

= Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Miami =

The Archdiocese of Miami is a particular church of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States of America . Its ecclesiastic territory includes Broward , Miami @-@ Dade , and Monroe counties in the U.S. state of Florida . The archdiocese is the metropolitan see for the Ecclesiastical Province of Miami , which covers Florida . The archbishop is Thomas Wenski . As archbishop , he also serves as pastor of the Cathedral of Saint Mary , the mother church of the archdiocese . Also serving are 428 priests , 160 permanent deacons , 50 religious brothers and 300 religious sisters who are members of various religious institutes . These priests , deacons and persons religious serve a Catholic population in South Florida of 1 @, @ 300 @, @ 000 in 118 parishes and missions .

Because of the vast number of immigrants , Mass is offered in at least a dozen languages in parishes throughout the archdiocese . Educational institutions consist of two schools for the disabled , 60 elementary / middle schools , 13 high schools , two universities , and two seminaries . Radio , print , and television media outlets owned and operated by the archdiocese supplement teaching , communication , and ministries .

Several social service organizations are operated by the archdiocese which include two hospitals , nine health care centers , three homes for the aged , and two cemeteries . Charities include homeless shelters , legal services for the poor , an HIV / AIDS ministry , and the Missionaries of Charity and Society of Saint Vincent de Paul ministries to the poor . Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami is a separate non @-@ profit organization operated by the archdiocese . It claims to be the largest non @-@ governmental provider of social services to the needy in South Florida .

= = History = =

Before 1952 , the entire State of Florida was under the jurisdiction of one diocese , the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saint Augustine . In the 1950s and early 1960s , Saint Augustine bishop Joseph Patrick Hurley purchased land throughout South Florida in anticipation of a future population boom . Today , these once remote areas are thriving cities . Dozens of Catholic churches , schools and cemeteries built on the land purchased by Hurley dot these areas .

The Diocese of Miami was created on October 7 , 1958 , with Coleman Carroll installed as bishop . The diocese included the 16 southern counties in Florida , with a Catholic population of 200 @, @ 000 . It encompassed one half of the area of the state . Less than a year after the creation of the diocese , Fidel Castro came to power in Cuba . This set off a mass exodus of Cuban exiles to South Florida , increasing church membership in the region . The Catholic Welfare Bureau , created by Carroll , played a significant part in helping these waves of Cuban immigrants . Between 1960 and 1962 , 14 @, @ 000 Cuban children were sent to the United States . Operation Pedro Pan , created by Monsignor Bryan O. Walsh , placed them with friends , relatives or the Catholic Welfare Bureau . In 1996 , the Catholic Welfare Bureau changed its name to Catholic Charities . Today it claims to be the largest non @-@ governmental provider of social services in South Florida . It served over 17 @, @ 000 families in the tri @-@ county area of Broward , Dade and Monroe counties in 2006 .

Due to an increased population , the diocese was divided in 1968 . Eight counties became part of the Diocese of St. Petersburg and the new Diocese of Orlando . Miami was made an archdiocese by Pope Paul VI , and was named Metropolitan See for all of Florida . Carroll became an archbishop on March 2 , 1968 . He participated in the church reforms of Vatican II as one of the Council Fathers . During the civil rights struggles of the 60 's , Carroll was influential in stemming threatened racial riots in Miami and in desegregating Catholic schools roughly 10 years before the rest of the State . He became a founder of the Community Relations Board which worked to " quell waves of misunderstanding , discrimination and discontent which often threatened to flood South Florida 's multi @-@ ethnic community . "

Upon the death of Carroll on July 26 , 1977 , Bishop Edward Anthony McCarthy was appointed as Miami 's archbishop . McCarthy oversaw the construction of the Pastoral Center for the archdiocese and restructured most senior operational divisions . He established the Office of Lay Ecclesial

Ministry , the Office of Evangelization and the Permanent Diaconate program . In 1980 , he offered support and assistance during the Mariel Boat Lift . The following year , he supported the rights of Haitian immigrants who were detained under the Wet Foot , Dry Foot policy . Responding to the needs of this new immigration , he opened the Pierre Toussaint Haitian Catholic Center . McCarthy retired in 1994 at the required age of 75 .

On November 3 , 1994 , Pope John Paul II appointed John C. Favalora as the third archbishop of Miami . During his tenure , he built two new high schools and nine grade schools . Favalora also initiated the Vision 2000 campaign , a five @-@ year fundraising campaign that created an endowment fund to support Catholic education and outreach institutions in the archdiocese . The effort raised \$ 90 million ( USD ) . On July 11 , 2003 , Pope John Paul II appointed Miami auxiliary bishop Thomas Gerard Wenski to lead the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orlando . With substantial immigration of predominantly Catholic South and Central Americans to the South Florida area , the Catholic population there is 25 % of the total population . Waves of immigrants from other parts of the world , including Asian and African countries , have led to Mass being celebrated in over a dozen different languages in parishes throughout the archdiocese .

In 2009 , Father Fernando Isern , of Our Lady of Lourdes , Kendall , was named the next bishop of Pueblo . He is the 11th priest from the archdiocese to be so designated since its creation in 1958 .

On April 20 , 2010 , Pope Benedict XVI accepted the resignation of Archbishop John Favalora eight months early and appointed Bishop Thomas Wenski of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orlando as his successor . On June 1 , 2010 , Archbishop Wenski was installed as the fourth archbishop of the Archdiocese of Miami at the Cathedral of Saint Mary .

= = Education = =

= = = Schools = = =

As of 2008 , the Archdiocese of Miami provides a parochial school education to almost 40 @, @ 000 students in 60 elementary / middle schools , 13 high schools and two non @-@ residential schools for the disabled located throughout Broward , Miami @-@ Dade and Monroe counties .

The high schools supported by the archdiocese are :

The archdiocese offers religious education classes in all of its 111 parishes for children who attend public and other non @-@ religious schools . According to the 2007 Official Catholic Directory , there were 95 @, @ 837 students enrolled in these classes . This same source lists as teachers 2760 laity , 58 religious sisters , and 43 priests and religious brothers . Religious education classes are also offered to adults throughout the archdiocese . In 1997 , Archbishop Favalora adopted a policy requiring all volunteers , employees , teachers and priests to be fingerprinted and have a background check before they could work with children . Several years later , this policy was enshrined and adopted by all U.S. Bishops in the Charter for Protection of Young People .

= = = Universities = = =

The Archdiocese of Miami oversees and administers the Catholic university of St. Thomas University in Miami . St. Thomas University offers Bachelor of Arts , Master of Arts , Master 's degree , Master of Business Administration , M.Acc. , Doctor of Education , and Doctor of Philosophy. programs through its college and various schools . It offers several joint degree programs and an accelerated B.A. / J.D. as well . The School of Law at St. Thomas was fully accredited by the American Bar Association in February 1995 , and offers the Juris Doctor degree ( J.D. ) as well as the Masters of Law ( LL.M ) .

= = = Seminaries = = =

St. John Vianney College Seminary and St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary serve priestly

formation needs . Candidates to the Catholic priesthood must have a college degree plus another four to five years of seminary formation . This formation includes not only academic classes but also human , spiritual and pastoral education . St. John Vianney Seminary , which is located in Miami , states as its fundamental purpose " to provide an undergraduate education for students whose stated objective is to serve the Catholic Church as priests " , but it also offers education to lay ministers and to " others who may be enriched by its services " . St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary , located in Boynton Beach , offers a master 's degree in Theology and Theological Studies and a First Professional Degree in Divinity and Ministry . Priests serving in the Archdiocese of Miami are required to speak both Spanish and English , and these two seminaries are the only bilingual seminaries in the United States . As of August 2007 , there are 126 seminarians in priestly formation at both seminaries .

= = Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami = =

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Miami is a separate non @-@ profit organization operated by the Archdiocese of Miami . It is part of a national network of organizations that are operated in each U.S. diocese . This organization claims to be the largest nongovernmental provider of services to the needy in South Florida . It began in 1931 during the Great Depression with four Miami @-@ area pastors and lay members of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul . It employs over 600 staff and operates on an annual budget of over \$ 38 million . In 2006 , it served over 17 @,@ 000 families in the tri @-@ county area of Broward , Miami @-@ Dade and Monroe Counties . Some of these services include transitional housing , homeless shelters , elderly day care , child day care , addiction recovery , HIV / AIDS programs , family and school counseling , meals for the elderly and various immigrant and refugee help programs among others .

= = Catholic Health Services = =

Archdiocese of Miami Catholic Health Services operates 26 facilities in Broward and Miami @-@ Dade Counties . According to the 2007 Archdiocese of Miami Official Catholic Directory , the two Catholic hospitals , Mercy Hospital in Miami and Holy Cross Hospital in Ft . Lauderdale , served 1 @,@ 278 @,@ 516 people ; three CHS health care centers served 7 @,@ 896 ; three homes for the aged assisted 2 @,@ 578 senior citizens ; two residential care centers for children served 376 ; seven day @-@ care centers served 1 @,@ 885 ; two specialized homes assisted 383 ; twelve special centers for social services served 81 @,@ 320 ; and eleven other institutions served 1 @,@ 432 people in 2007 . Catholic Hospice Care is a partnership between the Archdiocese of Miami and Mercy Hospital . It provides end of life care to terminally ill patients and their families throughout Miami @-@ Dade and Monroe counties . Catholic Health Services also operates two Catholic cemeteries , Our Lady Queen of Heaven in Broward County and Our Lady of Mercy in Miami @-@ Dade .

= = Outreach = =

= = = Lay movements and ministries = = =

Over 60 movements and ministries are run by laity ( those who are not ordained priests or religious brothers and sisters ) , " There may be hundreds more ... " according to Miami auxiliary bishop Felipe Estevez . There are 17 categories of ministries listed under the archdiocese Office of Lay Apostolate are : Airport Ministry , Apostleship of the Sea , Ascending Life , Campus ministry , Charismatic Renewal , Courage Ministry ( " Ministry to Persons With Same @-@ Sex Attraction " ) , Council of Catholic Women , Cursillo , Family Life , Knights of Columbus , Lay ministry , Lay movements , Marian movements , Missions , Prison ministry , Respect Life , and Youth Ministries . Some other lay movements and ministries include various prayer and support groups , an Emmaus ,

and groups which provide worship , social and religious formation for men , women and teenagers . Some parishes provide groups for single Catholics , divorced or separated people , drug and alcohol addiction help , learning Spanish or English as a second language and parish outreach services to the poor and needy through parish pantries and need @-@ specific donor drives .

The archdiocese also supports , in conjunction with other Christian communities , two pro @-@ life crisis pregnancy centers which provide aid to pregnant women and encourage them not to have abortions . A post @-@ abortion counseling program called Project Rachel is also provided .

#### = = = Retreats = = =

Morning Star Renewal Center is a retreat house operated by lay people with the support of the archdiocese . The center provides facilities for group retreats and offers spiritual formation activities year round . Facilities include a 60 guest capacity , a conference room , a chapel , and overnight and cafeteria accommodations .

#### = = = Charities = = =

Several Charities are run by the archdiocese and staffed by both employees and volunteers . These include Camillus House , Catholic Legal Services , an HIV / AIDS shelter , the Missionaries of Charity , Society of Saint Vincent de Paul , and social advocacy groups .

#### = = Media = =

The archdiocese uses several types of media to fulfill its evangelization efforts :

#### = = = Radio ministry = = =

Radio Paz is a Spanish @-@ language radio ministry of the Archdiocese of Miami founded in December 1990 . In South Florida , it is broadcast on WACC 830 AM . Radio Peace ? the sister station of Radio Paz ? is an English @-@ language radio ministry founded in January 1993 and broadcast on WLVJ 1040 AM . These stations also broadcast over the Internet at RadioPeace.org. The stations were founded by Archdiocese of Miami priest Fr . Federico Capdepon , who envisioned a radio station " to respond to the call of Pope John Paul II to evangelize through the media . "

#### = = = Newspaper = = =

A localized version of the Florida Catholic newspaper is published 26 times a year . Each issue contains a message from the Archbishop , spiritual reflections on the scripture readings for the week , news reporting on various events happening around the archdiocese and the world , and a digest of upcoming events featured around the archdiocese among other features . The newspaper is also published online . A series produced for the Miami edition entitled " Building the City of God " which profiles the personal side of priests won a Communicator Award of Distinction for print media " Marketing / Promotion / Campaign " .

#### = = = Television = = =

One part of Communications office of the archdiocese is television and video production . English and Spanish masses air Sundays on local television stations . Additionally , the television center produces content for the internet and video . One video , entitled " Walking in the Light of Christ , " received a Videographer Award of Excellence from the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals .

#### = = Leadership = =

= = = Archbishops = = =

Bishop ( later Archbishop ) Coleman Carroll ( 1958 ? 1977 )

Archbishop Edward Anthony McCarthy ( 1977 ? 1994 )

Archbishop John Favalora ( 1994 ? 2010 )

Archbishop Thomas Wenski ( since 2010 )

= = = Auxiliary bishops = = =

Bishop Norbert Dorsey ( 1986 ? 1990 ) ; appointed Bishop of Orlando

Bishop Felipe Estévez ( 2004 @-@ 2011 ) ; appointed Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of St. Augustine , Florida , on Wednesday , April 27 , 2011

Bishop Gilberto Fernandez ( 1997 @-@ 2002 ) ; resigned

Bishop John Fitzpatrick ( 1968 ? 1971 ) ; appointed Bishop of Brownsville

Bishop René Gracida ( 1968 ? 1975 ) ; appointed Bishop of Pensacola @-@ Tallahassee

Bishop John Nevins ( 1979 ? 1984 ) ; appointed Bishop of Venice , Florida

Bishop John Noonan ( 2005 @-@ 2010 ) ; appointed Bishop of Orlando

Bishop Agustin Roman ( 1979 @-@ 2013 ) ; retired

Bishop Thomas Wenski ( 1997 ? 2003 ) ; appointed Coadjutor Bishop of Orlando ; served as Bishop of Orlando before returning in 2010 as Archbishop of Miami

Bishop Peter Baldacchino ( 2014 ? present )

= = = Priests of the diocese who became bishops = = =

Ambrose De Paoli appointed nuncio , and titular Archbishop , in 1983

Fernando Isern appointed Bishop of Pueblo in 2009

Robert Nugent Lynch appointed Bishop of Saint Petersburg , Florida in 1996