



News from the Office of Pastoral Care for Priests

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

Dear Brothers,

You were very much in my prayers during my recent pilgrimage to Poland. I offered my Mass intention for all of you on Tuesday, October 15 in the chapel at the Archbishop's Palace in Krakow, where Pope St. John Paul II was ordained a priest. Fr. Mark Cusick and I were the co-chaplains for a group of twelve pilgrims in what was truly an amazing and life changing experience. We booked our pilgrimage with [81 Tours](#) and they were top notch! Below are a few highlights from our trip.



Our next *Evening with Christ the High Priest* will be tomorrow evening, November 14, at Sacred Heart Parish in La Plata. Your RSVP is very important as it helps us plan for food. Please take a moment to respond below if you haven't already (no need to RSVP if you are unable to attend). Thanks and hope to see you there!



Evening with Christ the High Priest

Sacred Heart Parish

201 St. Mary's Avenue

La Plata, MD 20646

6:00 - 7:00 pm Holy Hour | 7:00 - 8:30 pm Dinner

Are you going?

[Yes](#) [No](#) [Maybe](#)

Lastly, I look forward to seeing you at the Priest Convocation! I'll be available during the free time if anyone would like to meet with me. Just let me know when I see you next week and we can carve out a time.

Fraternally yours, in Christ,

Reverend Robert G. Maro

Coordinator for the Pastoral Care of Priests

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The Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of
Washington



News and Events

HOMILY DISCUSSION GROUPS:

If you are interested in starting a homily discussion group (to reflect on the Sunday readings in advance) with brother priests from neighboring parishes in your area, please [email](#) me for more information. I'm happy to help you get started and give you a sample format that has worked well in the past.

REQUEST FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS:

If you are willing to serve as a spiritual director for priests or if you can recommend a brother or religious community who might be willing to help in this capacity, please [email](#) me. I'd like to publish a list of available spiritual directors in the next *Fratres*. If you recommend someone, I will check with them first before publishing their name.

A PRAYER FOR OUR BROTHER PRIESTS:

Prayer cards will be made available to you at this year's Priest Convocation. I invite you to join me in praying the attached prayer however your circumstances allow: in your rectories, at deanery meetings, priest support groups, in private or however the Spirit leads you.

A Prayer for Our Brother Priests

Gracious Father, thank You for the gift of my vocation to the priesthood and for my brothers who share in this priestly ministry. Lead us to be faithful and generous as we serve those entrusted to our care through the administration of the sacraments and through our preaching, teaching, and pastoral zeal.

Help us to radiate Christ so that others no longer see us but You at work in our ministries. Set our souls on fire with Your love for the people we serve and give us the grace to spread the Gospel and touch the most hardened of hearts. Grant us the wisdom and strength needed to seek Your will in all things.

Be present in our fraternity, strengthen our communion with those who are sick or in need, and call to Yourself our departed brothers. Fill us with the joy of the Holy Spirit to inspire others to join this sacred brotherhood. We ask this through Christ the Eternal High Priest, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.



The Roman Catholic
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[A Prayer for Our Brother Priest](#)

EVENINGS WITH CHRIST THE HIGH PRIEST - UPDATED:

Our next *Evening with Christ the High Priest* (EHP) will be tomorrow, Thursday, November 14 at Sacred Heart in La Plata. See the attached flyer for the remaining evenings throughout the year. **Please note that we have added an additional EHP on

Thursday, January 16 at St. John the Evangelist in Clinton. On that date, there will be opportunity to receive healing prayers during adoration for anyone who wishes to be prayed over.



[Updated Evenings with Christ the High Priest](#)

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. Or if you belong to a priest support and would like to open it up to more members, please feel free to contact me.

NEXT PRIEST ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 10, 2025:

Our next Priest Advisory Council for the Pastoral Care of Priests will be Friday, January 10, 2025. If you have any suggestions, feedback or concerns, please feel free to [email](#) them to me or any of the council members listed below.



[Priests Advisory Council](#)

NOVEMBER 2024

Thursday 14: Evening with Christ the High Priest

6:00 pm Holy Hour | 7:00 - 8:30 pm Dinner

[Sacred Heart Catholic Church](#)

201 St. Mary's Avenue

La Plata, MD 20646

Tuesday 19 - Thursday 21: Three Day Priest Convocation

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

[Hyatt Regency](#)

100 Heron Blvd.

Cambridge, MD 21613

DECEMBER 2024

Sunday 1: 1st Sunday of Advent

Wednesday 4: Retired Priests' Luncheon

11:30 am Gathering | 12:00 pm Lunch

St. John XXIII Retirement Residence

4900 Lasalle Road

Hyattsville, MD 20782

Thursday 5: Advent Day of Recollection [REGISTER HERE!](#)

10:30 am - 2:00 pm

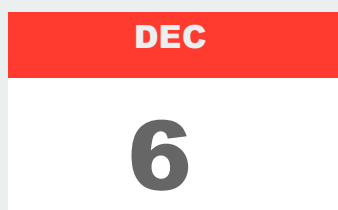
St. John Paul II Seminary

145 Taylor Street, NE

Washington, DC 20017

Rev. Marcel Taillon, Vocations Director

Archdiocese of Military Services



Evening with Christ the High Priest

St. Paul's Parish

9250 Damascus Road

Damascus, MD 20872

RSVP by Mon. December 2

6:00 - 7:00 pm Holy Hour | 7:00 - 8:30 pm Dinner

Are you going?

[Yes](#) [No](#) [Maybe](#)

JANUARY 2025

Wednesday 8: Retired Priests' Luncheon

11:30 am Gathering | 12:00 pm Lunch

St. John XXIII Retirement Residence

4900 Lasalle Road

Hyattsville, MD 20782



Evening with Christ the High Priest

St. John the Evangelist Parish

8908 Old Branch Avenue

Clinton, MD 20735

RSVP by Sun. January 12

6:00 - 7:00 pm Holy Hour* | 7:00 - 8:30 pm Dinner

*Adoration with healing prayers available for those who wish

Are you going?

[Yes](#) [No](#) [Maybe](#)



Evening with Christ the High Priest

St. Aloysius Parish

22800 Washington Street

Leonardtown, MD 20650

RSVP by Sat. January 25

6:00 - 7:00 pm Holy Hour | 7:00 - 8:30 pm Dinner

Are you going?

[Yes](#) [No](#) [Maybe](#)



Prayer Requests

Prayers for Health & Healing

These priests have given permission for their names to be published here. They humbly ask for your prayers for their health and healing. Names highlighted in bold are new since the last edition of *Fratres*.

- Msgr. Charles Antonicelli
- Msgr. Joaquin Bazan
- Fr. Greg Butta
- Fr. David Brault
- Fr. Dan Carson
- Fr. Rory Conley
- **Fr. John Dillon**
- Fr. Eamon Dignan
- Fr. Lou Faust
- Fr. Ron Potts

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

DOUBLE CONGRATULATIONS IN ORDER!!

Wednesday, October 2, 2024



Congratulations Fr. Dan Carson!

Congratulations to Father Dan Carson, pastor of St. Peter's Catholic Church on Capitol Hill. Fr. Carson received the Alumnus Lifetime Service award from Theological College on Wednesday, October 2, 2024. This award is given to an alum who has served with distinction and humility throughout his priestly ministry. Congratulations, Father Carson!



Congratulations Fr. Jeffrey Samaha!

Congratulations to Father Jeffrey Samaha, chaplain at MedStar Southern Maryland Hospital Center. Fr. Samaha has faithfully served as chaplain there 31 years. He received the McCloskey award from Mount St. Mary's Seminary on the same evening, Wednesday, October 2, 2024. This award is presented to a Mountaineer priest for outstanding service to the mission of the Church. Congratulations, Father Samaha!

Do you know of a special occasion for a parish or a notable accomplishment for one of our brothers that you'd like to share? Please email me. It might be something we can publish in the next *Fratres* Spotlight!

Ordination Anniversaries

NOVEMBER 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!

Rev. David Bava

Pastor, Holy Redeemer Parish
Washington, DC
November 10, 1973

Rev. Abayneh Gebremichael

Pastor, Kidane Mehret Ethiopian Parish
Washington, DC
November 5, 1995

Do you have an ordination anniversary coming up? Send me one of your favorite photos from that day or a class picture and I'll publish it in *Fratres* when your month comes up.



Reverend Sal Criscuolo

January 21, 1978 | St. Matthew's Cathedral
Cardinal William Baum

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

"Are you in charge of a parish? If so, do not neglect the parish of your own soul. Do not give yourself to others so completely that you have nothing left

for yourself. You have to be mindful of your people without becoming forgetful of yourself.

- St. Charles Borromeo († 1584)



Resources

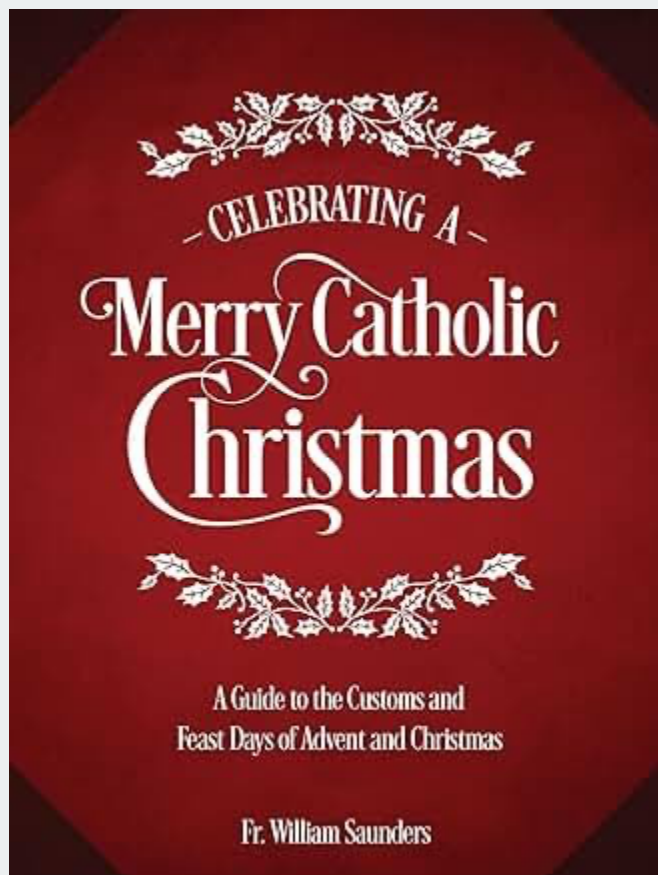
FRATRES' TOP 5 FOR NOVEMBER

Do you have a good resource to share? Please let me know and I'll be happy to include it in the next issue.

1. BOOK OF THE MONTH:

Celebrating a Merry Catholic Christmas by Rev. William P. Saunders, Ph.D.

This book is a treasure and a valuable resource for understanding and celebrating Advent and Christmas as a Catholic. But it also features spiritual reflections and suggestions for practices to enrich your parish's Christmas preparation and celebration. Click on the image below to order on Amazon!



2. 2024 BENEFITS GUIDE FOR PRIESTS (January 2024 - December 2024)

Helpful terms & resources, contact information, medical insurance, employee assistance program & wellness benefits, dental insurance, vision insurance, tax-advantage accounts, income protection, & work/life benefits.

3. ADW SENIOR STAFF CONTACT LIST FOR PASTORS

Looking for a quick and easy directory so you know who to call? Please contact our Coordinator for the Pastoral Care of Priests for the list. **Email:** maror@adw.org

4. PRIEST ADVISORY BOARDS 2024-25

The most up-to-date list for knowing who's who on Priest Council, College of Consultors, Council of Deans, & Clergy Personnel Board.

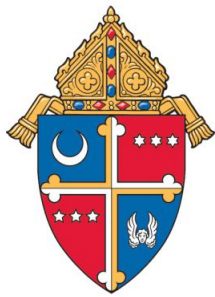


[Priest Advisory Boards 2024-25](#)

5. VIDEO PICK OF THE MONTH:

The *Rejoice!* journal from Ascension Press, together with weekly guided meditation videos, will help you and your parishioners get the most out of Advent. Below is the trailer for the videos. For more information about ordering the journals and accessing the weekly meditation videos, visit Ascension's [website](https://www.ascensionpress.com/).

<https://youtu.be/4jG17ylMBbU?si=avfEgqNsoRjyl4QC>



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