Krakow’s cardinal tours South Florida

Former secretary to Blessed John Paul II recalls pope’s trip to Miami, his legacy to the world

TOM TRACY
Florida Catholic correspondent

POMPANO BEACH | The last time he visited Miami was as personal secretary to Blessed John Paul II — during the latter’s 1987 visit to the United States, one of 104 trips outside of Italy that he made with the late pope.

Last week, Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, archbishop of Krakow, Poland, since 2005, came to Miami as a pilgrim visitor to South Florida, where he met Miami Archbishop Thomas Wenski and the regional Church.

As the hemisphere readies for yet another papal visit — that of Pope Benedict XVI to Mexico and Cuba — the cardinal celebrated Mass in three archdiocesan churches, including the Polish mission in Pompano Beach and with the local Cuban community at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity in Miami.

Traveling with several Polish priests and presenting well-wishers with a Blessed John Paul II prayer card and relic, Cardinal Dziwisz talked about his work as a kind of keeper and promoter of Blessed John.

Key West church now a minor basilica

Vatican grants honor to St. Mary Star of the Sea, oldest church in archdiocese, second oldest in state

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO
Florida Catholic staff

MIAMI | St. Mary Star of the Sea, the oldest Catholic church in South Florida and the second oldest in the state, is now the first basilica in the Archdiocese of Miami.

Archbishop Thomas Wenski conveyed the “news from Rome” to parishioners of the Key West landmark via a video played at all theMasses the weekend of Feb. 11-12. The official designation ceremony will take place May 31, the feast of the Visitation.

“Last year, I made the request for this honor through the Holy See’s Congregation for the Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments and, at that time, I submitted the necessary documentation as to why St. Mary Star of the Sea was worthy of consideration,” Archbishop Wenski said in the video. “This beautiful and historic church (established in 1846) becomes the first minor basilica in the archdiocese and only the fifth in the state of Florida.”

The archbishop noted that its status as a minor basilica now makes St. Mary Star of the Sea “the pope’s ‘parish church’ here in the archdiocese,” and as such “should link all Catholics here in South Florida most closely to the person of the Holy Father.”

Father Baker’s new title is rector of the basilica now makes St. Mary Star of the Sea. “This designation is ultimately the consequence of your faith in Jesus Christ and the faith of those who have been here before us,” said Father John Baker, pastor, in his homily to parishioners the weekend the church’s new status was announced.

“Father Baker’s new title is rector of the minor basilica of St. Mary Star of the Sea. He became St. Mary’s pastor in 2007 and said he noticed immediately a certain “good energy” or “karma” of holiness around the historic parish. “But what is the name for it?” he asked.

He said Archbishop Wenski, the first native son to be named a bishop in Florida, captured it precisely when he began working, two months into his tenure as archbishop of Miami, on securing for the church the status of minor basilica, “the ecclesial word which describes precisely what you, and I and he sense and perceive at St. Mary Star of the Sea,” Father Baker told his parishioners. “It is faith enfleshed in love which gives hope to others.”

To be named a minor basilica, a church has to demonstrate that it deserves the rank, both in terms of its historical significance, its architectural uniqueness and

PLEASE SEE CARDINAL, 2

BASILICA, 12
Polish cardinal visits Cuban shrine

TOM TRACY
Florida Catholic correspondent

MIAMI | Pope John Paul II was mindful of his prayerful struggles against atheistic Nazism and communism in Eastern Europe as he undertook his historic 1998 visit to Cuba, according to the pope’s former priest in residence.

“Cardinal Karol Wojtyla was proclaiming the Gospel in spite of this (communist) system; he was defending the dignity of each person who was created in the image and likeness of God,” said Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, archbishop of Krakow, Poland, who celebrated Mass and visited with the Cuban-American community at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity Feb. 5, during a visit to Miami. He made a pilgrimage to Cuba to attend the papal mass at the shrine Saturday.

Accompanied by Miami Archbishop Thomas Wenski and retired Auxiliary Bishop August Roman, a native of Cuba, Cardinal Dziwisz discussed some of the context of the late pope’s visit to Cuba and his legacy overall. The papal trips to Cuba have been a source of lively discussion among Cuban exiles in South Florida as they await Pope Benedict XVI’s first papal visit to Mexico and Cuba, set for late March.

The Archdiocese of Miami is planning a pilgrimage to Cuba to participate in the papal Masses in Santiago and Havana March 26 and 28. (The application period to go on the pilgrimage ended Feb. 3. About 310 people approx-imately two plane loads — have registered to go. For information, go to www.miamarch.org.)

In going to Cuba, Blessed John Paul II was primarily demanding religious freedom for the people, “which is not a privilege granted by the government, but a natural law of every human being,” the cardinal said, adding that the subsequent opening of Cuba to international religious congregations and missionaries was a measure of the pope’s interven tion in Cuba.

“During his historic trip to Cuba, this was the most important message to this beautiful island, which is so dear to all of you and which continued to occupy a special place in his heart, for it had shared the same cruel experiences as his native Poland under communist domination,” the cardinal said.

The cardinal celebrated Mass in Spanish at the shrine and presented a framed portrait of Blessed John Paul II to the rector, Father Juan Rumin Dominguez. Our Lady of Charity is the patroness of Cuba and the Pope Benedict’s visit coincides with the 400th anniversary of the finding of her image on the Bay of Nipe.

“My dear friends of Cuban descent, John Paul II could repeat after St. Paul: ‘I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some,’” the cardinal said. “In this context, how could we not recall today the apostolic journey of the Holy Father to your homeland, to Cuba, in January 1998. The Holy Father undertook this journey de rived by love to the entire Cuban nation, trying at the same time to give support to the Church in Cuba and its mission in proclamation of the good news and to strengthen your brothers and sisters in the faith and hope. Only God knows all the fruits of this historic visit.”

On hand for the cardinal’s visit to the shrine was Hugo Fernandez, a member of the Guild of Our Lady of Charity and financial supporter since 1996. He said the shrine is a place where Cuban exiles — both practicing and non-practicing — can Congress in Florida.

The cardinal’s visit represents an event that brought a sense of joy to Cuba and its mission in proclaiming the Gospel in spite of the oppressive and resemblance of God,” said Cardinal Karol Wojtyla’s election as pope in 1978.

“We would like to preserve for the future generations the legacy of the person who contributed significantly to the fall of the godless communist system, the system which dominated millions of people in many countries, especially in Eastern and Central Europe,” Cardinal Dziwisz added that he has been inviting Catholics around the world to help preserve and creatively cultivate the great spiritual and intellectual heritage of John Paul II through construction of the John Paul II Center in Krakow. He said the center is being named “Do not be afraid!”

While in Florida, Cardinal Dziwisz was guest of honor at the annual Polonaise Ball hosted by the Miami-based American Institute of Polish Culture. Proceeds from the ball will support the John Paul II Foundation, a Rome-based charity started by the pope himself in 1981. Its goal is to give scholarships to students from Eastern European countries that were once part of the Soviet Union.

Calling Miami a “beautiful, fascinating city,” the cardinal said he remembered Blessed John Paul’s outdoor Mass on Sept. 11, 1987, at Tamiami Park, and how it was unfortunately rained out by a sudden thunderstorm. He also remembered the Holy Father’s visit to the Cathedral of St. Mary in Miami. In his stops around South Florida, the cardinal presented the local parish with a framed portrait of Blessed John Paul II. He also gave media interviews to TV and press reporters eager to talk about the upcoming papal trip to Cuba and about John Paul II’s legacy.

“My life adventure with John Paul II did not end at the day of his blessed death, just as his presence and role in the life of today’s Church have never ended,” the cardinal said.

After celebrating a Sunday morning Mass at Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Mission in Pompano Beach, the cardinal was greeted by Polish-speaking members of the mission, some of whom said they remembered him from his days as a priest back in Poland. The local Polish community said they had been preparing several months for the visit.

Some parishioners asked the cardinal to autograph copies of his book about his years with the pope, “A Life with Karol.” Others dressed in Poland’s regional clothing, including Damita Vogdziewicz, a resident of Pompano Beach and former principal of the Polish Saturday school at the mission.

“I am from Raba, Poland, Cardinal Dziwisz’s town, and I was very proud to be confirmed by Cardinal Wojtyla,” Walach said, after she briefly sang a Polish folk song for Cardinal Dziwisz as he made his way out of the church to have breakfast at the rectory nearby.

“For me, personally, he is a highlander and he was right hand to the pope,” Walach said of the cardinal. “I will remember this day mostly because Cardinal Dziwisz and Archbishop Wenski were using our mother tongue.”

The cardinal’s visit represents the greatest day in the 50-year history of Our Lady of Czestochowa Polish Mission, according to Jerzy Vogdziewicz, president of the financial council at the mission and vice president of the Polish-American Congress in Florida. He said the cardinal’s comments recalled Blessed John Paul’s invitation to everyone to practice sanctity in daily life. “He said everybody can be a saint during the day, during work, in your family life and with others,” Vogdziewicz said. “We will definitely make some initiative here for the Blessed John Paul II Center in Krakow.”

Cardinal Dziwisz also visited the National Shrine of Our Lady of Charity to talk with the Cuban-American community, and he celebrated Mass with Catholics at St. Edward Parish in Palm Beach.

CARDINAL FROM 1

Paul’s legacy. He has said he knew he was living and working by a sudden saint — even before Cardinal Karol Wojtyla’s election as pope in 1978.

“I am trying to be a curator of his remembrance and heritage,” he told members of St. Patrick Parish in Miami Beach on Feb. 4.

“We would like to preserve for the future generations the legacy of the person who contributed significantly to the fall of the godless communist system, the system which dominated millions of people in many countries, especially in Eastern and Central Europe.”

Father Hoyer
Father Enrique

Escorted by Father Hoyer and Father Enrique

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Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz presents a painting of Blessed John Paul II to the people of St. Patrick Parish, Miami Beach. It was a gift he presented at every stop of his South Florida visit. (TOM TRACY | FC)

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**Parish hosts workshop on human trafficking**

St. Rose of Lima Parish in Miami Shores will host a conference March 23, 9 a.m.-noon, on human trafficking, the modern name for slavery. “Not for Sale: Help Stop Human Trafficking and Slavery,” will feature talks by two experts on the subject: Roza Pati, associate professor of law, executive director of the graduate program in Intercultural Human Rights and director of the Human Trafficking Academy at St. Thomas University; and Tonja Marshall of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. They will touch upon the various facets of this tragedy and how it affects people here in South Florida. The event will take place at St. Rose of Lima’s auditorium, 415 N.E. 105 St., Miami Shores. "Through these conversations, we hope to identify the people who make a difference in the disabled community. Sister Brannan has been active in every facet of Schott Communities since it opened in 1986. She has been a teacher, organizer, interpreter, extra-ordinary minister of holy Communion, and pastoral care giver.

**Learn Spanish through ‘immersion’**

The SouthEast Pastoral Institute (SEPI) is now accepting applications for its annual Immersion in Spanish Language and Culture course, to be held June 3-21 at SEPI, 7700 S.W. 56 St., Miami. This three-week course allows participants to learn Spanish in a pastoral context. It is especially designed for priests, religious, laity and anyone interested in Hispanic people and Hispanic ministry. Immersion in environment and daily life situations, classes, cultural experiences and presentations allow students to reach a good level of communication and better understanding of the culture.

**Blessing to kick off ‘40 Days for Life’**

The Archdiocese of Miami will participate this year in 40 Days for Life, a national campaign timed to coincide with Lent that calls for 40 days of peaceful, prayerful witness in front of abortion facilities. The Respect Life Ministry is coordinating groups from parishes and lay movements throughout the archdiocese to witness daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. outside the facilities of two abortion providers, one in Miami-Dade and the other in Broward: Planned Parenthood, 263 N. University Drive, Pembroke Pines, and A Choice for Women, 6680 S.W. 117 Ave., Miami. Archbishop Thomas Wenski will mark the start of the 40 days Thurs., Feb. 23, 7 p.m., by blessing the grounds of the future home of Our Lady of Hope Expectant, a new respect life location on the south side of St. Thomas University and the Marian Center, 15700 N.W. 37 Ave., Opa Locka. The public is invited to take part in this blessing and in the 40 Days for Life campaign. For information, call 305-981-2922 or visit www.40daysforlife.com/miami.

**Convocation set for catechetical leaders**

The archdiocesan Office of Catechesis invites all those who direct or coordinate religious education in their parishes to a day of dialogue on the essential tasks of catechesis. The day will take place Thursday, Feb. 23, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., at St. Martha Parish hall, 9221 Biscayne Blvd., Miami Shores. “Through these conversations, we hope to identify the essentials of catechesis directed toward children and teens in Miami,” said Peter Ductram, director of the Office of Catechesis. For more information, call 305-762-1107.

**Lenten and Triduum regulations**

*These are the 2012 Lenten and triduum regulations issued by the Office of Worship of the Archdiocese of Miami.*

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday. The Easter triduum is celebrated from Holy Thursday evening until evening prayer on Easter Sunday. “Alleluia” is not said or sung from the beginning of Lent until the Easter Vigil, nor is the “Re Deum” sung or at on Sundays of Lent.

**EASTER VIGIL**

Holy Saturday is celebrated on April 7 this year. The entire Easter Vigil celebration should begin after rightfall and end before the dawn of Easter Sunday. This rule is to be strictly observed in order to manifest the full meaning of the rites. The Easter Vigil is not to be celebrated at the time of the day that is customary to anticipated Sunday Masses.

**LITURGICAL NOTES**

Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until
Contraceptive mandate violates religious freedom

The contraceptive mandate imposed on health plans by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) violates freedom of conscience, which is guaran-
teed by the First Amendment and several federal laws. To force all of us to buy coverage for steriliza-
tion and contraceptives, including drugs that induce abortion, is a radical incursion into freedom of conscience. HHS created this mandate after Congress asked it to develop a list of services all health plans should provide with-
out co-pay. Had such a mandate concerned itself with the prevent-
tion of diseases like breast cancer, sexually transmitted diseases and gestational diabetes, it would be unquestionable. However, pregnancy is not a disease; nor is fertility patholo-
y. Yet, HHS took it upon itself to include ster-
ilizations, contraceptives and abortion-inducing drugs without providing a real conscience exemp-
tion. Even states with similar mandates have a broader conscience exemption, or at least allow employers to self-insure or to choose a plan without prescription drug coverage if they have a conscientious objec-
tion to underwriting abortion, contraceptives and sterilization. This mandate forces virtually all insur-
ance plans to offer such services. Everyone deserves access to ba-
sic life-affirming health care, and health care reform is supposed to serve that goal. But this mandate is just the opposite, as it pressures organizations to drop their health coverage for employees and others alike whether they have a moral or religious objection to these particular items.

In an important decision uphold-
ing religious freedom, the Supreme Court recently ruled unanimously in Hosanna-Tabor against the Obama administration’s attempt to limit “ministerial exemption” which protects religious institu-
tions from the government interfering on whom they hire. In spite of this, the administration shows itself to be tone deaf not only to the reasoned deliberations of the Court’s justices, but also to the thousands of citizens who submitted comments prior to the issuance of this mandate.

Never before in U.S. history has the federal government forced citi-
zens to directly purchase what viola-
tes their beliefs. If the administra-
tion will not rescind this violation of the First Amendment, Congress must do so. As Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1809: “No provision in our Constitution ought to be dearer to man than that which protects the rights of conscience against the en-
terprises of the civil authority.”

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OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

Archbishop Thomas Wenski has made the following appointments:

Effective Aug. 11, 2011:
Father Alfred Ciolfi — assistant professor of science, St. Thomas University, Miami, in residence, Immaculate Conception Parish, Hialeah.
Father Herold P. Cantwell — Mary Help of Christians Parish, Olympic Park
Father Joseph C. O’Connor — assistant for religious life, St. John Neumann Parish, Miami
Father Ronald N. Delgado — assistant for religious life, Immaculate Conception Parish, Hialeah.
Father John J. Grogan — pastor, St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Miami
Father James J. Hilt — assistant for religious life, St. John Neumann Parish, Miami
Father John J. Quinn — assistant for religious life, Immaculate Conception Parish, Hialeah.
Father John J. Walsh — assistant for religious life, St. John Neumann Parish, Miami
Father John J. White — assistant for religious life, St. John Neumann Parish, Miami
Father John P. Zawacki — assistant for religious life, St. John Neumann Parish, Miami

Haga algo ahora

El HHS creó esta obligatoriedad después que el Congreso le pidió que elaborara una lista de los ser-
vicios que todos los planes de salud deben proporcionar sin co-pago. Si dicha obligatoriedad se hubiera re-
ferido a la prevención de enfermeda-
dones como el cáncer de seno, las enfermedades de transmisión sexual y la diabetes gestacional, sería in tolerable. Pero el embargo no es

Pare para informarse más sobre este tema, o encontrar y ponerse en contacto con su consejero, vaya a la página web de la Arquidiócesis de Miami, www.miamiaparc.
.org, y haga clic donde dice “Proteja Reli-
gious Freedom” (Proteja la libertad de conciencia). También puede acudir a la página web de la Florida Catholic Confe-

Los obispos de los Estados Unidos les están pidiendo a los católicos que hablen en nombre de la fe de los laicos de la Iglesia se vean obligadas a incluir los anticonce-
ptivos en los planes de salud. Esta obli-
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mera Enmienda y otras leyes federa-
obres. Obligan a todos a adquirir cobertura para la esterilización y el uso de anticonceptivos, incluyen-
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Tener que pagar por anticonceptivos viola la libertad de conciencia

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Celebrating consecrated women religious

MIA MI | Archbishop Thomas Wenski celebrated a Mass Feb. 11 at St. Mary Cathedral honoring six women religious working in the Archdiocese of Miami who are celebrating 25 and 50 years of religious profession.

Those marking anniversaries were: 50 years: Sister Linda Bevilacqua of the Dominicans of Adrian, Mich., president of Barry University in Miami Shores; Sister Mary Elizabeth Barbosa of the Carmelites of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles, vice-principal of development at Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School in Kendale; Sister Lucy Cardet, Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, an academic advisor for working adult students at Barry University; Sister Rosemary Sabino, Sisters of Mercy, secretary of the board of directors of Catholic Legal Services in the Archdiocese of Miami; and Sister Christine Elizabeth Tenn, Franciscan Sisters of Allegany, a chaplain at Mercy Hospital in Miami.

Marking 25 years of religious profession was: Sister Yolanda Tostado, Servas de Jesus de la Caridad (Servants of Jesus of Charity), who currently works in pastoral care at St. Catherine’s Rehabilitation Hospital in Miami.

To read about the celebration, go to the archdiocesan website, www.miamiarch.org.

MANDATE

FROM 4

una enfermedad, ni la fertilidad es una patología. Sin embargo, el HHS se encargó de incluir la esterilización, los anticonceptivos y los medicamentos para inducir el aborto, sin ofrecer una verdadera exención de conciencia.

Incluso los estados con obligatoriedades similares tienen una exención de conciencia. La reforma de la atención médica debe servir a ese objetivo. El efecto de esta obligatoriedad es todo lo contrario, ya que presiona a las organizaciones a que abandonen por completo su plan de cobertura de salud para los empleados y otros, si tienen una objeción moral o religiosa a estos puntos en particular.

En una decisión muy importante en defensa de la libertad religiosa, la Corte Suprema dictaminó recientemente por unanimidad, en el caso de Hosanna-Tabor contra el intento del gobierno de Obama de limitar la “dispensa ministerial” que protege a las instituciones religiosas de que el gobierno interfiera en sus decisiones de contratación. A pesar de ello, la Administración se muestra sorda, no sólo a las deliberaciones razonadas de los magistrados de la Corte, sino también a los miles de ciudadanos que presentaron sus observaciones antes de la emisión de esta obligatoriedad.

Nunca antes en la historia de los Estados Unidos, el gobierno federal había obligado a los ciudadanos a comprar directamente lo que viola sus creencias. Si la Administración no anula esta violación de la Primera Enmienda, el Congreso debe hacerlo. Como Thomas Jefferson escribió en 1809: “Nada de lo dispues
to en nuestra Constitución debe ser más querido para el hombre, que lo que protege los derechos de conciencia en contra de las acciones de la autoridad civil”.

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7:30 p.m. $60 per person

Saturday, February 25 - Wine Tasting, Cosculluela Hall
6 p.m. $20 pre-sale or $25 at the door

Saturday and Sunday, Belen Jesuit Grounds
Annual Tombola Festival
Feb. 25, Noon – Midnight & Feb. 26, Noon-9 p.m.
Belen Jesuit Preparatory School - 500 SW 127 Avenue in Miami • www.belenjesuit.org/tombola

Follow us on Twitter & participate in our Scavenger hunt during Tombola @BelenJesuitNews
Historic celebration at Epiphany highlights Church tradition, mystical aspect of worship

ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO

The Women's Schola Cantorum of St. Michael Parish and members of the University of Florida's Schola Cantorum, led by Jennifer Donelson, chant throughout the Mass. "I've offered the old Mass, but what we're going to experience tonight is so extraordinary and unique," said Father Chris Marino, pastor of St. Michael Parish in Miami. "Conduct is very complicated," and similar to only two other celebrations in the extraordinary form of the Latin rite — Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday.

"All involve many blessings and a process which is penitential in nature," Father Marino said. He and Jesuit Father Christian Saenz often led a mini-workshop on the extraordinary form of the Latin Mass just prior to the pontifical high Mass in the extraordinary form of the Latin rite. "The Mass was completely sung in Latin." mosquitoes are not usually found in the watershed.

Mug: Frederic Brieur, who celebrates Mass in the extraordinary form of the Latin rite once a month at St. Malachy Parish in Tamarac, takes part in the Mass and "now on" he said. "That is exactly how Consuelo Bascuas of Schola Cantorum, Archdiocese of Miami, and a die-hard that he changed his name also belonged to Archdiocese of Miami.

The pontifical dalmatic (also worn by the archbishop, Coleman Carroll. A white amice, a cope (a simpler cloak) and a lace as well as several vestment changes by the archbishop, Coleman Carroll. A white sim- in the extraordinary form of the Latin rite — Ash Wednesday and Palm Sun- day.

"All involve many blessings and a process which is penitential in nature," Father Marino said. He and Jesuit Father Christian Saenz of- fered a mini-workshop on the extraordinary form of the Latin Mass just prior to the pontifical high Mass in the extraordinary form of the Latin rite. (PHOTOS BY ANA RODRIGUEZ-SOTO)

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask an attorney to send you

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Papa of St. Michael Parish in Miami. "Conduct is very complicated," and similar to only two other celebrations in the extraordinary form of the Latin rite — Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday.

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‘Lord God of hosts’

New words come straight from Bible, stress God’s transcendence

Eighth in a series

MSGR. RICHARD ANTALL
Special to the Florida Catholic

One of the oldest prayers of the Mass is the Sanctus, or, as most American Catholics say, the “Holy Holy Holy.” It is composed of two parts, the first of which is based on the hymn Isaiah heard the angels singing when he had a vision of God in the Temple (Is 6:3); the second contains the greeting of the crowds when Jesus entered Jerusalem before his passion (Mt 21:9). This latter contains a citation of Psalm 118:25-26: “Hosanna, ... Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

The Mass is an immensely biblical prayer, as Scott Hahn has taught us. Hahn, an ex-Presbyterian minister, has attributed his conversion to his discovery of the biblical nature of our liturgy. As someone with prejudices against the Catholic faith, he began visiting our churches for Mass almost in a clandestine manner, and became enamored of our liturgy because he appreciated its deeply biblical resonance. This is something about which many Catholics are not so sensitive, unfortunately, and this can only be blamed on ignorance of the Scriptures.

It is to be hoped, however, that the new translation of the Mass in English will help believers to learn more about the Bible and to ponder its words and mysteries. The aim of the new translation has been to render the original Latin more literally. This means in the great majority of cases a more literal congruence to the words in sacred Scripture.

The rendering of the Sanctus that has changed had an interpretative translation of the Hebrew that Isaiah heard chanted in his epiphany in the Temple of Jerusalem. Specifically, one of the chief prophetic titles of God in the Old Testament, “Lord God Sabaoth” was translated as “Lord God of power and might.” Now the English translation of the liturgy says, “Lord God of hosts,” which is a literal translation of the Hebrew. It is interesting to note that in the original and official Latin, the phrase “of hosts” was translated from the Hebrew and not translated, and so is rendered “Dominus Deus Sabaoth.”

Think that “Lord God of hosts” is an improvement for three reasons. First, the translation points us back to the biblical source of the words of our prayer. The word “Sabaoth” is the plural form of the word for army. There is much discussion about the meaning of the phrase and it is noteworthy that this title of God is not used in the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. The consensus seems to be that it refers to the heavenly hosts of angels. The title is used literally hundreds of times in the Bible, mostly in the prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah.

“Lord God Sabaoth” seems to do away with any semblance of the earthy power of an army. It is to “the Lord God of hosts” comes the question, “Who comes to whom?” The Lord of the universe comes to our nothingness. That encounter requires the deepest sense of reverence and the Church attempts to capture that respect and devotion using more powerful words — better that the words be biblical.

That brings me to the third reason to prefer “Lord God of hosts” to “Lord God of power and might.” The words “power and might” are not exactly free of connotations that are not helpful for our recognition of the mystery of God’s coming to us. “Lord God of power and might” is an interpretative translation that tries to capture the transcendence of God but is not entirely successful. “Power” is conceived narrowly sometimes. We talk about “nuclear power” and “power lines.” Then there is the figurative use of the word. The United States is described as the only superpower in the world. “Might” has some of the same problems, as reflected in phrases like “might without right” or talk of “military might.”

Power has been distinguished from authority in a long tradition of philosophic and political thought. Authority without power is a formula for chaos. Likewise, someone can have the power to do something without authority: A terrorist or a tyrant can be very powerful. “Lord God of hosts” refers to the supernatural and transcendent divine power by means of an ancient metaphor that preserves a sense of mystery. It is not only in English that there has been a problem with the translation of “Deus Dominus Sabaoth.” In Spanish, “Lord God of hosts” was translated, “Dios del universo” (God of the universe). This reflected one aspect of “Sabaoth,” the relationship between God and creation. It evokes the majesty of God’s power like a starry night when you can see to see eternity painted in light on the darkness. However, this translation is to change also, because it fails to reflect all the biblical passages like “Lord Sabaoth” or “Señor Dios de los ejércitos” (“Lord God of hosts”).

The new translation of the Mass is seen as a nuisance by some people. Why this endless tinkering with language, some people wonder. Perhaps it is because the language had ceased to puzzle us. The Lord God Sabaoth may make the Mass seem like a nuisance by some people. Why this endless tinkering with language, some people wonder. Perhaps it is because the language had ceased to puzzle us.

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FAITH EDUCATION


“Catholicism,” Thursdays through March 29, 7 p.m., Knights of Columbus Hall, 600 Knights Road, Hollywood. Based on Father Robert Barron’s series, with Father Robert Richardson leading a discussion of each episode. 954-322-8038, djohnv@bellsouth.net.

Extraordinary ministers of holy Communion training, Saturday, March 10, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., St. Louis, Pinecrest, in English and Saturday, March 3, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. www.rcchmiami.us, rcch@bellsouth.net. 305-262-2130.

Las Comunidades de Cristo Vivo, Escuela de Evangelización Pablo VI, 3100 N.W. 77 Ct., Miami. 305-599-1343, csxmiami@icloud.com. • Course “Koinonia: Para aprender a vivir en comunidad” 24-25 de marzo, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Curso de Nivel 1 Requisitos: Cursos “Eucaristía” y “Jerusalén”. • Curso “Transformación en Cristo: Formación de testigos con un nuevo corazón,” 24-25 de marzo, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Curso de Nivel 2 Requisitos: Cursos de Nivel 1 Donación: $25. Camino del Matrimonio, 25-26 de febrero y 17-18 de marzo, Southeast Pastoral Institute (SEPI), 7700 S.W. 56 St., Miami. Programa arquidiocesano de preparación matrimonial en español para las parejas que desean contraer matrimonio en la Iglesia Católica, basado en la Teología del Cuerpo, del Papa Juan Pablo II. 305-226-4664.

Planificación natural de la familia, 27 de febrero, 25 de marzo y 29 de abril, 4:45 p.m., iglesia de St. Edward, 1900 Pembroke Pines curso de sesiones clases para parejas comprometidas o casadas, para aprender a usar el método natural de planificación natural. ¡Por qué usar métodos artificiales peligrosos si la PNF es 99 por ciento efectiva, pero más lógico que otros métodos? 305-221-5380, 954-646-7708, drjgarcia@hotmail.com. Pre-Cana weekend for first marriages only, including validating couples whose civil marriage was their first marriage. Workshop incorporates both Sacramentality and Life Skills training, covers class requirements for all engaged couples wishing to get married in the Archdiocese of Miami. Cost: $250 per couple, includes meals and materials. 305-762-1148, 1157, www.miamarch.org/familylife, familylife@theadm.org. • March 17-18, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Pastoral Center, 9401 Biscayne Blvd., Miami Shores; Our Lady of the Rosary-St. Richard, 7500 S.W. 152 St., Miami. Pre-Cana for convalidations, Saturday March 17, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Our Lady of the Holy Rosary-St. Richard, 7500 S.W. 152 St., Miami. Marriage preparation for civilly married couples seeking to receive sacrament of marriage in Catholic Church. Cost: $125 per couple until Monday before the program; $175 thereafter if space is available. All meals, materials included. familiarife@theadm.org. 305-762-1148.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Festival, Feb. 23-26, Mother of Our Redeemer, 8445 N.W. 186 St., Hialeah. 305-829-6141.

Tombola, Feb. 24, 26, Belen Jesuit Preparatory School, 500 S.W. 127 Ave., Miami. Kicks off with culinary extravagana Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. www.belenjesui.org/tombola.

Scholarship luncheon, Saturday, Feb. 25, 11:30 a.m., Rusty Pelican Restaurant, 3201 Rickenbacker Causeway, Key Biscayne. Hosted by Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women. $35. 305-451-3021.

“Carnival” fashion show/ luncheon, Saturday, March 25, 11:30 a.m. Lauderdale Yacht Club, Fort Lauderdale. Hosted by St. Sebastian Council of Catholic Women. $40. 954-766-4113.

Carnival in the Ranches, March 1-4, St. Mark, 5801 S. Flamingo Road, Southwest Ranches. Discounted ride passes may be purchased in parish office. 954-34-3777.

“Friends of the Poor” 5K walk/run, Saturday, March 3, 7 a.m., Biscayne 3131 N. Ocean Blvd. (A1A), Pompano Beach. No registration fee. All donations help needy families in Miami. www.stgabrielpompano5k.org or 954-943-9717.

Andy Hurst memorial fish fry/auction, Friday, March 23, 5:30 p.m., St. Sebastian, 2000 S.E. 25 St., Miami. Fried fish, raffle prizes. 305-954-4113.

Pre-Cana for couples on a daily basis. 305-606-8606.

Marriage in Victory, March 3-4, St. Timothy, 5400 S.W. 102 Ave., Miami. Marriage preparation for couples from newelyweds to empty nesters, married by the Church or civilly, who are committed to their marriage and desire to enhance it on a daily basis. 305-606-8606.

Mass and healing services with Alan Ames, March 16, 7 p.m., St. Vincent, 6350 N.W. 18 St., Margate; March 17, 7 p.m., St. Bernard, 8279 Sunset Strip, Sunrise. Ames shares his gifts of healing and testimonies regarding our faith “the love of God” 305-323-8025, bkr@mhoc.org.

RETREATS/DAYS OF REFLECTION

MorningStar Renewal Center, 7275 S.W. 124 St., Pinecrest. Registration required for all programs. 305-228-4367, ext. 102; or visit www.morningstar renewal.org.

Ash Wednesday retreat, Feb. 22, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sacrament of reconciliation, Mass, distribution of ashes, with Oblate Missionary Father Richard Mullen, Father Carlos Miyares; Mother of Our Lady of Lourdes, 11295 S.W. 142 St., Miami. Revisit and use the vow you took, the promises you made, and the covenant you entered into with your spouse. 305-794-2130.

Abba Spiritual Missions, three-day, parish-based Lenten events led by priests and various priests. 305-934-8319: • March 5-7, 7:30 p.m., St. Joseph, 8670 Byron Ave., Miami Beach, in English, with Father Damian Flanagan, Augustinian Father Richard Muller, Father David Russell, St. Louis, 7270 S.W. 120 St., Pinecrest, with Father Carlos Miyares; Mother of Our Redeemer, 8445 N.W. 186 St., Miami, in Spanish with Father Armando Tolosa.

Retiro de Cuarentena 2012, sábado, 10 de marzo, 8 a.m.-p.m., iglesia de St. Bernard, 8279 Sunset Strip, Sunrise; domingo, 11 de marzo, 8 a.m.-p.m., iglesia de Our Lady of Lourdes, 11295 S.W. 142 Ave., Miami. A sufragado por la Renovación Carismática Católica Hispánica. $10 por adelantado, por $15 a la entrada. Almuerzo a la venta. 305-631-1007, 954-367-3548, www.rcchmiami.us, rcch@bellsouth.net.

Retiros de Emasias: Disfrute tres días junto a Jesús, déle la oportunidad de ser parte de su vida para y pertenezca a una linda familia en Cristo.

• Damas: 16-18 de marzo, Casa de Retiros Emasias, 16250 S.W. 112 Ave., Miami. 305-459-1934, emasiasmiami@gmail.com. • Caballeros: 23-25 de marzo, Miami Youth Center Retreat House, 3333 S.W. 135 St., Miami. 305-319-3339.

Florida Catholic February 2012
**Annual Mass honors married love**

Couples marking 25, 50 and more years of marriage got an early Valentine’s Day present when their years of love and fidelity were honored at the annual Mass celebrating married love. Archbishop Thomas Wenski served as main celebrant of the Feb. 12 Liturgy at St. Mary Cathedral with more than 100 couples in attendance.

At left, Dr. Jorge and Maria Teresa Salazar of Epiphany Parish in Miami, who are celebrating 61 years of marriage, attended the Mass at the cathedral. At top right, Vinicio and Patricia Abreu from Mother of Our Redeemer Parish in Miami pose after the Mass. They were among the couples celebrating the longest marriage — 70 years. Below right, were couples sitting in the first pew who have been married for 60 years and more. (PHOTOS BY JONATHAN MARTINEZ | FC)

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**SHRINE FROM A2**

Catholics — can gather because Our Lady of Charity is also a national symbol for Cubans since the time of their struggle for independence from Spain. “It is a way of uniting Cuban people,” he said. The cardinal took the occasion of his visit to mention that Krakow has become the center of adoration for the Divine Mercy devotion that emanated from the writings of St. Mary Faustina Kowalska. That devotion is especially popular among Catholic Hispanics.

“Pilgrimages from around the world are coming to the sanctuary of the Divine Mercy we have built,” he said. “Alongside of this sanctuary, the John Paul II Center, ‘Do not be afraid!’ is rising. Here we would like to conserve and develop the spiritual and ministerial heritage of the late pope for future generations.” Cardinal Dziwisz added that the center is being erected through the generosity of people and institutions from around the world, including the United States.

“In my travels I am attempting to give testimony about the life of John Paul II, about his prayers and work, about the Church and his holiness. He did not cease to accompany God’s people on the paths of faith, hope and love,” the cardinal said.

The life of Blessed John Paul II is a gift for the universal Church, he added, “and we would like to share this gift with others, disseminating his thoughts, his achievements, his way of serving people throughout the world.”

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The following are taken in the auspices of the Diocese of the 16th century, when Florida cited in the petition is St. Mary Baker explained.

"We had to separate fact from fiction and document everything," he said.

It was accomplished very quietly, with the help of a select group of parishioners and archdiocesan officials, because the mere petition was "not a guarantee" that the church would receive the designation, Father Baker explained.

Among the characteristics cited in the petition is St. Mary Star of the Sea’s status as a national and state-designated historic site. Its roots date back to the 16th century, when Florida was a Spanish territory and the island of Cayo Hueso fell under the auspices of the Diocese of Havana.

Most of Key West’s early settlers were "migratory fishermen from Cuba," and the history of the church, along with that of Cuba since those early days.

Today, the parish has sizable populations of Hispanics, not just from Cuba but from Nicaragua and other countries in Central and Latin America, as well as more recently from Poland.

St. Mary Star of the Sea also is the site of the first Catholic school in the state of Florida, founded in 1868 by the Sisters of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary, who served at both parish and school until 1883. In 1986, the high school closed, but the elementary school continues to this day.

St. Mary also is a place of pilgrimage for Catholics from other archdiocesan parishes; for college students from campuses elsewhere in the U.S. who engage in mission work during spring and winter breaks; for archdiocesan seminarians and priests seeking a quiet place of reflection; and for the black Catholic youth choir, which travels there each year.

"Slaves were baptized by the Jesuits" at the church despite civil segregation laws, the petition noted. Also, "we may not overlook the local pilgrimage from the local people of Key West … (who) desire to find peace in this place with 283 bars."

St. Mary Star of the Sea serves 1,300 registered families — Key West has about 30,000 year-round residents — as well as approximately 2 million visitors who come to Key West each year, about a quarter of whom are estimated to be Catholics.

"We welcome these 500,000 Catholics to our church each year," said Father Baker. "Our Mass assemblies are often divided in half between residents and visitors."

The parish also ministers to Catholics in the military bases and annexes that are located on the island. The nearest Catholic church, St. Peter’s in Big Pine Key, is 30 miles away.

In addition to Father Baker, the parish staff consists of a Jesuit priest from the Province of Dublin, a permanent deacon, a Marist brother of the New Orleans Province who works at the school, and three Sisters of Opus Spiritus Sancti from Moshi, Tanzania, who serve both the parish and school.

The coat of arms for the Basilica of St. Mary Star of the Sea, Key West.

A perpetual adoration chapel, the Chapel of Divine Mercy, has been open since Sept. 8, 1995, and more than 500 parishioners are involved in devoting an hour each week to prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

For 35 years, the parish also has operated a soup kitchen for the homeless that now feeds 100 people a day, seven days a week. Since 2006, St. Mary Star of the Sea Outreach Mission on Stock Island has served the working poor of the community by allowing them to obtain food, clothing, furniture, prescription drugs and referrals to other social service agencies. The mission served 22,000 people last year.

"There are consequences to the designation of the Basilica of St. Mary Star of the Sea which require immediate ... intermediate and long term responses," Father Baker told his parishioners. "With this designation as a basilica, the Holy Father himself will make a visit to the parish. He will not become a resident of the church, but will visit those who come to Key West. This will be a demonstration of his concern for the spiritual needs of the people of the diocese, especially the people of Key West."