 954-388-6819.

Rosario, misa y homenaje a las madres, domingo, 16 de mayo, comenzando a las 5 p.m., iglesia St. Martha, 9301 Biscayne Blvd., Miami Shores. Auspicado por la cofradía de nuestra Señora de Chiquinquirá. Seguido por exposición de arte peruanos; invitados especiales: Irán Van, de Radio Caracol, Paola Andrea, y coral “Canteros de los Cantantes”, otros 305-759-4531.

Magnificat luncheon, Saturday, May 29, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 501 S. Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood. Sponsored by the Florida Catholic Conference. $25 per person; after June 1, $35; $45 after June 1. Information: 305-362-5315, ypelaez@ollnet.com.

VOCACTIONS

Vocations discernment group for men 18 or older considering a vocation to the priesthood. Call for information about meetings in the archdiocesan Pastoral Center. 305-762-1123 or vocations@theadom.org.
Barry University warmly thanks

Archbishop John C. Favalora, DD for 15 years of dedicated ministry as our Shepherd and prays that his future is blessed with peace and joy.

Barry University

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Animals in Heaven? Catholics Want to Know!
by Susi Pittman, Roman Catholic-Author-Conservationist-Animal Advocate

- Would God cast to dust, that which He created to give Him praise?
- Recognizing divine providence at work in Creation
- A book for all those who love animals and savor the glories of the created world
- “Theologically relevant” to anyone who cannot imagine eternal life without their animal companion.
- Theological truths, scientific facts, poignant stories

Susie is a lively and engaging speaker available to speak to your group, club or school on selected topics:

- Do animals really go to heaven? Let’s talk!
- Celebrating Creation: The Spiritual Dimensions of Creation Stewardship
- Urban living and Stewardship: Cast-off Cats and Other Apartment Objects
- Journey to Genesis: Man’s ultimate mission
- Superfine Shelter Pets: Why they are the ultimate in “going green”

For Speaking Engagements Contact: 904-735-5979

This book has not been reviewed and is not endorsed by neither the Archdiocese of Miami nor the Diocese of Orlando. Any views or opinions presented in this book are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of either the Archdiocese of Miami, the Diocese of Orlando or the Catholic Church.
Four new priests, four faith journeys

Two from Colombia, one from Spain, one from the Philippines are ordained for Miami

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIA A22

Four new priests, four faith journeys

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ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIA A22
ORDINATION: In his final ordination, Archbishop Favalora welcomes four new priests into the archdiocesan family

FROM A22

I was very little — she tells me, I don’t remember — that I wanted to serve.”

He served as an acolyte and religious education teacher at his parish, St. Timothy, where the associate pastor at the time, Father Marcos Somarrriba, saw something in him.

“I knew since I first met him. We talked a lot. I told him he was meant for the priesthood,” said Father Somarrriba, now pastor of St. Kieran Parish in Miami. “For me, he is like my replacement. He is the type of priest I wish (to minister) to my family.”

“Yeah, I had a promising career, but I didn’t lose it,” Father Rivero said. “No one took it away from me. I gave it up freely. I knew that wasn’t said. “No one took it away from me. But I didn’t lose it,” Father Rivero said.

FATHER TOLONSA

A native of Rio Negro, a small town in the region of Colombia whose capital is Bucaramanga, Father Tolosa is one of 24 children, the youngest of nine from his father’s second marriage. He studied finance and accounting but never practiced it, working instead as a consultant engineer for petroleum companies.

At one point, he started his own consulting business, but when it faltered in 2000, he came to South Florida. His goal was “to pay my debts and go back to Colombia to make another business.”

He worked odd jobs here to support himself — busboy, waiter, dishwasher — and joined San Isidro Parish in Pompano Beach, where Father Roberto Garza, the archdiocese’s current vocations director, was pastor. After a long spell of working 50 to 60 hours a week, he decided he needed a break and took part in a Growing in the Spirit retreat.

“Something happened that weekend,” he recalled, that moved him to grow closer to the Church and the Lord. “I was really hungry and thirsty for God.”

He entered the seminary in 2004. Although his family is very devout, he had never considered the priesthood before, but said he does remember always playing one of the Twelve Apostles in the Holy Week processions in his hometown.

“We just went around the town in a truck and we just ate grapes and bread and just represented the Last Supper with Jesus,” he said. “I think the Lord had planted that seed in my childhood, and now when I came to this country, just with a different purpose, God just broke my contract. He said, ‘I have a new contract for you right now, Armando.’”

Listen to the vocations stories of the new priests at www.miamiarch.org, by clicking on “Conversations with Archbishop Favalora” and going to the segments for May 4, 5, 6 and 7.

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Father Jesus “Jets” Medina imparts his first blessing to his mother, Consortia Medina.

Francis Cardinal George, OMI and the people of the Archdiocese of Chicago extend our gratitude for the leadership and guidance of Archbishop John C. Favalora during his years of service as Archbishop of Miami.
What he did before becoming a priest:

He entered the seminary right after high school.

When he knew he wanted to be a priest:

As a high school senior, he seriously considered joining the Jesuits, but decided against it for fear that he would spend more time teaching than doing parish work. Ironically, he spent 17 years of his priesthood working as a teacher and considers teaching the primary role of a bishop.

Person or event that triggered his vocation:

The example of his Jesuit teachers and his own attendance at daily Mass.

On teaching:

“I was teaching high school (boys). It absolutely is tough…. But I enjoyed my teaching years very, very much. I would say there’s probably nothing that I did that prepared me better to be a bishop than that. Because my chief role as bishop is a teacher.”

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

“I thought of medicine, but didn’t like science. I thought of law. I thought of architecture, but couldn’t draw. Probably the architecture is what I still like to dabble in.”

Favorite aspect of the priesthood:

Preaching and hearing confessions. “Preaching and teaching are very much united. My vision, my image there, is Jesus preaching to the crowds. It’s the teacher’s challenge of whetting someone’s appetite so that their mind gets moving or their heart gets moving in the right direction.” Confession is similar, except the experience is one on one. “It’s the dialogue between Jesus and one other person. It’s that challenge that you have as an instrument of God’s grace to choose the right words, to pray for the enlightenment to say the right thing that will dispose that person to be as open to God’s grace as possible.”

Most difficult aspect of being a priest:

“Being misunderstood. … In an instance when the Church might be delivering a teaching that is very hard to hear, you very much feel as Jesus did in the Gospel, when he preached about the Eucharist and many of his close disciples walked away and never returned. … I guess that’s where I have the most difficulty, embracing the cross lovingly. I think, rather naturally speaking, you want to run away from the cross. You want to disassociate yourself from the cross. Yet you know that to do that would be to deny the Lord.”

What he does on his day off:

He loves to cook and tend to his herb garden; or sit in the sun and read.

Favorite TV series:

“The Honeymooners” (he has the complete series) and “Everybody Loves Raymond.”

Favorite type of music:

Classical

Thing he most fears:

Not much. His episcopal motto is “God will provide.” “I guess I’ve never perceived myself as a worrier. I try to deal with whatever comes,” make a decision and move on. “You may find out tomorrow or next month or next year that the decision was wrong. Then my answer is, we’ll change our position. If it indeed is wrong, I don’t have any problem saying that.”