



## OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE



*“For nothing will be impossible for God.” (Lk 1:37)*

### GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 2019 DIACONATE CONVOCATION

***On Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>***, we will gather at Annunciation Catholic Church in Altamonte Springs for our annual Diaconate Convocation. This year we will focus on celebrating how our deacons are currently serving, and the new ways we will be called to serve, the Diocese of Orlando. We will renew our diaconal promises at a mass with the Bishop, gather in fraternity, and participate in a discussion of the diaconate with a panel of local diocesan leaders and Bishop Noonan. Remember that it is an expectation that all active and ‘senior active’ deacons attend the convocation. If you are unable to do so for health or an unavoidable conflict, please email me at [dcamous@orlandodiocese.org](mailto:dcamous@orlandodiocese.org) to have an excused absence granted. Inactive deacons are invited, but not required to attend. ***Invitations will be going out via Eventbrite by August 30, 2019. Please be on the look-out for yours and let us know if you and your wife will be attending. We will need to have a “head count” to the caterer for breakfast and lunch by September 13, 2019.*** Agendas will be sent out by September 30, 2019.

***On Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>***, you are also invited to participate in optional activities and events. If there is enough interest, we will schedule afternoon recreational events. Dinner will be offered at 5pm at Annunciation Church, followed by a talk on the new Healing Our Church program being piloted in our diocese, evening prayer, and an evening social. ***Please be on the lookout for a separate invitation. RSVPs will also be necessary so we can plan accordingly.*** This will be a great opportunity to connect with other members of the deacon community in a more relaxed environment.

***The Deacon Widow invitations will be mailed out by September 5, 2019.*** If you are in contact with the widows within your deaneries, please encourage them to attend. Perhaps, you would be willing to help with their transportation.



## 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. St. Francis of Assisi, Apopka (*Spanish language preaching required*)

### DIACONATE DISCERNMENT NIGHTS

Thank you for your continued prayerful discernment and discussion with your pastors as to men who may have a calling to diaconal formation. The six Discernment Nights will be held in November per the schedule accessed at the link at the end of this paragraph. *Applications will only start being accepted as of December 1<sup>st</sup>.* 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. Thank you for your partnership in this endeavor. [Please click here](#) to check the locations and times of the November Discernment Nights.

### FUNERAL INSTRUCTIONS

**This summer has underscored the necessity for all of us to get our funeral instructions on file with our office. We know neither the day nor the hour.** You are giving your family and loved ones a tremendous gift by completing your funeral instructions. Even a partial plan is better than none. If you are not sure if you have turned yours in or would like to submit an updated version, please submit them to Jennifer at [jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org](mailto:jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org). If you need the funeral forms, please [CLICK HERE](#).

### 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](mailto:jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org).

### LETTERS OF GOOD STANDING

When you request a letter of Good Standing prior to travel, our office really desires to help you with that request. At the same time the requirements for being in 'good standing' have been made very clear for some time. Truthfully, they are not that difficult to fulfill. Once a year we ask for two forms to be completed, which specify how we are actively fulfilling our ministry and how we are continuing to enhance our skills and education as a deacon. Finally, once every five years we all must renew our background checks and complete Safe Environment training. That's it! These are not meaningless forms to complete, but very minimal expectations of those of us who serve in professional ministry. It pains us when one of our deacons makes a request for this letter and we discover that these simple tasks have not been completed. It is an unfair expectation for any deacon to insist such as letter be issued if they have not completed these basic requirements. Please help us help you by staying current on these annual obligations. We really do want to assist you in this matter.

## IN MEMORIAM

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DEACONS WHO HAVE DIED

- [Deacon William \(Bill\) Whale](#)
- [Deacon David Gray](#)
- [Deacon William \(Bill\) Fisher](#)
- [Deacon Ramon Navárez](#)
- [Deacon John Avery](#)
- [Deacon Stephen Cooley](#)

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

## LITURGICAL CORNER

*Ministry of Liturgy*

### LITURGICAL NOTES

**Serving with the Bishop** As part of our liturgical ministry, we on occasion may be called to serve with the Bishop at parish Confirmation liturgies or other diocesan liturgical events. At those times, it is important to appreciate and respect the role of the Bishop's Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Jon Trout. Jon is also the Manager of Bishop Matters, not simply his M.C. In this role, *Jon learns the specific preferences and requirements for serving with the Bishop and has the final say on all liturgies with the Bishop.* Consequently, when we are serving at a liturgy at which Jon Trout is present, I ask that we respectfully adhere to his requests and directives. While we may have different opinions, liturgical training, or experiences, we are to humbly defer to his instructions. This includes vestiture, assigned roles, seating, or any other specific instruction he gives. If you feel that something is awry and needs further discussion, *after the liturgy* please call or email me and we can discuss to get further clarification if necessary. *However, in the moment please fulfill the role of humble servant that we are ordained to be.* Thank you.

[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

### 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](mailto:tevans@orlandodiocese.org) if you will be attending.

We ask for blessings for your family and ministry.”

### SAN PEDRO SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER [Click Here](#)

Check out the link above to see the details on all upcoming Days of Reflection or Retreat Weekends offered at San Pedro. Events include:

#### **Senior Day with Fr. Anthony Aarons**

Thursday, September 12, 2019 - 9:00am - 1:30pm

#### **Spiritual RX for Stress and Anxiety Weekend Retreat**

Friday, September 20, 2019, 4pm - Sunday, September 22, 2019, 11am

#### **Ministry Burnout Workshop, with Regina Boyd, MA, LMHC**

Saturday, September 28, 2019 - 9:30am - 1:00pm

#### **Franciscan Witness in the Present Time with Fr. Vianney Cunningham, TOR**

Friday, October 25, 2019, 4pm - Sunday, October 27, 2019, 11am

## RCIA FORMATION

Do you live in a rural diocese? Do you need excellent and accessible formation resources? Are you charged with forming a parish initiation team or are you coordinating diocesan efforts to do the same? Please take advantage of the wonderful series of workshops regarding Christian Initiation which we produced last year. They have all been archived and they are available to view for a very reasonable charge. As you can see in the chart below, the topics are very timely and cover a wide variety of important issues.

They are all available in one convenient spot on the LTP website, <https://ltp.org/fdlc>. Choose one, choose a few, or choose them all! Handouts and discussion materials are also available.

TOPIC	PRESENTER	UNLIMITED \$25	SINGLE VIEW \$15
Recapturing the Richness: The Vision of the RCIA	Lovrien	VWFCI01C	VWFCI01O
The Initiating Parish	Truxaw	VWFCI02C	VWFCI02O
Discernment in the RCIA	Steffen	VWFCI03C	VWFCI03O
Concerning the Baptized	Colella	VWFCI04C	VWFCI04O
Period of Evangelization and Precatechumenate	Landry	VWFCI05C	VWFCI05O
Rite of Acceptance/ Welcome	Tufano/Williamson	VWFCI06C	VWFCI06O
Period of the Catechumenate	Dudoit-Raiche	VWFCI07C	VWFCI07O
RCIA as Adapted for Children of Catechetical Age	DeMasi	VWFCI08C	VWFCI08O
Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion	Williamson	VWFCI09C	VWFCI09O
Period of Purification & Enlightenment	Johnston	VWFCI10C	VWFCI10O
Rites of Initiation and Reception	Thiron	VWFCI11C	VWFCI11O
National Statutes for the Catechumenate	Thiron	VWFCI13C	VWFCI13O
The Period of Mystagogia	Kane	VWFCI12C	VWFCI12O
Preaching for the Rites	Joncas	VWFCI14C	VWFCI14O



## 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 9<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:jgassman@orlandodiocese.org); or

Steve Smith, [3sigmawellness@gmail.com](mailto:3sigmawellness@gmail.com).



[Click here for News & Events](#)



## FORMATION

**FORMATION WEEKEND:** Classes for the Fall.

Cohort	Saint Leo Course	Dimensional Workshop
All		
2020	Worship, Sacraments and Liturgy	Practicum: Communion Services, Adoration, Exposition, Benediction
2022	Ethics 1: Foundations	Marriage Preparation with Internship
2024	History, Theology, and Spirituality of Deacons	Liturgy of the Hours

## 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](mailto:dcamous@orlandodiocese.org) or [jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org](mailto:jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org).

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