



| From the:

OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE



"For nothing will be impossible for God." (Lk 1:37)

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

RITE OF CANDIDACY FOR COHORT 2022

Mass for the Rite of Candidacy will take place on August 10, 2019 beginning at 8 a.m. at Mary, Mother of God Chapel at San Pedro Center. If you wish to attend to support these new candidates in formation, please email Jennifer at jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org.

YOUR INPUT REQUESTED: RETREAT MASTERS FOR ANNUAL RETREATS

This past year's annual retreats for deacons and wives at San Pedro received high marks from attendees. Fr. Ivan Olmo and the Sisters of the Pierced Hearts were praised for leading true spiritual retreats and not continuing education sessions. Your assistance is requested in helping our office find more retreat leaders of this type. If you have experienced exceptional retreat leaders that you would like us to consider using, please send me their names and contact information as soon as possible. Local (Florida) retreat leaders are especially appreciated to reduce travel costs.

Also, some members of our community expressed that they were disappointed that we did not offer a Spanish language retreat this past year. I will be sending out an inquiry shortly to determine level of commitment if we were to add this back to the schedule, and to look for volunteers for a planning team. Stay tuned.

DIACONATE DISCERNMENT NIGHTS

Recently, I sent an email to all deacons asking your assistance in identifying men with potential calling to the Permanent Diaconate in advance of the November Discernment Nights. While we get a lot of men asking to 'be a deacon,' we need to identify the ones who are called to *pursue a true vocation at this time*. This becomes especially important when we must choose from among an overabundance of applicants due to the limits on the number of men we can accept in any given cohort, as well as the need to build the ministry in our outlying deaneries. Please take the time to read my email, pray on this request, and discuss with your pastor. We are having our Diaconate Discernment Nights beginning in November. [Please click here](#) to check the locations and times. Thank you!



ADMINISTRATIVE

DEACONS STILL NEEDED

As a deacon we are ordained to serve our Diocese, not just our 'home' parish. In our Diocese, some parishes are blessed with an abundance of deacons, and others are in need of a deacon's assistance. To meet that need, God may call any of us to step out of our comfort zone. ***Pastors at the following parishes have communicated their need for a deacon. If you are in these areas, I ask that you please take to prayer whether God may be calling you to serve a new community. If so, please contact me if you would like more information.***

1. St. Joseph Catholic Church, Lakeland
2. St. Faustina Catholic Church, Clermont
3. St. Ann Catholic Church, Haines City
4. Immaculate Heart Catholic Church, Ocala
5. St. Francis of Assisi, Apopka (*Spanish language preaching required*)

POLICY MANUAL UPDATE

Our new policy manual is now available on our website. [Click here](#) to read the new policy manual. Be sure to print out and sign the policy manual acknowledgement form and send it back to us. You can mail it to Diocese of Orlando, Office of Permanent Diaconate, P.O. Box 1800, Orlando, FL 32802 or email to Jennifer at jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org.

WEBSITE UPDATES

We will be updating all the new forms noted in the manual in the near future. Due to the slow return of Deacons' annual forms and we don't want to confuse anyone with the new forms, we are choosing to wait before rolling out the new forms.

IN MEMORIAM

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACONS WHO HAVE DIED

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them.

LITURGICAL CORNER

Ministry of Liturgy

NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER!!

[Click Here](#)

It is not too late to join the 40 members of our community (deacons, men in formation, and wives), attending the special sessions focused on our diaconal ministry at the **Orlando Liturgical Conference being held August 22nd - 24th**.

Bishop Shawn McKnight, Bishop of Jefferson City, MO, will be a keynote. He is a renowned authority on the Permanent Diaconate, and will be offering talks on Thursday, August 22nd, specifically directed at our important role in the Church, today.

The Deacon's Ministry of Charity as a Service of Communion. The twin crises of clergy sexual abuse and the abuse of power have strained the bond of communion between the clergy and their people. In this talk, Bishop McKnight will highlight the unique position of the permanent deacon to facilitate and repair a broken relationship between the shepherd and his flock.

The Deacon's Liturgical Ministry as an Epiphany of Service. Have you ever wondered why a deacon has some roles and not others in the liturgy? This talk will highlight some of the theological, social and ritual sources for the deacon's ministry in the liturgy, which serves to underscore the nature of the deacon's ministry beyond the liturgy.

The one-day cost for the conference on Thursday is \$90, and you may apply for reimbursement for your conference expense as part of your \$100 annual continuing education fund from the Office of Permanent Deacons. Full conference fee is \$155 for all three days.

LITURGICAL NOTES

Recently a posting on the Diocese of Orlando Deacons Facebook page launched a 'spirited discussion.' The question addressed was whether the deacons or the laity should assume the 'orans posture' when praying at mass. While academic discussions on topics such as this are always interesting, I would offer two observations. First, whenever we have these discussions they should always be from a position of charity and understanding, remembering that we are Christians and Deacons. Second, regardless of our personal opinions, our competent ecclesiastical authorities, to whom we made a vow of obedience, have made it clear that as ministers in liturgy **only the priest** should assume this posture during mass. Consistently the GIRM states that deacons are to pray or make invitations to the people "with hands joined." While our personal prayer styles may differ, this is a case where we need to remember that "we are servants to the liturgy, not its master." Thanks for your cooperation.

[DIOCESAN LITURGICAL CALENDAR](#)

[Click here](#)

[SPECIAL COLLECTION SCHEDULE](#)

[Click here](#)

[CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE](#)

[Click here](#)

[DIOCESAN BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

[\(English / Spanish\)](#)

[MARRIAGE PREPARATION ANNOUNCEMENTS 2019](#)

[Click Here](#)

CONTINUING FORMATION

[ORLANDO LITURGICAL CONFERENCE](#)

[Click Here](#)

Liturgy in Action: Crossing the Threshold

SAVE THE DATE! August 22nd - 24th, 2019

Location: Hilton Orlando, 6001 Destination Parkway. Orlando

[LIMEX PROGRAM](#)

Tomás Evans, Director of Adult Ministry, Diocese of Orlando, shares the following:

“There is an Information Night of the LIMEX Program in the Diocese of Orlando, to be held on **September 5 at St. James Cathedral - Social Hall at 6:30 pm.**”

I extend to you this special invitation to join us, since your presence, participation and sharing your personal experience may motivate others to start classes in this type of learning group. We know that the power of the transformative experience of each class and hearing testimonies from others can help future participants to clarify their discernment process.

This is a special moment to recognize the Grace of God in our lives and to open the doors for others to experience the same about it. Let us make this moment of God a very special one and promote this formation program of the University of Loyola here in our Diocese.

We look forward to your presence at the information night and in advance, we ask for your prayers. Feel free to extend this invitation to all the people that you consider appropriate. Please email tevans@orlandodiocese.org if you will be attending.

We ask for blessings for your family and ministry.”

CONFIRMATION PRESENTATION & LISTENING SESSIONS

Deacons who serve the Bishop when he visits their parish for Confirmation masses are encouraged to attend the following special sessions.

Jon Trout, the diocesan Manager of Bishop Matters, has organized meetings in each deanery to share with every parish the Bishop's desires and expectations with respect to Confirmation liturgies. These meetings will include lunch. Members of the Secretariat for Laity, Family, and Life will also be present at these meetings. Parishes DREs, Youth Ministers, Directors of Liturgy, and Business Managers are also encouraged to attend. The dates for these meetings in each deanery are listed (link below). **Please Register using the link below.**

Confirmation Presentation & Listening Session

PEDRO ARRUPE CENTER IN MIAMI ANNOUNCES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)



SAN PEDRO SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

[Click Here](#)

OUTSIDE THE WALLS

MINISTRY OF CHARITY & JUSTICE

RECONCILING VETERANS RETREAT

We are excited to announce a new ministry opportunity for those willing to be a Spiritual Battle Buddy for a veteran longing to return to the sacramental life of the Church but who feels unworthy due to the spiritual wound of their military service.

There are many veterans who carry the physical and psychological wounds of their military service. For these wounds there are ample programs to assist them in managing their effects in their everyday lives. Yet there are other wounds many of us, as veterans, experience, the spiritual wounds. The deep regret we feel for orders carried out, liberties taken, and often the succumbing to the temptations of the seemingly encouraged military lifestyle.

The “Reconciling Veterans Retreat” encourages these spiritually wounded veterans that they are only one good confession away from experiencing God’s unfathomable love for them, and that they can return to the sacramental life of the Church. The Spiritual Battle Buddy is a person who is willing to walk with these spiritually wounded veterans, by identifying a veteran who is seeking relief from their spiritual wounds, attending the retreat with them to encourage the veteran to deposit all the guilt into the loving hands of God through the sacrament of reconciliation, and celebrating with them the great community prayer of the Mass. We then continue to walk with the veteran to encourage remaining connected to their Catholic communities.

The first Reconciling Veterans Retreat will be held Saturday, November 9th, from 0900 to 1530 at the San Pedro Spiritual Development Center, with the keynote speaker Bishop John Noonan.

For more information or to volunteer to assist contact:

Deacon Joe Gassman, jgassman@orlandodiocese.org; or

Steve Smith, 3sigmawellness@gmail.com.



[Click here for News & Events](#)



FORMATION

FORMATION WEEKEND: Classes for the Summer.

Cohort	Saint Leo Course	Dimensional Workshop
All		
2020		Formation Retreat, August 10-11, 2019
2022		Rite of Candidacy- August 10, 2019, Formation Retreat, August 10-11, 2019
2024		Formation Retreat, August 10-11, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

CONVOCATION 2019: CELEBRATING THE DEACONS OF ORLANDO DIOCESE!

*****SAVE THE DATE*****

October 4-5, 2019 @ Annunciation Parish in Altamonte Springs

Friday optional events include afternoon social activities, dinner buffet, presentation, community, prayer, and social hour

Saturday Convocation will include Continental Breakfast, Mass @ 9am with Bishop John Noonan including annual renewal of promises, Institution of Acolyte for Cohort 2020, Recognition of Service Milestones, Honoring of Deacons Who Have Entered Eternal Life, Panel Presentation on the Contributions of Deacons in our Diocese.

(More Details Coming Soon!)

For a complete list of calendar of events visit the [Deacon Webpage](#).

QUESTIONS? If you have particular questions you would like to see addressed by this office, you may email your question(s) to dcamous@orlandodiocese.org or jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org.

"I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now." (Jn 16:12)