

Board of Directors

- Mark J. Wolff, K.M. Area Chair and President
- Sean Matthew Clancy, K.M Area Hospitaller
- Hershel F. Smith, Jr., K.M. Treasurer
- Mrs. Lee Da Graca Pinto, D.M. Secretary
- Mrs. Wini Amaturo, D.M.

Robert Black, K.M.

Mrs. Grace Colross, D.M.

Timothy Henry Czerniac, K.M.

Derek Da Graca Pinto, K.M.

Dr. Michael Griffin, K.M.

Mrs. Loraine Kayal, D.M.

Paul M. Lawless, K.M.

Rev. Dr. Patrick O'Neill, K.M.

Thomas Powers, K.M.

Order of Malta South Florida

November in New York!

Over a dozen local members made the trip to New York. Sometimes meeting for the first time, always developing stronger bonds of friendship, the weekend served to deepen all our commitments to serving Our Lords, the Poor and and the Sick.



Otto and Elena Fuentes, K.M. South Florida Area Dinner at Armani

Welcome New Members!

On Friday, November 11, the South Florida Area joyfully received four new members at the Annual Mass and Rite of Investiture held at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Andy Downey of South Miami, Douglas and Beatrix Stevens of Boca Raton and Anne McShane of Homestead.



New Member Anne McShane, D.M. (right)with sponsor Loraine Kayal, D.M. (left)



Pat and Andy Vissichio, K.M. D.M St. Patrick's Cathedral



Loraine Kayal, D.M., Greg McGowan, K.M., Lee Da Graca Pinto, D.M., Art Furia, K.M. General Meeting



Dinner at Armani South Florida Area Dinner





the American Association easy access for registration and schedules.

There is another vital part of this conference I would like to bring to your attention; 'The 2012 Malta Commemorative Journal.' As you can see by the dates referenced above, the Conference is being held during the time we traditionally hold our Gala. As many of you have generously attended and supported the Gala over the years, you know that it is the largest fundraiser of the year for our Area Projects.

Our Board recently approved a that we will continue to provide our joint venture with Camillus House to fund the monthly operational costs of a Medical Van to provide medical care for the migrant farm workers of South Dade. The state of the art Medical Van will be fully staffed and operations coordinated by the trained professionals of Camillus House. The volunteer medical staff of Camillus House will underwrite or purchase tickets to the be supported by our monthly contribution for maintenance, fuel and other operational costs.

We also have a long standing relationship with The Marian Center. Members of our Area recently banded together and made a noble gift to The Marian Center for a new pool.

Unfortunately, recent budget cuts from the State of Florida resulted in a loss of more than \$200,000 annually for the Center. Now more than ever The Marian Center needs to remain confident

annual grant to them.

Those are just two examples of our work, Serving the Poor and Sick, in South Florida. Which brings me back to the Journal. The Commemorative Journal IS our fundraiser for 2012. It IS how we will be able to continue our commitments to our charities. Rather than Gala, this year you can take out an Ad in the Journal to remember a loved one, demonstrate your support of your Parish, or advertise your business.

We have fabulous events planned, food and beverages for epicurean tastes, great stimulating speakers, a great spiritual environment and golf on a championship Don Ross designed course in the backyard of the Biltmore with room rates during high season locked-in for Knights and Dames of Malta for 10 Days. Saturday night we will have a



Mark J. Wolff,

Area Chair and

K.M.

https://

www.orderofmaltasouthflorida.org for registration on-line via credit card and for purchasing space in the perfect bound Commemorative Journal that will contain the proceeding of the Conference along with great ads.



Our beloved Sisters of The Marian Center:



Annual Advent Mass

Grace Colross will host our Annual Advent Mass at her home in Coral Gables on Sunday, December 4th. Mass will begin at 4:45 followed by a Christmas Party. The donation of \$125 per person goes to support the works of our Area 4300 Toledo Street, Coral Gables, FL.

Advent Reflection Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan

"You also know the great tragedy of that first Christmas. The Messiah's birth went largely unnoticed. Nobody recognized Him. The world missed Him. The world passed Him by. The world ignored Him, so much so that He was actually born in a manger, in a stable. You know what? That's not just a tragedy in history. That tragedy continues now, because Christ comes to us in mystery every day and we usually miss Him!

One of the reasons for this is that Christ comes to us in a very soft, gentle, unassuming, and everyday kind of way. He comes in a prayer whispered or a smile exchanged. He comes in bread and wine changed into His very Body and Blood at Mass. He comes in His Word in the Scripture. He comes in the cry of a baby and the countless other helpless individuals who cry out for help. He comes in the meal shared or in a tear dried. He comes in worn rosary beads and in those sacred words of absolution. He comes in forgiveness exchanged and a second chance given. He comes in water poured in baptism or vows exchanged in marriage. He comes in an imperfect Church in a struggling world.

Christ comes now in mystery!

They missed Him at Bethlehem. They ignored Him at Nazareth. They misunderstood and chased Him away in Galilee. They put Him to death in Jerusalem — and we do, too. We do the same today as we miss His coming in mystery. Remember that chant of the angels to the shepherds that first Christmas in Bethlehem. The angels sang out, "For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11)."

Excerpt from "The Three Comings of Christ," Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan



Calendar of Events

December 2

First Friday Mass Gesu Catholic Church 118 Northeast 2nd St. Miami, FL. 33132 305-379-1424 www.gesuchurch.org

Board Meeting 10:00 am Pastoral Center

December 4

Annual Advent Mass 4:45 P.M. Colross Residence 4300 Toledo Street Coral Gables, Fl. 33146

December 6

Solemn Mass of Thanksgiving 6:30 p.m. Cathedral of Saint Mary 7525 NW 2nd Ave. Miami, FL

March 16-18 National Membership Conference May 2-8, 2012 Lourdes Pilgrimage XXVII

Upcoming Fundraisers: Events posted are for charities supported by Malta South Florida Projects

"Wonderland in "Safe Haven"

Dec 9th, 2011 "Celebrating saving the lives of over 150 babies".

For tickets, Please contact:

Nick Silverio: safehaven@asafehavenfornewborns.com.

Upcoming Feast Days

December 2 Blessed Virgin Mary Our Lady of Liesse (Our Lady Cause of Joy)

If you would like to place an event or news in our newsletter please send to:

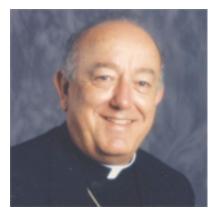
Lee Da Graca Pinto

leepinto@gmail.com

Photos always welcome!

* There will not be a separate issue for

December



The Most Reverend John Clement Favalora, D.D. Archbishop Emeritus of Miami



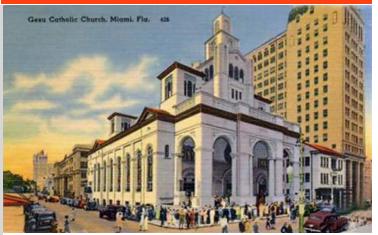
First Friday Mass

We have a fixed location! Conveniently located in downtown Miami, Gesu Catholic Church is the oldest Catholic Church in Miami, founded in 1896. So mark your calendars! Every First Friday we will attend Mass together at this magnificent historic church at 12:10 p.m. and for those whose schedules permit, enjoy lunch together at one of the many cafes in easy walking distance. *Please wear your pin* SOLEMN MASS OF THANKSGIVING

TUESDAY 6 DECEMBER 2011 6:30 p.m. Cathedral of Saint Mary 7525 Northwest Second Avenue Miami, Florida

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF EPISCOPAL ORDINATION AND 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION

Archbishop Favalora is a Chaplain of the Order of Malta, all members should wear their robes or capes with decorations.



The Gesu Church is significant for its important role in the religious history of Miami and as a reflection of the City's growth and development. In addition, the buildings are excellent examples of religious architecture and noteworthy for the excellence of its design, craftsmanship, and detailing.

Gesu is Miami's oldest Catholic parish and has served the religious and humanitarian needs of the community for over a century. The growth of the parish closely parallels the development of the City of Miami.

Miami's first Catholic service was conducted in 1872 when Father Dufau, who had been sent to South Florida by Bishop John Marcellus Peter Augustine Verot, P.S.S. of St. Augustine, celebrated Mass and confirmed the pioneer family of William J. Wagner. Wagner constructed a small wooden church on his homestead in 1875, and this became Miami's first house of worship.

The Holy Name Parish (now Gesu) was organized in 1896 and the pastor was Father Ambrose Fontan, S.J.A new church was constructed in 1897 on land donated by Henry Flagler.

From: Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia

Image: 1940's Postcard

A Safe Haven for Newborns

A desperate woman, all alone, called our 24/7 helpline seeking help. She did not know where to turn for confidential assistance.

Over the weeks leading up to the birth of the baby, we discussed all of her options including adoption. She chose "Safe Haven" for reasons too involved to describe here.

We coordinated the process with her and the Hospital: They were prepared for her arrival. She gave birth to a healthy, precious little girl. We are still in contact with the mother. The baby will soon be in a loving home, reaching for the world. We believed from the beginning if we saved only one life all our efforts would be worthwhile. As of today, 162 precious newborns now have a future.

......For more information about this program please visit: <u>www.asafehavenfornewborns.com</u>