



News from the Office of Pastoral Care for Priests

Friday, August 2, 2024

St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest

Dear Brother Priests,

Welcome to the first edition of our new monthly newsletter for priests, *Fratres*! The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed of news, events, resources and prayer requests related to the pastoral care of priests in our Archdiocese.

The title, *Fratres*, is inspired by the unique brotherhood that we share as priests of Jesus Christ. It is with gratitude for our priestly fraternity that I offer you this monthly newsletter as a way to foster unity and highlight ways that we can deepen our fraternity in Christ.

My plan is to have it out to you at the beginning of each month. If you have important announcements for all the priests, please feel free to send them to me at: [maror@adw.org](mailto:maror@adw.org). Please note that I will be away from August 18-24.

Fraternally yours, in Christ,

**Reverend Robert G. Maro**

Coordinator for the Pastoral Care of Priests

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington

**Office:**

St. John Vianney House  
4214 Saul Road  
Kensington, MD 20895

**Phone:** 703-258-9802

**Email:** [maror@adw.org](mailto:maror@adw.org)



The Roman Catholic  
*Archdiocese of*  
Washington

# *News and Events*

## **OPEN INVITATION**

Brothers, I just want to echo what I said in my first email to all the priests: You don't need to be in a crisis to call me. I'm happy to visit with you just to talk, pray, share a meal together, celebrate a joyful occasion, or whatever it might be. If you are having a get together with other priests, please keep me in mind as I'd love to join you. If you know of a brother in need and would like me to reach out to him, please don't hesitate to call me. It's my joy to serve you in any way that I can.

## **DEANERY VISITS:**

Recently I contacted all of the deans in the hopes of scheduling a listening session with all the deaneries. I'd like to hear about some of the needs/issues that are important to all of you as I grow this new ministry. If you are a dean and haven't already, please contact me so we can put a date on the calendar. Thank you!

## **ST. JOHN XXIII RETIREMENT RESIDENCE:**

4900 Lasalle Road

Avondale, MD. 20782

Our retired priests would love to have you celebrate Mass and/or join them for lunch at the retirement residence at any time. Mass is at 11:00 am and lunch is at 12:00 pm. To schedule a visit, please contact Fr. Mike Wilson: 301-661-4238.

## **EVENINGS WITH CHRIST THE HIGH PRIEST:**

Beginning this fall, I am looking for parishes in different regions across the Archdiocese that would be interested in hosting an "Evening with Christ the High Priest" for priests. It will be a great opportunity for prayer and priestly fraternity. The evening would consist of a Holy Hour with Exposition & Benediction and dinner (or heavy hors d'oeuvres) at your rectory/hall. The date, start and end time can be flexible, according to your schedule. If you have parishioners that would be willing to help provide the food, that would be a bonus! To plan a future date, please email or call me.

#### **PRIEST SUPPORT GROUPS:**

If you are interested in being part of a priest support group but haven't found one, please call or email me and I will be happy to connect you with other priests who share your interest.

#### **PRIEST ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

I am looking to form a Priest Advisory Council for the Pastoral Care of Priests. The purpose of the council would be to brainstorm ways that we can best care for our brothers and foster priestly fraternity across the Archdiocese. This Priest Council would also give feedback about the pulse of the presbyterate and evaluate recent events. We would meet four times a year over Zoom. Ideally, the council would represent the diversity of priests and deaneries across the Archdiocese. Please email or call me if you are interested.

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

##### **Monday 2: Labor Day Picnic**

6:00 pm Cocktails | 7:00 pm Dinner | Casual Attire

[Church of the Little Flower](#) Parish Hall

5601 Massachusetts Avenue

Bethesda, MD 20816

RSVP by Mon. August 19: [pwhitty@lfparish.org](mailto:pwhitty@lfparish.org) or 301-320-4538

[RSVP here](#)

**RSVP here**

##### **Wednesday 4: Newly Ordained Workshop**

For more details, contact Fr. Kevin Regan: [regank@adw.org](mailto:regank@adw.org)

Saint John Paul II Seminary

**Sunday 22 - Friday 27: [Fall Priest Preached Retreat](#)**

Most Rev. Peter Sartain, Archbishop Emeritus of Seattle

[Loyola Retreat House](#), Faulkner, MD

**OCTOBER 2024**

**Wednesday 2: Newly Ordained Workshop**

For more details, contact Fr. Kevin Regan: [regank@adw.org](mailto:regank@adw.org)

Saint John Paul II Seminary

**Monday 23: [Study Day](#)**

[Dr. John Bergsma](#), St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

Saint John Paul II Seminary

**NOVEMBER 2024**

**19-21: Three Day Convocation**

[Most Rev. Jerry Vincke](#), Bishop of Salina

[Hyatt Regency](#), Cambridge, MD

[Ongoing Formation](#)

[2024-2025.pdf](#)



*Prayer Requests*

These priests have given permission for their names to be published here. They humbly ask for your prayers for their health and healing.

- Msgr. Joaquin Bazan (Comfort Care; Little Sisters of the Poor)
- Fr. Greg Butta
- Fr. Dan Carson
- Fr. Scott Hahn

If you would like to be added to this list for the next monthly newsletter, please use the button below.

[Submit a prayer request here](#)

**Submit a prayer request here**

## *Fratres Spotlight*



**Warmest Congratulations, Fr. Jeffrey Samaha!**

During Mount St. Mary's Seminary's annual [Alumni Reunion](#), it is a tradition to present the John Cardinal McCloskey Award. This award is presented to a Mountaineer priest for outstanding service to the Mission of the Church. This year's recipient of the 49th Annual John Cardinal McCloskey Award will be Fr. Jeffrey Samaha. Fr. Samaha has faithfully served as chaplain at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center for 31 years. The presentation will take place at the Alumni Reunion Dinner on Wednesday, October 2 at 6:30 pm in the Seminary Dining Room. Fr. Samaha is in residence at the [Church of the Holy Spirit](#), in Forestville, MD.



#### **AUGUST 2024**

Please keep our brothers in prayer as they celebrate the anniversary of their priestly ordination this month. May God shower them with His abundant blessings!

#### **Fr. Joseph Piper**

Co-Chaplain, The American University

August 15, 2021

#### **Fr. John Patrick Tindana**

Parochial Vicar, St. Patrick Parish, Rockville Md

August 25, 2007



This list is not exhaustive. If you have other good resources for priests, please feel free to share them with me and I'll be happy to include them in the next issue.

## **ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON**

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Please request login credentials from your local parish or the [Office of Digital Media](#).

## **[CATHOLIC BOOK & SEMINARIAN BOOK LIST](#)**

## **FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE**

[June 2025 Priest, Deacon & Seminarian Retreat](#), Steubenville, OH

## **[FRATERNITY OF PRIESTS](#)**

The purpose of the Fraternity of Priests is to give priests the vision, the ongoing formation and the support to respond with enthusiasm to the fullness of the priesthood.

## **HIS LAND**

[Retreat Center](#), Lakeville, MA

## **INSTITUTE FOR PRIESTLY FORMATION**

[Programs & Resources](#), Omaha, NE

## **PRIEST FIELD PASTORAL CENTER**

[Personal Retreats](#), Kearneysville, WV

## **[PRIESTLY SOCIETY OF THE HOLY CROSS](#)**

The aim of the Priestly Society of the Holy Cross is to promote the sanctity of the secular clergy according to the spirit and ascetical practice of Opus Dei.



**SACRED HEART RETREAT HOUSE**

[Private Priest Retreat](#), Alhambra, CA

**SAN DAMIANO SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER**

[Personal Retreats](#), White Post, VA

**SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT**

[Priest Retreat House](#), Hanceville, AL

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY HOUSE**

4214 Saul Road

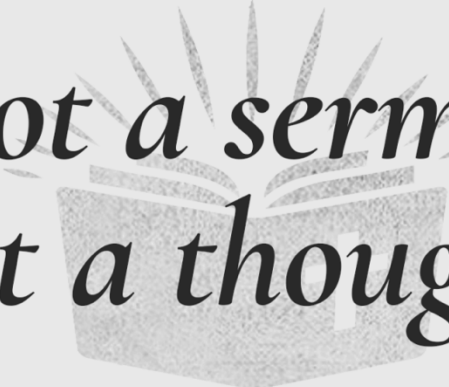
Kensington, MD 20895

**ST. LUKE'S INSTITUTE**

[Free Resources](#)

**ST. PAUL CENTER**

[January 2025 Priest Conference](#), Huntington Beach, CA

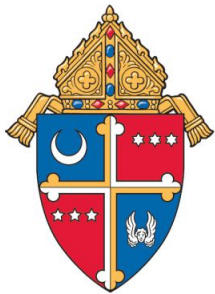


*Not a sermon,  
just a thought...*



*"You can't get everything done in a day, nor can you get any part of it done as well as it could be, or even as well as you'd like it; so like the rest of us, you putter at your job with a normal amount of energy, for a reasonable amount of time, and go to bed with the humiliating yet exhilarating knowledge that you are only a child of God and not God Himself."*

*Fr. Walter Farrell, O.P. (†1951)*



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