



OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE



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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2019 DIACONATE CONVOCATION

It was fantastic to see all those who attended our Diaconate Convocation. Congratulations to the 15 men installed as Acolytes, their last rite of installation before their hopeful ordination in June. Thank you to Deacon Jim Shelley and Deacon Steve Cooley (R.I.P.) who shared their talents in planning the convocation.

We are beginning to work on next year's Convocation and are soliciting volunteers to be on the planning committee. Email me directly if you would be able to serve in this capacity.

Mark your calendars, our next Convocation will be on October 3, 2020 at Annunciation Catholic Church.

To view pictures from this year's Convocation, [please click here](#).

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, the Tuesday and Thursday evenings of the first three weeks. We especially want to encourage men from the Western, Northern, Eastern, and Southern deanery to enter discernment, to help fill an unmet need. Younger men with families are welcome to apply, as their ministry can be a beautiful sign of the complementary nature of marriage and family with the diaconate.

Applications will only start being accepted as of December 1st. 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.



DEACON'S DEN PODCAST IS LIVE!

We are pleased to announce that the first two episodes of the new Deacon's Den Podcast have been produced and are available on Faith Fit Radio at



https://www.orlandodiocese.org/category/faith_fit_radio_podcasts/deacons-den/

The first episode introduces the podcast and launches a discussion on the history of the diaconate. The second episode, published on October 31st, helps men answer the question, “Is God Calling Me to Become a Deacon?” This is a timely podcast based on the start of our discernment nights next week.

Check us out and let me know what topics you’d like discussed in ‘the Den.’ Who knows? You might be invited in as a ‘celebrity chef!’

SURVEY ON SPANISH LANGUAGE RETREAT IN PROCESS

The promised survey regarding the desire for a Spanish language retreat was sent out via email and will remain open until November 8th. **Please respond via the survey, only**, so we can document the level of interest and make an informed decision. Thank you for your participation. We will decide this month regarding our ability to offer such a retreat in 2020.

ADMINISTRATIVE

DEACONS STILL NEEDED

Thank you, Deacon Mike Balchus, for agreeing to assist part-time at St. Faustina. 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. Ann Catholic Church, Haines City
3. St. Francis of Assisi, Apopka (*Spanish language preaching required*)

Given the lack of volunteers to take on these assignments, we will begin to look at directed placements over the next few months.

LETTERS OF GOOD STANDING

If you plan to be away, visiting family and/or friends, and you desire to assist at masses while away, you will need a letter of Good Standing. If you are unsure if you are in good standing, please email Jennifer at jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org. In addition, please send all requests to <https://www.orlandodiocese.org/ministries-offices/deacons-welcome/request-for-letter-of-good-standing/>.

PATRICK AFB HIRING A CATHOLIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Deacon Miguel Pagan passed on an opportunity that he was contacted about regarding an opening for a Religious Education Coordinator at Patrick AFB. The details are below. If you are interested, please contact the office and we will put you in touch with the recruiter.

Details:

- This would be the assistant to the Catholic Priest to help plan, supervise, and coordinate religious education classes. Elementary through High School
- This is a Non-personal position (would be in the office three days a week). The Parish is open from 7:30 - 4:00.
- 6 hours a day for three days a week and 5 hours on Sunday (~25 hours per week)
- This is a one-year contract. Starts immediately, and goes through September 30, 2020

Minimum Acceptable Qualifications:

- Possess knowledge of the beliefs and practices of the Catholic faith and Catholic doctrine to include a minimum of two years' experience as an RE coordinator, teacher, or youth minister.
- Have a minimum of two years' experience working with worship, liturgies, and rites of the Roman Catholic Church.
- Possess coordination skills to be able to organize and communicate with chapel staff, contractors, and volunteers verbally and in writing.
- Be adept in organizational and administrative skills to include proficiency in computer skills, such as Microsoft Word and Excel.

OFFICE CLOSURE DURING HOLIDAYS

During Thanksgiving, our office will be Closed on Thursday, November 28, 2019 and Friday, November 29, 2019.

During Christmas, our office will be Closed on Tuesday, December 24, 2019 through Wednesday, January 1, 2020.

IN MEMORIAM

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

- Father Raymond O'Leary
- Father Michael Giglio

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

LITURGICAL CORNER

Ministry of Liturgy

LITURGICAL NOTES

New Baptismal Rite for Children

As many of you already know, there is a new Baptismal Rite for Children approved for use in 2020. The book is not yet published, but preorders may be done through Liturgical Press. The anticipated shipping date is by the end of January.



The new rite may be used starting on the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord (Feb 2, 2020) and MUST be used as of Easter (Apr 12, 2020).

Once the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions comes out with their materials which highlight the changes, Bruce Croteau, from the Diocesan Office of Liturgy, and I plan to travel around with a quick 'road show' to introduce the specific changes and answer questions. We expect this to happen in January and February.

Check with your pastor or parish liturgist to find out if your parish has already placed an order!

[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

[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:

Reconciling Veterans Retreat

Saturday, November 9, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Senior Day with Father Vianney Cunningham, TOR

Thursday, November 14, 2019 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Franciscan Hermitage Retreat

November 14 through, November 17, 2019. Begins a 5:00 p.m on November 14, 2019 and ends at 11:00 a.m. on November 17, 2019.

Advent Day Retreat with Father Anthony Aarons

Tuesday, December 3, 2019 8 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

50TH 
ANNIVERSARY

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 Fall.

Cohort	Saint Leo Course	Dimensional Workshop
All		
2020	Worship, Sacraments and Liturgy	Practicum: Funeral Rite
2022	Ethics 1: Foundations	The Model Disciple, Mary
2024	History, Theology, and Spirituality of Deacons	Spiritual Direction



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

**2020 Deacon's Convocation
Annunciation Catholic Church,
October 3, 2020.
Mark your calendars Now!**

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)