



**DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Pastors and Administrators
FROM: Bettina Alonso
CC: The Reverend Monsignor Joseph LaMorte
DATE: April 1, 2021
SUBJECT: "Tree of Life" at the *Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence*

Dear Pastors and Administrators,

To honor and celebrate all that our retired priests have done for our communities, we are excited to share with you a new initiative in support of the *Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence*.

A *Tree of Life* will be installed this summer, honoring friends, family, and beloved teachers and clergy in the Cardinal O'Connor Pavilion. The development team is actively seeking support for the *Residence*, and this naming opportunity is a meaningful way to achieve this goal. Please see the attached form for additional details. The *Tree of Life* leaves are offered for endowment at \$3,000 and \$5,000 per leaf.

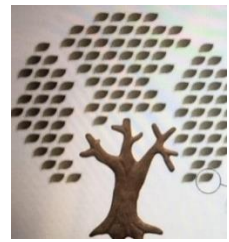
In May, we will implement a marketing plan to garner support for the *Tree of Life*. First, His Eminence will be sending you a letter to introduce the *Tree of Life* to your parish. A bulletin insert and other supporting materials will also be available. Second, we would be most grateful if you would suggest some parishioners who may be interested in supporting the *Tree of Life* to your *Cardinal's Appeal* campaign manager. We will contact these donors on your behalf in June and July to see if they can help the *Tree of Life* grow. **We hope to have to have around 30-40 donors or parishes committed and the leaf inscriptions finalized on Saint John Vianney's Feast Day on August 4, 2021.** His Eminence plans to bless the *Tree of Life* alongside supporters and the clergy in residence this fall.

As many of you know, the O'Connor Pavilion and chapel were built in the 1890's and were originally home to the Visitation Sisters. In 2003, a major renovation transformed the structure into the Cardinal O'Connor Pavilion, complete with 34 suites for retired priests. In 2017 the Egan Pavilion was built to provide 44 additional suites – 13 dedicated to acute and palliative care. The *Residence* ensures that 70 retired priests live each day in brotherhood with other priests. The *Residence* gives them some independence, the medical attention they need, and the ability to continue to support their faith. Many of you might choose to become a member of this special community in your own retirement years.

I hope you and your parishioners will prayerfully consider a donation, perhaps to honor a beloved family member, recognize a priest who was essential to your formation, or demonstrate your parish's philanthropic dedication to care for the elderly. Your generosity and the generosity of our vast archdiocese nurtures our mission, inspires others to give, and helps our *Tree of Life* to flourish.

With warm regards,

Bettina Alonso
Executive Director, Development



Tree of Life

Our priests baptize our children, comfort us in the confessional, witness our marriage vows and hold our loved ones' hands as the Lord calls them home. After a lifetime of ministry, it is now our privilege to support these faithful leaders.

Join us in giving back to our retired priests by adding your name to the *Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence Tree of Life*. Installed in the Residences' oldest building, the Cardinal O'Connor Pavilion, the *Tree of Life* will honor and celebrate all that our retired priests have done for our parishes, schools, and communities.

Adding your name to the *Tree of Life* is a meaningful way to support the *Residence* while honoring your family, recognizing priests who have inspired you, or demonstrating your company's philanthropic dedication to care for the elderly.

About the Residence

The Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence provides a comfortable and safe home for retired priests who have devoted their lives to serving parishes and schools throughout the Archdiocese of New York. Offering holistic, medical, and palliative care, the Residence ensures that priests live each day with dignity, independence, and the ability to practice their Catholic faith in a brotherly community.

Confirm your *Tree of Life* naming opportunity by completing the fields below.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please indicate your preference: Center section leaf \$5,000 Left or right section \$3,000

Names will be displayed either as a family name (e.g. The Smith Family) a Company Name or Foundation (e.g. Smith Foundation) or a single or couples' name (e.g. John Smith, or Jane and John Smith).

Please list name as you would like it to appear on the engraving:

You may complete your gift by check payable to The Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence and mailed to 1011 First Avenue, Floor 14, New York, New York 10022, Attn: Bettina Alonso, or by credit card:

Credit Card Type (Visa/MasterCard/Amex): _____ Number: _____

Expiration Date (Mo/Yr) _____ CVV _____

For questions or more information about the Tree of Life or Saint John Vianney Clergy Residence, please contact Bettina Alonso, Executive Director, Development at bettina.alonso@archny.org or 646.794.3393. Thank you.