



The Cincture

and

SENIOR PRIEST CONNECTION

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FROM THE VICAR FOR CLERGY



Fr. Nathan Reesman

Dear friends:

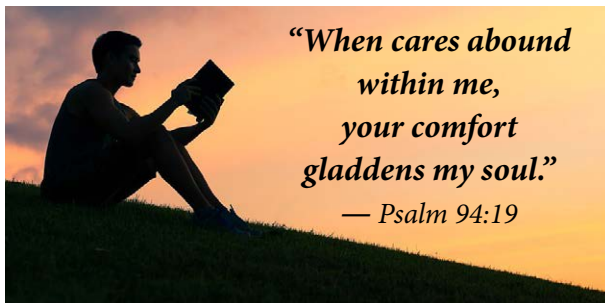
Praised be Jesus Christ! When I was asked to take on the assignment of Vicar for Clergy, little did I know that I would have to become so well-versed, so quickly, in the fine points of United States immigration laws. Every era has its own unique issues to sort through, and the stark reality of the immigration paperwork difficulties for the clergy and religious who are attempting to faithfully serve the faithful in our archdiocese has become a major problem.

On one level, this makes sense because all of us in ministry who have found ourselves over the years ministering to immigrant populations in general can speak to how difficult it is for people coming to this country to efficiently and legally navigate our system. Those who attempt to abide by the complexities of our laws are often penalized by the system

for not simply going around it. Knowing that, it was only a matter of time before the same set of problems impacted our religious workers, including many priests currently holding assignments all across our archdiocese.

For many years across the dioceses of the United States, it was relatively simple for the Catholic Church, a truly global entity

that crosses all borders by our very nature, to move clergy and religious in and out of our nation for the purposes of ministry. Their



“When cares abound within me, your comfort gladdens my soul.”
— Psalm 94:19

applications for visas were processed with sufficient time, and when many of these religious workers established deep connections here and wanted to remain as valuable members of our faith communities, the transfer process to long-term residency was quick. Due to a technical correction in the interpretation of a statute about a year and a half ago by the State Department, a massive backlog was created for all of

► [Continued from Page 1.](#)

our applicants attempting to work here long term. It has been a nightmare for the religious workers involved, for managers of clergy assignments, and now even for our parishes who are stuck without clergy for long stretches of time.

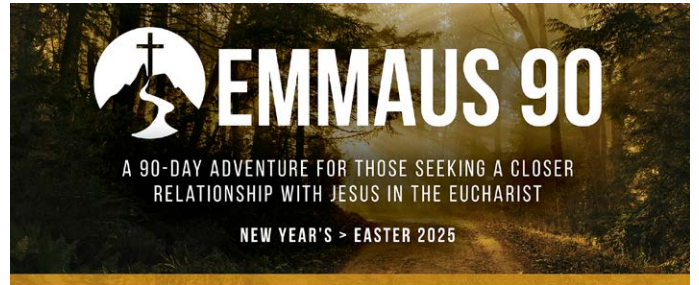
I am very grateful for our immigration attorneys from Catholic Charities with whom we are on the phone (without exaggeration) daily as we try to sort through the legal complexities of keeping our priests actively ministering under the threat of needing to leave our country when their visas expire. I am very grateful for the presence of our foreign-born religious workers who come here to exercise ministry in the face of so many challenges, and who these days labor under the constant fear of me calling them to explain that because their initial visas are running out, they will need to leave.

I add my voice to many others in the Church who are pushing hard on this issue at the moment to try to force a change in our government administrative practice, which is grossly unfair to the Church as we attempt to practice our ministries in freedom. As clergy this is an issue we need to be aware of as we talk to our people and follow the political scene that unfolds before us in America on every level of government. It is an issue that I invite us all to pray for as it continues to impact us all.

HOLY DAYS/ HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE

In observance of the upcoming holidays, the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center will be closed on the following days:

- **Thanksgiving - Thursday, Nov. 28, and Friday, Nov. 29**
- **Christmas - Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Wednesday, Dec. 25**
- **Feast of Mary, Mother of God - Tuesday, Dec. 31, and Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025**



Call, form and send disciples on mission through [Emmaus 90](#) — a simple inexpensive jump start to discipleship ministry in your parish for the Eucharistic Revival Year of Sending on Mission. [Watch to learn more.](#)

Invite your parishioners to make a New Years Resolution to grow in the Catholic spiritual life and on mission in 2025. New Years to Easter 2025. Invite parishioners to register themselves for \$20/person (at no cost to your parish) or purchase Guidebooks for your parishioners.

NEW this year! A Gift Option for Christmas Masses — Only \$2.00 each when you order in bulk!

The Emmaus 90 Christmas Edition gives practical steps to grow in prayer from Dec. 25-Jan. 19 and encourages people to register for the full Emmaus 90 journey from Jan. 20 to Easter. [View Christmas Edition here.](#)

Preview Our Emmaus 90 Content for 2025

- [View Guidebook Journal content here](#)
- [View this year's weekly formation schedule](#)

Get Started

- [Order Emmaus 90 Materials in Bulk here](#)
- [Promote Emmaus 90 at your parish](#)
- Contact Margaret Rhody with questions: rhodym@archmil.org
- Or ask questions and get support at our [Emmaus 90 Zoom Office Hours](#) Tuesdays at 2 p.m.

Brought to you by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's Office of Evangelization and Catechesis.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF DIACONATE FORMATION VOCATION AND DISCERNMENT



Deacon Dale Nees

“An inquiry and eventual application for entrance into diaconal formation constitute not just a personal and family journey. The Church must accompany it. The parish is the primary experience of the Church for most inquirers. It is the responsibility of this community and, in particular, its pastor to invite from among its members those who may be qualified to serve as ordained ministers of the Church. Similarly, those church and community agencies that have often carried out the Church’s mission of charity and social justice have a unique opportunity to call forth appropriate nominees from among their personnel.”¹ (No. 179)

In my opinion the most underappreciated stage in vocational discernment is inquiry. The inquiry period is a special time set aside to discern God’s will. A man discerning his vocation to the permanent diaconate must fully participate in the inquiry period to determine whether he and his family are ready to consider making an application. It is the process of discovering, with the help of the Holy Spirit, what the Lord’s will is, remembering that everyone involved desires the same thing — your ultimate good.

The process of discernment, though often a struggle, is not complicated. The process of discerning a diaconal vocation should include the following steps:

- **Prayer:** Ask God for guidance and insight regularly, to be part of this major decision.
- **Listening to God:** Be aware of obstacles that need to be dealt with and be willing to look at your own strengths and limitations.
- **Gathering information:** Read about the lives of deacons and speak with deacons you know or meet about their lives.
- **Imagine yourself as a deacon:** Imagine yourself in the three-fold ministry of a deacon, serving the poor, teaching the faith and bringing all of that to the liturgy.

- **Staying open:** Consider all possibilities, expanding well beyond what your initial thoughts may have been about being a deacon.
- **Paying attention to what God is saying:** Keep a journal to record your experiences and look for recurring themes or ideas.
- **Considering both sides:** List the pros and cons including input from all those who will be impacted should you apply.
- **Coming to a decision:** Talk to a spiritual director about your experiences and come to a tentative decision about whether to move forward. If you are not already in spiritual direction, consider starting it.
- **Affirmation:** You can also consider talking to people you trust and respect for guidance about being active in the life of the Church. Affirm as much as possible your current decision knowing that inquiry is just the beginning of the discernment process.

The length of inquiry can vary widely based on many things. It is not unusual for inquirers to make suitable aspirants in the future, but simply not be ready yet for a variety of reasons. However, the National Directory states that is “essential for the director of formation to keep frequent contact with these potential candidates.”² One new strategy we are implementing is sending the 45 current inquirers monthly updates from Diaconate Formation that will provide engaging resources

The screenshot shows a newsletter titled "DIACONATE FORMATION Update" for October 2024. It features a "Message from Deacon Dale" with a quote: "This way is first humility, second humility, third humility..." followed by a reference to St. Augustine. Below that is a "New Deacons Podcast" section with a photo of deacons and a "Deacon Servant Newsletter (Fall 2024)" section with a photo of a coffee cup and a calendar.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PRIEST PLACEMENT AND THE LAY INITIATIVE

A NEWSWORTHY PLAN



Brenda Cline

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee has been a frequent topic of local news lately. Perhaps the biggest news item was the announcement of Archbishop-Designate Jeffrey Grob, whom we keep in our prayers! Also making the news was the topic of immigration and the impact on our clergy of recent changes in the law (see Fr. Nathan's cover article). However, I was particularly drawn to the recent series of articles on local Catholic parish mergers and collaborations, by journalist Sophie Carson of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. She summarized well the current situation not only in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee but throughout Wisconsin, and indeed throughout the United States. I was privileged to learn more about this topic when I attended the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions' national conference in Pittsburgh in October, where the theme was "Bridges of Hope: Merging Parishes."

One might wonder why the liturgists chose this subject for their national conference. The closing presenter of the conference spoke compellingly of how the liturgy is the most important and impactful ministry in the Church, and therefore is uniquely situated to bring a parish community through the most challenging of circumstances — particularly those related to closings, mergers and collaborations. But the presentations leading up to that finale were equally enlightening and prevalent. Representing dioceses across the United States were presenters who have already undergone diocesan-wide planning initiatives for common reasons: fewer priests, fewer Catholics, too many buildings, too little revenue. They shared their stories of challenge and hope as they navigated these issues for the sake of the mission of the Church in our country. Presenters offered their best practices, what they learned and what they would do differently. We learned about methodology, practical considerations, and canonical and pastoral implications. We also had the opportunity to dive deeper into topics

like multicultural parishes, and considerations for church building usage.

At our Fall Clergy Day, Archbishop ListECKI spoke about our own planning initiatives in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. He emphasized the approach of our Missionary Planning and Leadership Office in consulting with local pastors and parish directors to learn more about our parish communities, while also utilizing data in membership, sacraments and population trends to make the best possible decisions for our future. Our Priest Placement Board is also working closely with our planning and leadership offices to ensure our priests and parish directors are placed for success and have access to training opportunities to help with these initiatives.

Optimistic? Perhaps! But with our honest intention of helping our parishes and schools to live our Catholic mission and thrive as the presence of Christ in our communities, and in working together with you — our leaders — and by praying for the Holy Spirit to guide our efforts, we have hope for our future!

Brenda Cline

► Continued from Page 3.

to continue to foster their readiness, as well promote an easy way for them to put forward any new needs and questions. I have included a draft of how this new tool is shaping up so far, but we would welcome other ideas to improve the experience of our inquirers as they continue their personal and family journey with our accompaniment toward whatever God is asking of them.

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), 139.

² *Ibid.*, 103.

THE SEVENTH ARCHBISHOP OF MILWAUKEE

Born March 9, 1903, in Milwaukee, the Most. Rev. Albert Gregory Meyer was educated by the School Sisters of Notre Dame at Old St. Mary's School and attended Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. He was ordained a priest July 11, 1926, in Rome. He was the first archbishop of Milwaukee who was born, raised and educated in his own archdiocese.

After completing his education in Rome with a licentiate in sacred scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Meyer returned to Milwaukee. There he served one year as an associate pastor in Waukesha and then accepted an appointment to teach dogma and ascetical theology at Saint de Sales Francis Seminary.

Meyer was appointed bishop of the Diocese of Superior in Wisconsin and was consecrated bishop in 1946. During his time in Superior, he produced a set of sermon outlines that were used by priests statewide.

He was appointed archbishop of Milwaukee on July 21, 1953, and returned to Milwaukee as it was approaching a period of the most



His Eminence Albert Gregory Meyer, S.T.D., S.S.L.
1953 - 1958

dramatic growth in its history. Over 100,000 new Catholics came into the diocese, and Meyer launched a \$3.23 million building program, which included improvements to the facilities of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary.

Building projects during his episcopacy produced the greatest building activity in the history of the diocese. During the five years of Meyer's episcopate, 17 new parishes were established and five missions were converted to parish status.

He initiated a statewide Catholic census and religious information program that resulted in many converts. He also paid particular attention to the growing black population in Milwaukee and fought city authorities to preserve Blessed Martin Parish.

During Meyer's tenure as archbishop, lay participation in the work of the Church increased. In 1958, he established a Council of Catholic Men to complement the existing Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women.

He also emphasized the need for proper dress in his 1956 pastoral letter on "Decency and Modesty."

Appointed to succeed Cardinal Stritch in Chicago, Meyer left Milwaukee on September 24, 1958, and was installed as Archbishop of Chicago on November 16, 1958.

There he worked with problems such as racial discrimination in parishes and schools. Meyer was made cardinal December 14, 1959.

At the Second Vatican Council, Cardinal Meyer was a leading prelate (theological expert) due to his outstanding knowledge of Latin and other languages, as well as his appreciation for newer trends in biblical and historical theology. Cardinal Meyer died in Chicago from a brain tumor April 9, 1965. Motto: *Adveniat Regnum Tuum.* "Thy Kingdom Come."



PAPAL X FEED

"We invoke Jesus, the Father, and the Virgin Mary, but we seldom speak to the Holy Spirit in prayer. Yet, it is the Holy Spirit who changes our hearts, anoints us with his presence, and helps us truly understand the reality of the Church and the mystery of God." Oct. 28, 2024

PARISH DIRECTORS

• **Dcn. Michael Koebel**

Holy Trinity, Newburg

Assisting Priest:

Rev. Tom DeVries

Supervising Priest:

Rev. Howard Haase

• **Dcn. Allen Olson**

St. Teresa of Calcutta, North Lake

Assisting Priest:

Rev. Domenic Roscioli

Supervising Priest:

Rev. Kenneth Omernick

• **Dcn. Sanford Sites**

Good Shepherd, Menomonee Falls

Assisting Priest:

Rev. Peter Drenzek

Supervising Priest:

Rev. David Reith

• **Deb Steppe**

Our Lady of Lourdes, Milwaukee

Assisting Priest:

Rev. William Burkert

Supervising Priest:

Very Rev. Jerome Herda

PARISH DIRECTORS- SHARED

• **Deb Hamm**

Divine Savior, Fredonia, and Our Lady of the Lakes, Random Lake

Assisting Priest:

Rev. Steve Lampe

Supervising Priest:

Rev. Donald Thimm

• **Dr. Sandra Schmitt**

Holy Cross, Bristol; St. John the Evangelist, Twin Lakes; and St. Alphonsus, New Munster

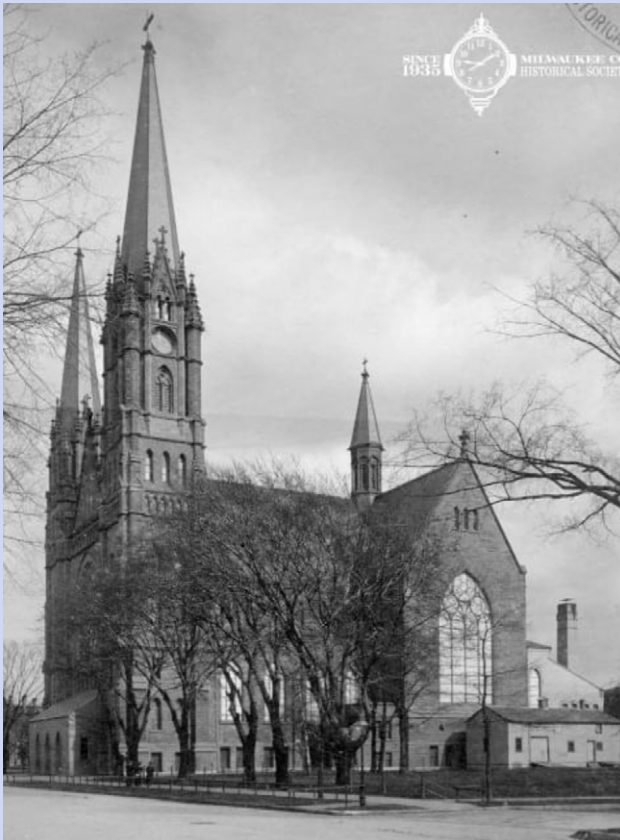
Assisting Priests:

Rev. Daniel Sanders and Rev. Dennis Witz

Supervising Priest:

Most Rev. James Schuerman

A LOOK BACK



*A view of Gesu Church from West Wisconsin Avenue, looking southeast, undated.
Photo courtesy of Milwaukee County Historical Society*

A GIFT FOR SENIOR PRIEST BUT NOT UNDER THE CHRISTMAS TREE... ACT NOW!

Trustees of the St. Michael Priests' Fund Trust decided to make the following grant at a recent meeting: A **one-time grant of up to \$1000.00 for each senior priest** will be made available, upon request, to be deposited into his continuing formation account.

These funds may only be used for expenses related to continuing education. You may apply for these funds by contacting Nancy Kerns at 414-769-3594 or kernsn@archmil.org. **The deadline for requests is December 26, 2024.**

If you know senior priests who do not use email and therefore do not get The Cincture Newsletter, please apprise them of this opportunity.

ONLINE 2024 CONTINUING FORMATION OF PRIESTS ANNUAL REPORT

(formerly Annual Continuing Formation of Clergy Assessment)

The document will be available online by the end of November. Please watch your email for details.

SAVE THE DATE



Pray, Reconcile & Rejoice
12 HOURS of
Reconciliation

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

**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 2025

FROM THE OFFICE OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP

PASTORS LEADERSHIP SUPPORT

As the director of missionary leadership, I am honored to work alongside Fr. Nathan in supporting pastors, priests and parish directors by providing opportunities for leadership development and training. Our mission is to equip you with the tools to navigate the administrative, management and leadership challenges you face in your service to the Church.

To that end, we are excited to announce two programs for pastors and priests: **Missionary Leadership for Pastors and the Acacia Leadership Roundtable Introduction and Orientation.**

MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP FOR PASTORS

What: Missionary Leadership for Pastors is a series of workshop-style sessions tailored to address the unique administrative and managerial responsibilities of parish leadership. The workshops are designed to provide new pastors and parochial administrators with essential knowledge for parish administration, focusing on best practices and key policies. Expect engaging presentations, interactive discussions and scenario-based activities that highlight real-life challenges and solutions.

Where: Mother Mary of the Church Pastoral Center.

When: Starting **Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025**, and recurring on the second Wednesday of each month (except April 9, for the 12 Hours of Reconciliation). Sessions will run from **9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.** Lunch will be provided.

Why: These sessions are designed to help you connect with the central office's subject matter experts and

share best practices for effective parish administration. Our central office exists to support you, providing the guidance and tools you need to lead confidently.

Who: As per the archbishop, these sessions are **mandatory for all first-time pastors and parish administrators.** They are also **open to priests with at least one year of parish experience**, and we encourage attendance from anyone seeking to deepen their leadership skills.

ACACIA LEADERSHIP ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTION AND ORIENTATION

What: The Acacia Leadership Roundtable is an exclusive opportunity to join a small cohort of pastoral leaders — no more than ten — guided by a skilled lay professional with a background in business. This group will meet to discuss member-selected topics, providing a safe space to share insights, explore solutions and build supportive relationships.

Where: Mother Mary of the Church Pastoral Center, Room B118/B119.

When: Acacia introduction and orientation will take place **Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2025, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.**

Why: Leadership, particularly within the parish, is a blessing, but it can also be overwhelming. Between balancing Mass attendance, school enrollment, financial management, personnel decisions and maintenance needs, the role of a pastor comes with numerous challenges. The Acacia Leadership Roundtable is a place where pastoral leaders can come together, leaning on one another's expertise, experience and fellowship.

Who: This introduction and orientation session is **highly recommended for all first-time pastors and parish administrators**, as advised by the vicar for clergy.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if you are interested in more information regarding Missionary Leadership for Pastors or Acacia Leadership Roundtable Introduction and Orientation. Together, we strive to support and strengthen each of you.

OUR OLDEST BROTHERS

Fr. Erwin Matt, 97	Fr. Donald Schmidt, 92
Fr. Robert Bales, 96	Fr. Joseph Haas, 91
Fr. John Richetta, 95	Fr. Robert Gosma, 91
Fr. Paul Lippert, 94	Fr. William Whalen, 91
Fr. Donald Zerkel, 93	Fr. Daniel Murphy, 90
Fr. Walter Vogel, 93	

BECAUSE WE HONOR VETERANS

The following comes from an issue of The Ozaukee Press dated March 9, 2022.

James Ernster was born on the farmstead on Sept. 12, 1925, one of nine children of Jacob and Lucy Klas Ernster.

As a child he attended St. Mary's School in Lake Church, where Father Joseph Keller would often tell him he was praying that the youngster would become a priest.

That, his nephew Jim Hubing said, stirred his calling to the priesthood.

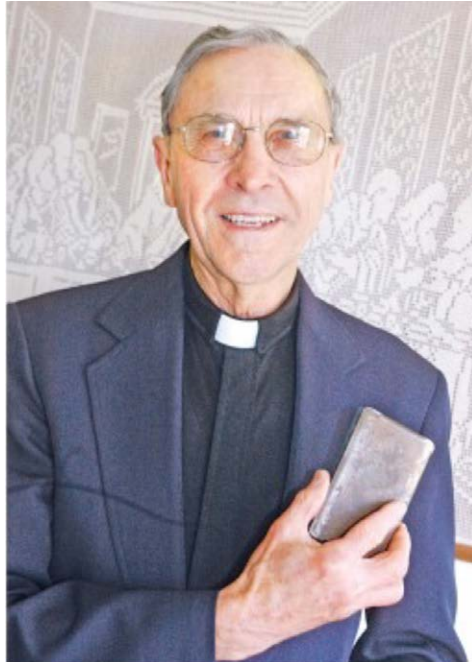
Ernster graduated from Port Washington High School in 1943, and on his 18th birthday enlisted in the U.S. Army. He received a temporary deferment until February 1944 because his mother died, and when his father bade him goodbye at the Port Washington train depot, he said, "Be a good soldier."

It was the last time he saw his father, who died three months later. Ernster, who was in basic training, was allowed to go home for the funeral and when he returned was assigned to a new infantry group.

The members of the group he had previously been assigned to all lost their lives in battle.

"My dad really saved my life," Ernster told Ozaukee Press in 2004.

Then, in the winter of 1944, Ernster, a private first class, was with about 190 soldiers in Company L of the 63rd Army infantry in northern France, surrounded by the enemy.



FATHER JIM ERNSTER, pictured in 2004, held the prayer book with a metal cover that saved his life and solidified his calling to the priesthood during World War II. Press file photo

"We were running around in olive drab overcoats and were easy targets in the snow. The Germans were in white parkas," he told Ozaukee Press.

He was in a foxhole when he felt a slap on his chest and asked the soldier next to him why he hit him. The man said he hadn't, and when Ernster touched his chest the metal cover of his prayer book was hot. It had been hit by shrapnel from an American 155 Howitzer shell.

It was then that Ernster promised God he would become a priest if he lived — and he did.

After the war, Ernster received a bachelor of science degree in business from Marquette University

before entering St. Francis Seminary in St. Francis.

"He wanted to be sure (of his calling)," his nephew, Jim Hubing, said of Ernster's decision to go to college first.

Ernster was ordained a priest at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Milwaukee on May 14, 1955, and celebrated his first Mass at St. Mary's Church in Lake Church on May 15, 1955.

Father James Ernster served the Archdiocese of Milwaukee as an active priest from 1955 until 1995. He continued to minister for another 24 years as a senior priest. His road to the priesthood and life as a priest is an interesting one, showing that he was an outstanding man, an outstanding soldier and an outstanding priest. — Fr. Jim Lobacz, Vicar for Senior Priests

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

We wish to offer our most sincere thanks to Laura Kacala, Anna Kozlowski, Jenny Michaels, Jenni Oliva, Margaret Rhody and Jaclyn Thompson for their generous assistance with the set up and hospitality during this year's Fall Day for Priests and Parish Directors. May God bless you for your kindness.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS

MARITAL INVENTORY FACILITATOR TRAINING — DECEMBER & JANUARY

Join us for an in-person training to facilitate the Prepare/Enrich marital inventory. Prepare/Enrich can be used for engaged AND married couples to identify areas of strength and growth (similar to the FOCCUS assessment). The main differences between Prepare/Enrich and FOCCUS are: 1) its ability to be facilitated by individuals (clergy or staff), and 2) the inclusion of their family science-backed workbook, which includes over 30 exercises for couples to practice the skills needed for a successful marriage.

Training costs \$150/facilitator (same price for a couple or individual) and take place at two times:

Tuesdays, Dec. 3 and 10, from 6-8:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Visitation in Elm Grove (two-night training, attend both nights)

Saturday, Jan. 18, from 8 a.m.-noon at St. Mary of the Hill in Hubertus

[Register your facilitators here to attend.](#) Please contact Doug Ulaszek with questions at ulaszekd@archmil.org.

INITIATION (RCIA/OCIA) WORKSHOP — NOV. 12

Is your parish ready to implement the new Order of Christian Initiation of Adults this year? Join us at this important (FREE) workshop to discuss the changes in the new translation, along with common canonical issues that arise during initiation, how to place people on the right ritual pathway, forming an RCIA team at your parish, and more. This joint effort of the Chancery, Office for Worship, and Office of Evangelization and Catechesis will be held **Tuesday, Nov. 12, from 1-4 p.m. at the Mary Mother of the Church Pastoral Center.**

[Register here to attend](#) — We request at least one leader from each parish to attend! Please contact Doug Ulaszek with questions at ulaszekd@archmil.org.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

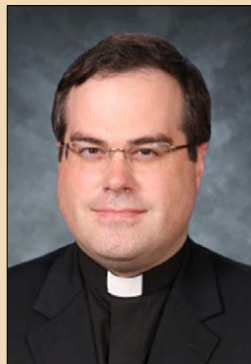
November 2023 – October 2024

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rev. Richard J. Aiken | Rev. Michael L. Wild |
| Rev. Edward E. Carroll | Rev. Bernard S. Sippel |
| Rev. Ronald O. Crewe | Rev. Arthur W. Mattox |
| Rev. Carlos Sosa | Rev. William E. Kohler |
| Rev. Lawrence Sepich | Rev. Richard J. Cerpich |
| Rev. Dennis J. Wieland | Rev. Jerome M. Hudziak |

CONGRATULATIONS, MSGR. ESCH!

Msgr. Aaron Esch, ordained in 2009, has been serving as an official at the Dicastery for Bishops in Rome since September 2020. This May, he received the honorary title of monsignor from Pope Francis.

"We congratulate Msgr. Esch on this great honor," Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi said. "His exemplary work is one example of how Milwaukee priests are serving the greater Church."



2024 VATICAN II AWARDS



Congratulations to Fr. Christopher Klusman and Fr. Luke Strand on being recipients of this year's Vatican II Award for Leadership in the Priesthood.

O.S.F.S INVITATION

As you know, the priests of this archdiocese have had a long and intimate relationship with the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi. From the very beginning, they were very much involved in the establishment and operation of Saint Francis de Sales Seminary. Anyone who has driven down South Lake Drive recently can't help but notice that St. Mary's Academy and St. Francis Convent have disappeared. What has appeared in its place is the Franciscan Shore Senior Residence. The sisters invite you to consider joining them in this newest ministry.

FRANCISCAN SHORE SENIOR RESIDENCE NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Franciscan Shore, the newest ministry of the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, is now open and accepting applications. The residential care apartment complex is located at 3221 S. Lake Drive in St. Francis on the Motherhouse grounds



of the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi.

Opened in 2019 as a residence for retired sisters, the facility is now open to women and men religious, lay women and men, and married couples of all faiths. Franciscan Shore offers an onsite nursing staff, seven-days-a-week programming, a caring Catholic environment and attractive residential units.

The residence offers many amenities, including a main chapel, prayer rooms on each floor, library and meeting spaces, an exercise room, onsite podiatry services, utilities and emergency call cords in every apartment. Walking paths allow residents to enjoy the beautiful grounds, which feature gardens, a grape arbor dating to 1912, Stations of the Cross and a St. Francis grotto. Catholic Mass is celebrated three times a week in San Damiano Center, located on the main floor of the two-story residence.

“We are excited to open our doors and invite new residents into our caring community,” said John George, President and CEO of Franciscan Shore. “We have so much to offer as a certified RCAC that is committed to the highest standards of care. Residents will find themselves in a respectful, caring environment that promotes wellness of mind, body and spirit.”

For more information about how to apply, or to schedule a tour, contact John George at 414-294-7301 or email jgeorge@lakeosfs.org. Visit the website at www.franciscanshore.org.

WEBSITE FOR THE IRS STANDARD MILEAGE RATES

<https://www.irs.gov/tax-professionals/standard-mileage-rates>

The current mileage rate is \$0.67 per mile. Please use the link above to check for future changes. Be aware the IRS maximum rate may change midyear.

THROUGH THE YEARS



The first Catholic church in the city of Milwaukee was St. Luke's, later renamed St. Peter's (left). After Milwaukee was created a diocese, it became St. Peter's Cathedral. In 1853, St. Peter's was replaced with St. John's Cathedral (right). The old St. Peter's church building first travelled to the site of Ss. Peter and Paul Parish in Milwaukee, then to the grounds of St. Francis Seminary, and finally it was donated to Old World Wisconsin in Eagle. You can still visit this historic site at Old World Wisconsin. Photographs courtesy of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Archives.

SAVE *the* DATE



2025 Spring Assembly of Priests

May 5 - 7, 2025

Osthoff, Elkhart Lake

Presenter: Auxiliary Bishop
William Shomali



2025 Active & Senior Priest Retreat

October 13 - 16, 2025

Redemptorist Retreat Center, Oconomowoc.

[Click here for more information.](#)

PRIEST *Wellness Day*

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Ascension / SE Wisconsin at Mayfair Road
(201 N Mayfair Road, 5th Floor
Conference Center, Wauwatosa).

Stay healthy and happy.

INTERACTIVE PRIEST DIRECTORY



www.archmil.org/Priest-directory.htm

OFFICES FOR CLERGY AND LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTRY

Vicar for Clergy

Very Rev. Nathan Reesman,
Vicar for Clergy
414-769-3490
reesmann@archmil.org

Administrative Assistant

Jodi Bowers
414-769-3484
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Priest Placement and the Lay Initiative

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