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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE HEALTH AND WELLNESS OF CLERGY AND MEN AND WOMEN RELIGIOUS

DOWNINGTOWN, Pa. -- A Day of Prayer dedicated to the Health and Wellness of Clergy and Men and Women Religious will occur on Friday, **October 20, 2023**. The purpose is to provide spiritual support to those who tirelessly serve the Church and the people of God. It also serves as an awareness campaign and reminder of the importance of self-care, healing, and maintaining a strong spiritual foundation.

Saint John Vianney Center, the only behavioral health and addictions treatment and resource center providing holistic care and support exclusively for Clergy and Men and Women Religious worldwide, will host the event. The highlight will be a live streamed Mass from their Chapel at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time celebrated by Fr. David Brzoska, Chaplain of Saint John Vianney Center (SJVC), and concelebrated by Msgr. Roberto Garza, Board Member for SJVC, Pastor at St. Joachim Church in Miami, Florida, and President and General Director of Radio Paz.

To learn more and to download the media kit visit the dedicated landing page of SJVC's website: www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer.

"Amidst the challenges and demands faced by Clergy and Men and Women Religious, it is crucial to prioritize their health and well-being," said David Shellenberger, President and CEO of

Saint John Vianney Center. "The Day of Prayer serves as a moment of support and renewal as we collectively uplift our dedicated servants in prayer and seek God's grace for their continued service."

SJVC invites individuals, Catholic nonprofits, Catholic schools and parishes, dioceses, and religious communities, to join in this Day of Prayer, either by participating in the live-streamed Mass or by incorporating prayers and intentions for the health and wellness of Clergy and Men and Women Religious into their weekday Masses, and devotions. Those who wish to help promote this day are invited to display the Day of Prayer logo on their website, link it to our landing page, and use the hashtag **#SJVCdayofprayer** on social media.

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About Saint John Vianney Center

Saint John Vianney Center is a licensed and accredited residential behavioral health and addictions treatment and resource center serving Clergy and Men and Women Religious worldwide. The exemplary facility, staff, and resources distinguish SJVC as the premier center fully equipped to help ministers of the Church get and stay healthy in mind, body, and spirit.

Day of Prayer

The first Day of Prayer for the Health and Wellness of Clergy, and Men and Women Religious is organized by Saint John Vianney Center, the premier health and addictions treatment center in the United States for Clergy and Men and Women Religious. The day will be held on October 20, 2023, and it is designed to provide spiritual support to our Church Ministers who tirelessly serve our Church and the people of God. The day will also serve as a powerful reminder of the significance of self-care, healing, maintaining a strong spiritual foundation, and promoting a supportive environment for men and women who serve us through their vocations.

[Learn more about Saint John Vianney Center](#)

To request an interview with our President and Chief Executive Office, David Shellenberger, please contact Jim Friend, Director of Mission Advancement at jfriend@sjvcenter.org.

Meet Our President



David Shellenberger, RN, BSN, serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Saint John Vianney Center. In this role, he works to increase awareness of the Center's prevention and educational services, as well as its assessment and behavioral health treatment programs.

David served as Chief Operating Officer at SJVC since 2014 and has worked at the center since 2008. Previously, he was the Chief Nursing Officer responsible for all clinical practice and medical care performed by the nursing department. Past positions also included Infection Control and Patient Safety Officer and Director of the Complex Extended Stay Program. David helped develop the weight management and wellness program at the Saint John Vianney Center which assists residents with weight loss and healthy living through diet, education, treatment, and emotional and spiritual support. David also provides workshops for SJVC as part of our outreach services. Topics include Stress Management, Health, Wellness and Weight Management.

He has over 15 years of administrative experience in various health care settings including Beaumont at Bryn Mawr in Bryn Mawr, PA, and HCR Manor Care in Pottstown, PA. David received his BSN from York College of Pennsylvania and maintains his RN license through the State of Pennsylvania.

Day of Prayer Suggested Interview Questions

- 1.) Can you share the origin of the Day of Prayer for the Health and Wellness of Clergy, and Men and Women Religious and why this is important now?
- 2.) The Saint John Vianney Center has been serving the Church for more than 77 years. Tell us about your mission and how you serve the Church.
- 3.) Our Church Ministers tirelessly sacrifice for us every day, how can we as laity support their vocations?
- 4.) What kind of resources have you developed to celebrate the day of prayer?
- 5.) Where can people go to learn more?



Social Media Posts and Logo Information

1. Join us on October 20 for the #SJVCdayofprayer, a special day of prayer for the health and wellness of our Clergy and Men and Women Religious. Let's unite in support and gratitude for their selfless service to our communities of faith. 🙏 ✨ Learn more: www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer
2. Together, let's make a difference in the lives of our Clergy and Men and Women Religious. Join us on October 20 for the #SJVCdayofprayer, as we lift them up in prayer and show our appreciation for their unwavering commitment to the Church. 🌟 🙏 www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer
3. Our Clergy and Men and Women Religious tirelessly serve the Church and its people. On October 20, let's come together in prayer for their health and wellness. 🙏 ✨ Join us for the #SJVCdayofprayer and make a positive impact in their lives. www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer
4. Calling the people of God! Save the date - October 20 is the #SJVCdayofprayer. Together, let's support and uplift our Clergy and Men and Women Religious through prayer and gratitude. 🙏 🌿 Learn more and access resources: www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer
5. Our Clergy and Men and Women Religious are beacons of faith and compassion. Join us on October 20 for the #SJVCdayofprayer, a day dedicated to praying for their health and wellness. Let's show our appreciation for their invaluable service. 🙏 🌟 www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer

Day of Prayer Logo: Download the Day of Prayer Logo (above) by visiting our landing page at www.sjvcenter.org/dayofprayer and click on "Display the Day of Prayer logo on your website". We invite you to link the logo to our landing page where visitors can find updates on the Day of Prayer and join us for the Live Streamed Mass on October 20, 2023

Please contact Jim Friend, Director of Mission Advancement, Saint John Vianney Center 610-518-2083 - jfriend@sjvcenter.org for more information.