



## *Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Parish in Miami Lakes, Inc.*

August 29, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am writing to extend a heartfelt invitation to attend a series of talks announcing the Kerygma, *the Good News of our salvation*.

We are all witnessing the growing influence of ideologies such as nihilism, *the belief that life lacks meaning or purpose* and secularism, *which seeks to remove faith and God from public and personal life*. These forces, along with hedonism, *the pursuit of pleasure as life's highest goal*, are deeply affecting our families, friends, and society.

The forces of nihilism, secularism, and hedonism have left deep wounds in our families, manifesting as anxiety, addiction, and suffering in our lives and in our homes. These are wounds that only the power of the **Risen Lord** can truly heal and transform.

Many of us can see how our youth, when faced with these cultural pressures, often drift away from the Church. Even those who attend may do so out of obligation, feeling that the Church no longer speaks to them or holds their interest. Sadly, for many, the Church is no longer viewed as meaningful or relevant.

We need new ways to spread the gospel, we need new methods, we need, as St. John Paul II said: "A New Evangelization." And this is what this invitation is all about.

As your Pastor, I recognize the urgency of offering these talks as an opportunity to present our parish and community with a renewed way of encountering Jesus Christ and discovering the profound beauty of knowing and following Him. The talks will be held twice a week, Mondays, and Thursdays at 8 PM beginning September 8th. No need to register or sign up, simply come and listen. Spanish translation will be provided, and childcare will be available.

May the Virgin Mary, who never remains indifferent in front of our sufferings, intercede for us!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Ivan M. Rodríguez  
Pastor