



The Cincture

and

SENIOR PRIEST CONNECTION

IN THIS ISSUE

- From the Vicar for Clergy 1
- Human Resources Support 2
- From the Director of Diaconate Formation 3
- Mountains, Deserts, Rivers and Seas..... 4
- Fall 2023 Formation Offerings 4
- 2023 Fall Day for Priests and Parish Directors 6
- Ordinandi..... 6
- Love One Another Campaign.. 6
- Deanery Representatives 6
- Change in Compensation 7
- 10 Oldest & 10 Youngest Priests 7
- 12 Hours of Reconciliation 7
- Welcome to our Archdiocese .. 8
- Through the Years..... 9
- A Look Back 9
- Observances 9
- Interactive Priest Directory 9
- Priest Workshop 10
- Papal Twitter Feed 10
- Retirement Seminar 11
- Congratulations 11
- Mark Your Calendars 11
- 2023 Annual Priest Retreat ... 12
- 2023 Health Webinars 13
- Priest Wellness Day 13
- The Pilgrim's Prayer 13
- Could You Use \$1,000? 13
- Calling all Priests 14
- Retirement Villa Available 14
- Third Archbishop of Milw. 15
- Prayer of Saint Teresa of Ávila. 15
- Save the Date 16

FROM THE VICAR FOR CLERGY



Fr. Nathan Reesman

Dear Friends:

Among the most insightful writers on the priesthood and ordained ministry was someone never ordained: St. Catherine of Siena. She lived in the second half of the 14th

century, dying at age 33, having gained wide notoriety for her works of charity that she combined with pointed words about the conduct of clerics. So deeply was she rooted in prayerful, daily union with the Lord that he enabled her to speak clearly about himself and his Church in an era of spiritual malaise that had in many respects lost its way. In her era, the heart of the problem lay in the merging of theology and civil rule in a corrupting manner. The Lord showed her that one indispensable remedy for this unholy alliance was the reclaiming of the sanctity of the clergy.

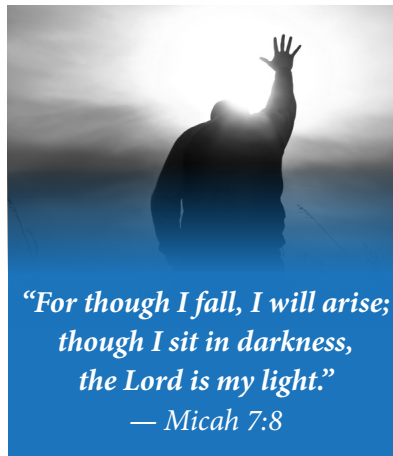
Catherine knew what a priest was and is. She writes of the priests of the Church in the voice of the Lord: "They are my anointed ones, and I call them my 'christs,' because I have appointed them to be my

ministers to you, and have sent them like fragrant flowers into the mystic body of holy Church. No angel has this dignity, but I have given it to those men whom I have chosen to be my ministers, I have sent them like angels, and they ought to be earthly angels in this life." (*Dialogue*, No. 113)

To be a cleric in the 14th century was in most cases nothing more than a common means to be fed and clothed. It would be akin to the average government employee of our own day: a "job" in a sprawling, public institution (which is what the Church was). To be a cleric in the nobility was also a means to use religion to force one's will upon others.

This was the state of most bishops and religious superiors, and many popes. They were political rulers.

Catherine had no illusions of divorcing the state from the Church. She simply saw that if in that era of history this alliance was the order of the day, then the clerics of all levels simply needed to be better. Since she saw



"For though I fall, I will arise; though I sit in darkness, the Lord is my light."
— Micah 7:8

HUMAN RESOURCES SUPPORT

Need Human Resources Support? Contact us at our NEW Parish and School HR Helpline:

414-389-88HR(47)

or ParishandSchoolHR@archmil.org

Contact information for our individual staff members still works. However, for new inquiries, we request that you contact the shared phone line and email so that we can better serve you!

The Office of Parish and School Human Resources are releasing updates now, including:

- Current guidelines for Federal and State Employment Postings
- New and improved Parish/School Handbook Template and Analysis (formerly known as the Parish and School Human Resources Guidelines and Resource Guide)

- Highlights from the personnel section of the updated Archdiocese Parish and School Policy Manual

SAVE THE DATE:

Compensation Structure Workshop: How to Leverage the Annual Parish and School Salary Survey Report and Other Salary Data to Develop a Compensation Structure for Your Parish or School

Wednesday, Oct. 25

2-4 p.m. at the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center

Note: This workshop is designed for Pastors/Parish Directors, Principals and Business Managers and is hosted by the Office of Parish and School Human Resources.

► Continued from Page 1.

so clearly what a cleric was in the sight of God, she could voice so clearly the divine horror at their often sorry state: “O dearest daughter, I set them on the bridge on my Truths’ teaching to serve you pilgrims with the sacraments of holy Church, and they are instead in the wretched river beneath the bridge, and there in the river of worldly pleasures and baseness they exercise their ministry.” (*Dialogue, No. 130*)

The post-Christian West of our own day suffers from an over-correction to the problems rooted in the time of Catherine. Instead of an unhealthy alliance of Church and state, we subscribe to an equally unhealthy model of total separation of Church and state. This is the cultural setting of the Church in the West in the 21st century. Despite the nearly opposite cultural currents of our day, the necessity of clerics to clearly remember who we are, as God appoints us, is unchanged from Catherine’s day. The modern cleric of the West might no longer rely on intuitional ecclesial might as a corrupting influence. However, we are all swimming in the polluted currents of a consumerist,

secular culture in a way that makes it very difficult for us to identify what taints us. The same could be said of the clerics of the 14th century: it takes a rare person to stand outside of his cultural moment and accurately diagnose his illness.

This is the gift of the Gospel and the writings of the saints. Their timeless quality calls every era back to authenticity. The above quotes from Catherine apply to all contemporary clerics, all of us, with equal force. As such they should be our daily bread.

If one takes it seriously, it is a lot to take in. For all of us who might be afraid of the state of souls around us, or the state of our own soul, Catherine leaves us with these beautiful words: “The only ones who are afraid are those who think they are alone, who trust in themselves and have no loving charity. They are afraid of every little thing because they are alone, deprived of me. For it is I who give complete security to the soul who possesses me in love.” (*Dialogue, No. 119*) In every era, every believer who possesses Christ is assured of his power to change hearts and to secure the interior peace of those who love him.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DIACONATE FORMATION

THE ASPIRANT STAGE OF DIACONAL FORMATION



Deacon Dale Nees

“The aspirant stage is primarily a time to discern the capability and readiness of an aspirant to be nominated to the diocesan bishop for acceptance as a candidate for diaconal ordination.”¹

There are two things that those responsible for this stage of formation must be “thoroughly familiar” with:

1. The doctrinal understanding of the diaconate, including its ministry and life.
2. The dimensions of formation.

The reason is that these components are what “enable the aspirant to demonstrate the possibility of a diaconal vocation and an appropriate level of readiness for eventual selection into candidate formation.”²

The bishops realized that this was a tall order to take place within a year’s time. So in the second edition of the National Directory their decision was that in the diocesan churches of the United States of America “the aspirant stage of formation [would] ordinarily last **two** years.”³ This stage is required to be “a distinctive program that provides for a **thorough discernment of a diaconal vocation.**”⁴ In addition, the formation personnel must “create an environment in which the wife of a married aspirant can be appropriately prepared to give her consent to his continuation and, more essentially, to ascertain her compatibility with her husband’s diaconal vocation and eventual ministry.”⁵ During this period regular participation in spiritual direction must be confirmed, as well as an introduction to the pastoral ministries of the diocese. The family must also be assisted in their support of his formation. At the aspirant level in formation, the overall goals of each dimension are as follows:

Human — “help the aspirant develop ‘his human personality in such a way that it becomes a bridge and not an obstacle for others in their meeting with Jesus Christ.’”⁶

Spiritual — “putting on the mind of Christ ... thereby establishing and nurturing attitudes, habits, and practices that provide a foundation for the development of an authentic and ongoing spiritual life.”⁷

Intellectual — come to know Scripture as the Living Word of God; experience an in-depth and systematic study of the Catechism of the Catholic Church; be introduced to the traditions of Catholic philosophy, spirituality, doctrine and canon law, and the threefold ministry of the deacon; learn how to participate in a theological reflection group and how to develop an ability to apply Church teachings on moral matters, including social teaching, to the pressing moral questions that emerge in pastoral ministry.

Pastoral — discern whether they have the capacity to make a lifelong commitment to the threefold ministry of word, liturgy and charity and whether his wife is ready to give her consent and support to his vocation and ministry.

As you are reading this article, the aspirants of 2022 who had petitioned and were selected by Archbishop ListECKI will become candidate-elects and look toward the Rite of Candidacy that will be celebrated Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. in Mater Christi Chapel, with Bishop Jeffrey R. Haines as presider. Our next group of aspirants will begin in September of 2024 after Archbishop ListECKI selects them this upcoming May.

Deacon Dale Nees

¹United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States of America: Second Edition (Washington, DC: USCCB), 106.

²Ibid., 106.

³Ibid., 107.

⁴Ibid., 107.

⁵Ibid., 107.

⁶Ibid., 108.

⁷Ibid., 109.

FROM THE MANAGER OF PRIEST PLACEMENT

MOUNTAINS, DESERTS, RIVERS AND SEAS ...



Brenda Cline

This summer I was blessed to join St. Anthony on the Lake Parish in Pewaukee for their two-week pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Rome. We traveled from the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea to the Holy See, following in the footsteps of Jesus, Peter and Paul. I know that most

of you have also experienced similar journeys to these locations, so I hope you will indulge my musings!

I truly loved visiting each holy site, each ancient church and tomb; but it was the beautiful landscape of Israel that really spoke to me. Peering out from the top of Mount Tabor and the Mount of Beatitudes, standing on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, and traveling through the Judean desert from Jericho down to the banks of the Jordan River, I felt God's presence in a profound way. Jesus' parables of the sower, mustard seed and tree, and his miracles of the loaves and fishes and calming the storm, as well as his own baptism and transfiguration, all came alive for me!

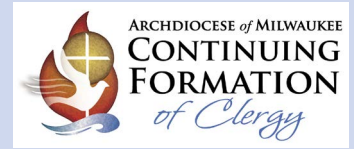
Some of you have seen the wall of maps in my office (common for most of us at the MMCP). The most prominent of the maps are the 10 counties of our archdiocese, highlighting each parish. I also have a map of the world, as well as a biblical map of the Holy Land. My pilgrimage connected these geographical dots, tracing the legacy of our faith, and the ongoing work of the Gospel through each one of our churches — and through each one of us.

Summer and fall are a good time here in Wisconsin to connect with the glory of God's creation, to explore our beautiful state, to refill our spiritual reserves and to reflect on our rich heritage as Catholics. I hope you can find some time to recharge! From the Holy Land to Rome to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee to your parish ... I pray for God's continued blessings on you and your community of faith. Thank you for your ministry!

FALL 2023 FORMATION OFFERINGS

Our fall program for 2023 continues to evolve.

We have three sessions currently planned for



this fall. Each of these prove to be an interesting and informative workshop to aid us in our ministry. "More information on each workshop can be found on the Continuing Formation webpage under [Upcoming Events](#)

• Canon Law of Marriage

Presenter: Barbara Anne Cusack, Chancellor, Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Date: September 13, 2023, from 1 to 3 p.m.
September 13, 2023, from 6 to 8 p.m.

Refresher on the requirements of Canon Law for Marriage, including offsite locations, preparation, different rites and record keeping.

• The Devastation of Addiction and the Hope of Recovery: Helping People Rediscover their Dignity

Presenter: Fr. Brian Mason, Priest, Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Date: September 20, 2023, at 1 p.m.
September 20, 2023, at 6 p.m.

Fr. Mason will lead a presentation giving an introduction to addiction, recovery, education and advocacy, as well as offer ways to help walk with those affected by substance abuse.

• Clergy Tax Planning and Retirement

Presenter: Scott Hoselton, CPA, CDFM, CGMA

Date: November 16, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lunch will be included.

The unique benefits and drawbacks to clergy contained in our tax code. How to best maximize income and reduce taxes. Scott will address recent changes to the tax code. Sessions will be open to your parish administrators, finance directors and your tax professional for a fee.

2023 FALL DAY FOR PRIESTS AND PARISH DIRECTORS

The 2023 Fall Day for Priests and Parish Directors will be held Tuesday, Sept. 19, at the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center. The day begins at 9 a.m. with a gathering and light fare and refreshments available. Opening Prayer will be at 9:15 a.m. Fr. Brian Mason, a fellow priest from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, will be joining us as the day's guest speaker. This year's theme is addiction. Fr. Mason will lead a presentation giving an introduction to addiction, recovery, education and advocacy, as well as offering ways that priests and parish directors can walk with those affected by substance abuse. Lunch will be offered with Archbishop ListECKI concluding the day.

If you have not yet registered for the event, please click [here](#).

LOVE ONE ANOTHER CAMPAIGN

The Love One Another Campaign is nearing its goal of \$150 million to be pledged over five years. Campaign funds will primarily support crucial projects within each parish while the remaining funds will support key initiatives within Saint Frances de Sales Seminary, Catholic Charities, Catholic Schools and other vital ministries within the 10 counties served by the archdiocese. Thus far, 159 parishes have completed the campaign bringing in over 24,000 pledges from generous donors. We are incredibly grateful for the guidance and support of Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKI, our committees, trustees, pastors, parish chairpersons, volunteers and generous donors. Please continue to pray for the success of this campaign as we work with the remaining parishes!

ORDINANDI

Congratulations and Welcome to our Newly Ordained Priests

(Ordained May 20, 2023)



Top Row (l-r): Rev. Ryan Ackmann, Rev. Kenneth Anyanwu, Rev. Michael Courchaine

Bottom Row (l-r): Rev. Joseph Heit, Rev. Kevin Tanel

	DEANERY REPRESENTATIVES - ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF PRIESTS	DEANS
Dodge-Washington	Jacob Strand	Richard Stoffel
Fond du Lac-Sheboygan	Nathaniel Miniatt	Ryan Pruess
Kenosha	Todd Belardi	Robert Weighner
Milwaukee Northwest	Pat Nelson, S.D.S.	Peter Patrick Kimani
Milwaukee Southeast	Tim Manatt, S.J.	Carmelo Giuffre
Milwaukee Southwest	Kevin McManaman	Michael Merkt
Ozaukee-Milwaukee NE	Carlos Londono	Enrique Hernandez
Racine	Steve Varghese	Juan Camacho
Walworth	Raymond Guthrie	James Volkert
Waukesha East	Andrew Linn	Edwin Kornath
Waukesha West	Andrew Kysely	Anthony Zimmer

CHANGE IN HELP-OUT COMPENSATION

Effective July 1, 2023, the help-out compensation for priests in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee was updated to the following:

- **Weekend Masses:** \$70 plus stipend and mileage (determined by the IRS)
- **Weekday Masses:** \$50 plus stipend and mileage (determined by the IRS)
- **Reconciliation, Funeral vigil, etc.:** \$40 per session plus mileage (determined by the IRS)

This compensation schedule applies to all help-out services provided July 1, 2023, and following. It is not retroactive.

10 OLDEST & 10 YOUNGEST PRIESTS

	<u>OLDEST</u>	<u>YOUNGEST</u>
1	Edward Sippel	John LoCoco
2	Edward Carroll	Nicholas Baumgardner
3	Erwin Matt	Stephen Buting
4	Robert Bales	Matthew Kirk
5	John Richetta	Matthew Ferch
6	Paul Lippert	Timothy Schumaker
7	Donald Zerkel	Michael Courchaine
8	Walter Vogel	Michael Lawinger
9	Donald Schmidt	Michael Malucha
10	Joseph Haas	Kevin Tanel

SAVE THE DATE

**Wednesday, March 20,
2024**



Pray, Reconcile & Rejoice
12 HOURS of
Reconciliation

As you plan to participate in
Pray, Reconcile, Rejoice:
12 Hours of Reconciliation
please keep in mind the following:

- Clear Your and the Parish Calendar
- Do Not Schedule Any Meetings
- Do Not Schedule Any Funerals

Help is needed all over the Archdiocese. If you are willing and able to drive to a different deanery, please do so.

This is not the occasion for school, Christian Formation or Youth Ministry Confessions; this is also not a time for Communal Penance services.

In order to make this Sacramental Event a great success, all priests are needed to assist.

Registration will begin in early January 2024

WELCOME TO OUR ARCHDIOCESE



FR. REJI CHACKO

I am Fr. Reji Chacko, M.I., a member of the Order of Ministers of the Infirm known as Camillians.

Fr. Reji Chacko, M.I.,

Currently, I am appointed at St. Mary's Visitation Parish, Elm Grove, as Associate Pastor. I completed my theology in the year 1995 at Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram, India, and was ordained to the priesthood.

Most of the time I was involved in the formation of seminarians at various levels as rector, novice master and spiritual director, and I served as superior of communities.

I received my Ph.D. in counseling psychology from De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines, and was able to provide counseling support to many in their distress. I also functioned as major superior of the Vice-Province in India and animated Religious Life and Ministry.

I have been in the USA for the past year and was able to complete a unit of the Clinical Pastoral Education program at Village Manor Park, Milwaukee. I am happy to serve as the Associate Pastor at St. Mary's Visitation Church, Elm Grove.

FR. ROBERT COOK



*Fr. Robert Cook,
O.F.M. Conv.*

Originally from Massachusetts, Fr. Cook is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross (Worcester, Massachusetts), Boston University School of Law, Washington Theological Union, and Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology. He worked for a law firm in Boston for five years before joining the Conventual Franciscan Friars. Fr. Cook was a religious brother for 15 years before being ordained to the priesthood in 2010. His first assignment after ordination was to the Basilica as associate pastor, and his most recent assignment was as pastor of Mary Mother of God Parish, which is a combination of three churches on Chicago's North Side. Fr. Cook currently serves as chaplain to the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Chicago and on the Board of Directors of Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology.

FR. ANTHONI JEORGE



Fr. Anthoni Jeorge

Fr. Anthoni Jeorge, M.I., is a religious priest of the Order of the Ministers of the Infirm (Camillians) from Karnataka, India. He joined St. Camillus Seminary in June 1990 for his priestly and religious formation and was ordained a priest Jan. 5, 2004.

Fr. Jeorge is a lifelong learner with vast experiential learning, including in-house service to the sick and the destitute in Kolkata, India, with the Missionaries of Charity of Mother Teresa (1994) and community health fellowship (2002-2003), in Bangalore. He has a strong commitment and varied work experience in caring for the HIV-infected, elderly, and terminally ill, and in seminary formation. He has been appreciated and awarded by the State Government of Karnataka, India, for child welfare activities and by the Ebola Task Force, Diocese of Makeni, Sierra Leone, West Africa, for voluntary community service among the victims of the Ebola Virus Disease (2014-15). Having completed Licentiate studies at the Loyola School of Theology in Manila, he moved to the United States for pastoral ministry and studies. He serves the St. Alphonsus parish community while continuing his Doctor of Ministry studies at the Catholic University of America, Washington D.C.



DEB STEPPE



Deb Steppe

I was born and raised in Hammond, Indiana, the fifth of six children and one of many cousins in a large extended family. As I reflect on it, I realize I have been serving the Church in one way or another most of my life. When your mom keeps track of parishioner's financial contributions, you start numerically sorting envelopes at a young age (I think I was 8).

Academically, I have bachelor's and master's degrees in social work. In 2019, I completed my master's degree in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University in Chicago. In my ministry outside the church, I managed a housing project for elderly and disabled adults, I was a therapist, I worked in my husband's investment firm and I was a full-time mom.

I've been married to my husband Mike for almost 29 years. We are blessed with two sons, Brian and John.

My path of discipleship led me to serve as the Director of Liturgical Ministries at my home parish, Our Lady of Lourdes, for the past five years. It is now with indescribable delight and profound humility that I assume the role of parish director at OLOL.

THROUGH THE YEARS...



The chapel in the Pabst Mansion, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, during the time when it was the archbishop's residence. Photo courtesy of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives.

A LOOK BACK...



St. Paul, Genesee Depot, in 1863

The original church building still stands on Highway 83, a few doors down from Magee School. (Photo courtesy of <https://stpaulgenesee.net/parish-history>)

HOLY DAY/HOLIDAY OBSERVANCES

Please be aware the Mary, Mother of the Church Pastoral Center will be closed on the following days:

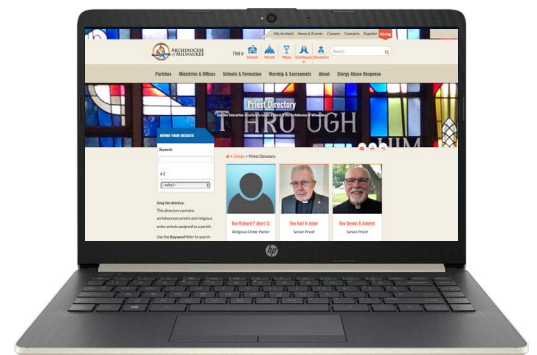
Monday, Sept. 4 (Labor Day)

Wednesday, Nov. 1 (All Saints)

INTERACTIVE PRIEST DIRECTORY

www.archmil.org/

Priest-directory.htm



INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTS AND PRESBYTERATES

SERVING PRIESTS IN EVERY SEASON OF LIFE

ENCORE PRIESTS WORKSHOP

For priests preparing for the transition from full-time ministry as well as those who have recently made the transition

Making “retirement” a time of renewal

Recognizing strengths,
identifying challenges

Looking forward to life’s next chapter with purpose and meaning

November 27-30, 2023

\$800 program fee, room and board

For more information
call 812-357-6439 or email smipp@saintmeinrad.edu

**For Senior
Priests Only**
Two half scholarships
(\$400) are available.
Contact Fr. Jim Lobacz.



Saint Meinrad
Seminary & School of Theology



PRIESTS AND DEACONS — JOIN US FOR THE VATICAN II AWARDS!

You are invited to attend this year’s Vatican II Awards on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 812 N. Jackson St., Milwaukee, 7 p.m., followed by a dessert reception.

Since its inception in 1991, the Vatican II Awards has honored deserving Catholics throughout the Archdiocese of Milwaukee who contribute to the vitality and spiritual life of the Church. It’s especially crucial for pastoral leaders of the Church to support these recipients, who deserve special recognition for their exemplary acts of stewardship. May their examples of Intentional Discipleship embolden all Catholics to nurture their own spirituality in an effort to fulfill Jesus’ missionary compassion to “Go and make disciples.”

You can find a list of this year’s recipients at www.archmil.org/vatican2Awards. Our hope is that every parish is represented in support of these amazing individuals who contribute to the life and vitality of the Church — please share this message with others and plan to join us Oct. 12!

Brenda Cline

*Manager of Priest and Lay Ecclesial Personnel
and Placement*



PAPAL TWITTER FEED

“Many countries are experiencing extreme climatic events. I reiterate my appeal to the leaders of Nations, that something more tangible be done to limit polluting emissions: it is an urgent challenge and affects everyone. Let us protect our common home!”

SEMINAR: DYNAMICS OF RETIREMENT

Many questions arise when pondering the transition from full-time ministry to Senior Priest status. A single seminar will be conducted for Senior Priests and those anticipating this transition in the future. **All priests 55 years of age and older are encouraged to participate.**

Thursday, Oct. 12, 2023 — 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center, Room E-122

A panel of representatives from Social Security, Health Care, Insurance and Financial Planning will be on hand to address:

Social Security and Pension

- Determining Full Retirement Age
- Applying for Social Security benefits
- Working while drawing Social Security benefits
- Estimating your Social Security benefit
- Drawing on the Priest Pension Plan

Insurance

- Primary versus secondary insurance
- When to apply for Medicare
- Coverage under the archdiocesan health plan
- Supplemental insurance
- Drug coverage

Legal and Estate Issues

- Powers of Attorney for Health Care and Finance
- The difference between a will and a trust
- The advantages of preplanning and prefunding a funeral

Housing

- Community-based health care facilities
- Options for independent living
- Housing with continuum of care
- A residence for senior priests

There is no cost to the workshop, but reservations are necessary. To register, please call Nancy Kerns at 414-769-3594 or send an email to her at kernsn@archmil.org. **Registration closes Oct. 5!**

CONGRATULATIONS FR. GENE POCERNICH



Fr. Eugene Pocernich

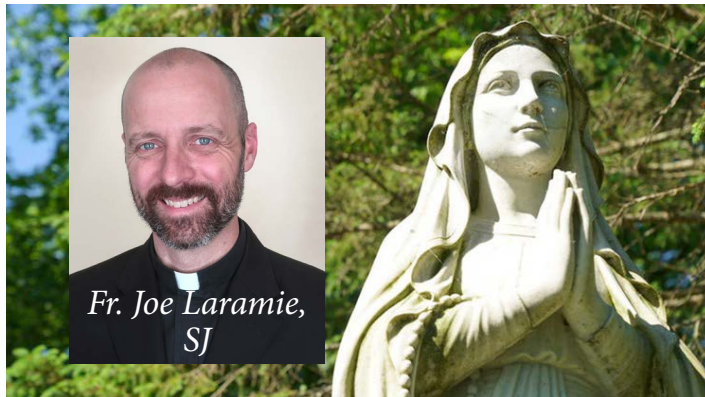
Fr. Eugene Pocernich, one of our senior priests, is the recipient of the 2023 Leadership Award from the National Association of Church Personnel Administrator. The honor was presented during the association's annual convocation this past June in Baltimore. Fr. Pocernich was a prime mover in urging the production of the second edition of "Just Leadership for Those Who Work for the Church." He organized a drafting committee of influential Catholic leaders for this foundational document. Now it is used for priests' formation, university classes, the NACPA Certificate Program and in arch/dioceses to form those with HR responsibilities in the Church.

SENIOR PRIESTS, MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ANNUAL MASS AND LUNCHEON WITH ARCHBISHOP LISTECKI



Thursday, Sept. 7, 2023, all senior priests are invited to the Annual Mass and Luncheon with Archbishop ListECKI. Mass at 11:30 a.m. followed by luncheon. This will be at Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. Registration is required. Call Nancy Kerns at 414-769-3594 or email kernsn@archmil.org. Deadline for registration is **Friday, Sept. 1.**

2023 ANNUAL PRIEST RETREAT · OCTOBER 9-12, 2023



**Redemptorist Retreat Center
1800 N. Timber Trail Lane
Oconomowoc, WI 53066**

Please join your brother priests for a few days of silence, prayer, reflection and relaxation at our annual priest retreat. This year's retreat will be directed by Fr. Joe Laramie, S.J. The retreat is titled "Shepherds after My Own Heart: A Retreat with the Sacred Heart of Jesus."

Our Father gave us our hearts and imbedded our callings deep within them. For us to be complete requires us to live into and out of our heart. For priests, our hearts contain the desire and calling to lead and shepherd his people as pastors and ministers. For us to be effective and fully live out our calling, we must unite our hearts to the heart of Jesus, allowing him to shape us, lead us and teach us to be like him. This retreat will explore being a priest, pastor and minister in union with the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Fr. Joe Laramie, S.J., is a [Eucharistic Preacher](#) for the National Eucharistic Revival.

He is the national director of the Pope's Prayer Network [Apostleship of Prayer] — a spiritual ministry uniting hearts to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, founded in 1844. He has led retreats for priests and seminarians in Denver, Houston, Orlando, St. Louis and Chicago. In Milwaukee, he often assists at Cor Jesu on Wednesday evenings at St. Robert Parish offering adoration, confession and Mass for young adults.

He earned M.Div. and STL degrees at Boston College and was ordained in 2011. He taught at two all-boys high schools and as a college campus minister, as well as ministering to Mayan villages in Belize. He is the author of two books:

"Love Him Ever More: a 9-Day Personal Retreat with the Sacred Heart of Jesus,
based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola"

"Abide in the Heart of Christ: a 10-Day Personal Retreat with St. Ignatius Loyola,
based on the Spiritual Exercises" [Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame; 2022 & 2019]

He has been featured on the Hallow app, EWTN, Busted Halo, & in America magazine.

More info: PopesPrayerUSA.net/ @PopesPrayerUSA
JoeLaramieSJ.com @JoeLaramieSJ

The retreat will follow a similar schedule and format as past retreats with retreatants arriving on Monday afternoon prior to the evening meal and departing on Thursday after the noon meal. The retreat center will handle all reservations and special dietary and room requests for active priests. Senior priests will make their reservations by contacting Nancy Kerns at 414-769-3594. All reservations must be completed prior to Sept. 25, 2023.

A reservation form can be found on the continuing formation website or by clicking this [link](#).

2023 HEALTH WEBINARS

The archdiocese, in conjunction with Ascension WI, continues to provide online presentations available to clergy on various health topics pertinent to today's issues. If you've not been able to view the latest presentations, please click [here](#).

Future presentations are currently posted. Links will be made available closer to the presentation date.

End of Life Planning — Start the Conversation

A video series has been produced to help provide guidance on specific end of life topics. These videos as well as other resources can be found on the Wellness Council page of the archdiocesan website or by clicking [here](#).

PRIEST WELLNESS DAY

"Heart Health" is the topic of the 2023 Priest Wellness Day

All archdiocesan priests, and those extern and religious order priests serving in Archdiocese of Milwaukee parishes, are invited to join us **Tuesday, Oct. 17, from 9:30 a.m. to noon, at Ascension SE Wisconsin at Mayfair Road Fifth Floor Conference Center — 201 N. Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa.**

Priests gather at 9:30 a.m. Prayer begins at 10 a.m.

Dcn. David Grambow, M.D., will lead a presentation on "Heart Health, Modifying Cardiovascular Risk — It's never too early or late to start," reviewing the risk factors for the development of cardiovascular disease and steps we can take to modify this risk.

A Health Fair will take place after the presentation, during which priests can receive a flu shot, have a blood pressure screening, learn about other topic-related information and visit with their priest brothers. Box lunches will be available.

Please use the south entrance. Parking is available in the structure south of the building.

Registration for the Oct. 17, 2023, Priest Wellness Day begins September 22. Register online or by contacting Jodi Bowers at 414-769-3484 or bowersj@archmil.org. (Early registration is greatly appreciated for planning purposes.)

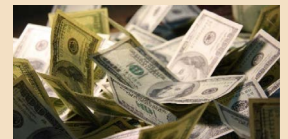
THE PILGRIM'S PRAYER

O God,
be for us our companion on the walk,
our guide at the crossroads,
our breath in our weariness,
our protection in danger,
our refuge on the Way,
our shade in the heat,
our light in the darkness,
our consolation in our discouragements,
and our strength in our intentions.
So that with your guidance,
we may arrive safe and sound
at the end of the road.
Enriched with grace and virtue,
may we return safely to our homes,
filled with joy.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen.

SENIOR PRIESTS, COULD YOU USE \$1,000?

The deadline for senior priests to request reimbursement



of up to \$1,000 of

eligible medical expenses under the Health Reimbursement Account for the previous plan year (July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023) is Sept. 28, 2023. You may submit your expenses online at www.dbsbenefits.com after logging in to your account, or in hardcopy by completing the claims form and mailing it along with a list of your expenses and the corresponding receipts to Diversified Benefit Services, P.O. Box 260, Hartland, WI 53029. A list of eligible expenses can be accessed [here](#). If you help with this, contact Maureen Wurster at 414-769-3423 or wursterm@archmil.org.

CALLING ALL PRIESTS ... Senior and Active

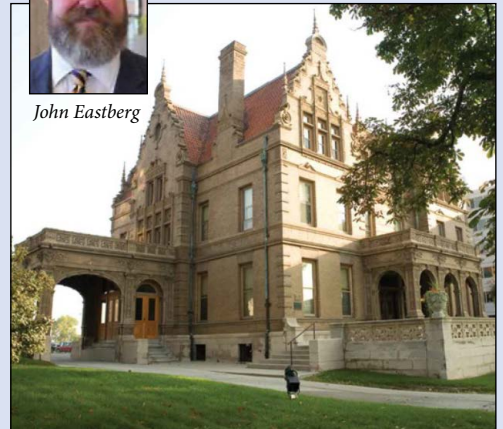
As the vicar for senior priests, I rely on a Senior Priest Advisory Committee to keep me informed about trends that impact the lives of our senior priests. One of the outcomes expressed in the Spring Assembly of Priests evaluations was the overwhelming comments by all the priests about how much participants valued the priestly fraternity. My advisory committee recommended that my office sponsor some events that are open to all priests, both active and senior, to further the fraternity between younger and older priests. The following event has been rescheduled from summer and fall.

The Pabst Mansion has a storied history, and part of it includes the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. In 1906, upon the death of Captain Pabst's widow, his mansion came on the market. In 1908, while Archbishop Messmer was abroad, the purchase of the mansion was arranged by his secretary, Fr. Bernard Traudt. The stable and carriage house were refitted as office space and became the beginning of the first chancery office and the home of the centralized administration of the archdiocese. For 67 years, the archdiocese used the mansion as the residence of the archbishops of Milwaukee. In 1975, it was sold to an architectural preservation group.

I am happy to announce that the Senior Priest Advisory Committee invites all priests of the archdiocese to a tour, a presentation by John Eastberg, and light refreshments (including Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer) at the Pabst Mansion. A display, prepared by the archives of the archdiocese, will also be on hand sharing interesting facts about the years Milwaukee archbishops called the place home.



John Eastberg



CALLING ALL PRIESTS

Priestly Fraternity Event

THE PABST MANSION

2000 West Wisconsin Avenue

Some Parking on the North Side of the Building

Wednesday, October 10, 2023

4:30 p.m. Arrival

5 p.m. Presentation by John Eastberg

5:30 p.m. Reception

The event is free but reistration required.

Call Nancy Kerns at 414-769-3594

Register by October 5, 2023

RETIREMENT VILLA AVAILABLE IN FLORIDA FOR A SENIOR PRIEST

Fr. Tom Walker would like senior priests here in the Milwaukee archdiocese to know about a great opportunity. He has been living in a retirement villa at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Bradenton for the last two years. There are five cottages, called villas. They are all one bedroom, furnished, including a garage. If you like, you can bring some of your own furniture. Maintenance and upkeep are provided by the parish. Housekeeping twice a month is included. Cable and electricity are not included. There is a one-year lease, and the rent is \$675 per month. Normally, the villas are made available to retired priests in the Venice diocese. When there

are no takers, they open it up to other retired priests. Currently there are priests from New York, Illinois and New Hampshire living in the villas, plus Fr. Walker, from Wisconsin. There is one open villa. He says he is incredibly happy with the arrangements. Help-out opportunities are available. If you are interested, you can contact the pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, Fr. Mark Heuberger, by phone at 941-795-1228 or email at mheuberger@sspeterandpaul.org.

Here is a link to some photos: <https://1drv.ms/a/s!AhDQPjQ4NHZothyNMvUgRtcvn3Ev>.

THIRD ARCHBISHOP OF MILWAUKEE

Born Feb. 7, 1844, in Ebensee, Austria, Frederick Xavier Katzer came to Minnesota in 1864 as a seminarian at the request of missionary Franz Pierz. When he was informed there was no room for him there, Katzer considered joining the Jesuits before Fr. Joseph Salzmann convinced him to come to Milwaukee.

Katzer completed his studies in Milwaukee and was ordained Dec. 21, 1866, at Saint Francis Seminary and soon joined the faculty there. He taught mathematics, philosophy and theology until he was transferred to the Diocese of Green Bay in 1875. There he served as rector of the cathedral, then known as St. Mary's, and vicar general. After his friend Bishop Francis X. Krautbauer's death, Katzer administered the diocese before he was appointed Bishop of Green Bay on July 13, 1886.

Katzer served as the bishop of Green Bay until he was appointed the third bishop of the Milwaukee archdiocese Jan. 30, 1891. In line with his predecessors, Katzer was loyal to the German factions in the clergy and hierarchy. Reminiscent of the debates between German-speaking and English-speaking Catholics during Henni's and Heiss's time, Katzer's nomination to Milwaukee was opposed by "Americanizing" bishops. This brought Milwaukee into a larger national debate



**Most Reverend
Frederick Xavier Katzer, D.D.
1890 - 1903**

over the "Americanization" of Catholics in the United States — a view stating that Catholics should assimilate into American society, rather than maintain their distinct ethnic traditions. Pope Leo XIII condemned the heresy of "Americanism" in an 1899 encyclical and Katzer prevailed.

During his time in office, he strongly supported and promoted the growth of Catholic schools, and successfully advocated the repeal of the Bennett Law in 1890. This legislation would have mandated English instruction in all public schools and was seen as an attack on parochial schools.

Katzer also furthered the growth of ethnic parishes, particularly the Polish. He also was engaged in a battle with anti-Catholic groups and opposed the socialist movement in Milwaukee. He also was responsible for bringing the Sisters of the Divine Savior to Milwaukee.

As he aged, Katzer left more of his daily duties to his protégé, Fr. Augustine Schinner, whom he hoped would be his successor. Schinner, however, was never appointed to the position. Archbishop Katzer died in Fond du Lac on July 23, 1903, the same day as Pope Leo XIII.

Motto: Soli Deo Honor et Gloria. "Only to God, Honor, and Glory."

PRAYER OF SAINT TERESA OF ÁVILA

(1515-1582)

Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by you, always follow your plans and perfectly accomplish your holy will. Grant that in all things, great and small, today and all the days of my life, I may do whatever you may require of me. Help me to respond to the slightest promptings of your grace, so that I am be your trustworthy instrument, for your honor. May your will be done in time and eternity — by me, in me and through me. Amen.



SAVE the DATE

Fall Day

FOR PRIESTS AND PARISH DIRECTORS

Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center

Presenter: Fr. Brian Mason

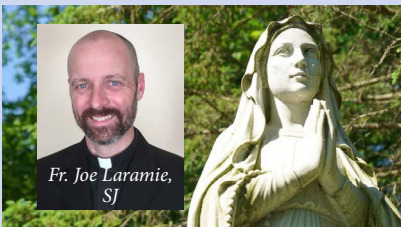


2024 Spring Assembly of Priests

May 6 - 8, 2024

Osthoff, Elkhart Lake

Presenter: Bishop Robert Barron



2023 Active & Senior Priest Retreat

October 9 – 12, 2023

Redemptorist Retreat Center, Oconomowoc.
Registration Now Open

PRIEST Wellness Day

Heart Health, Modifying Cardiovascular Risk
IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY OR LATE TO START

Presenter: Deacon David Grambow, MD

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Ascension /SE Wisconsin at Mayfair Rd
201 N Mayfair Rd, 5th Floor Conference
Center, Wauwatosa

Stay healthy and happy.



Dr. David Grambow

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ARCHDIOCESE
of MILWAUKEE