



OFFICE OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE



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

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDER.... REGISTER NOW FOR DEACON RETREATS!

Registration for the diocesan hosted Deacon Retreats is now open. **The March 19-21 retreat is nearing capacity, but there is still room in the other options.** Please remember this due to pandemic safety protocols, the retreats are limited to deacons only. We pray we will be able to return to couples' retreats next year. Deacons will have their own room, but this limitation allows us to achieve social distancing in the conference room and chapel.

March 19-21, 2021- Led by Father Anthony Aarons- [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

March 26-28, 2021- Led by Father Fred Ruse- [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

May 21-23, 2021- (Spanish language Retreat)- Led by Father Fred Ruse- [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

VIRTUAL RETREAT OPTION FOR DEACONS WITH HEALTH OR TRAVEL IMPEDIMENTS

In this time of pandemic, we continue to seek creative ways to meet your needs. To accommodate health fragile deacons and those who cannot travel to San Pedro, we plan to livestream the retreats on March 19-21 (English) and May 21-23 (Spanish). If you feel you qualify for this livestream option, please email your request to jkuhn@diocese.org. This alternative method of attending is provided as an exception for those deacons who are truly unable to attend in person.

MENTOR TRAINING FOR DEACONS WISHING TO SUPPORT OUR MEN IN FORMATION

In partnership with your deaneries, we will offer a one-hour Mentor Workshop to prepare interested deacons to serve as mentors for men in formation. **Zoom Workshops are already scheduled for the Northern Deanery (Thursday evening, February 25th) and Central North Deanery (Wednesday evening, March 3rd).** We hope to have a Zoom Workshop scheduled for the remaining deaneries soon. Please contact your deanery lead for more details.



ADMINISTRATIVE

DEACON WEBSITE

Good news! All technological difficulties with forms on our diocesan website have been corrected. The website is full of wonderful information such as our Calendar of Events and how to register; ordering of shirts and letters of good standing, and links to our Deacon's Den podcasts. We are in the process of adding more content and other "surprise" features. Stay tuned!

ANNUAL FORMS

For those of you who like to get things done early, we are now accepting submission of annual forms for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. **All deacons must submit the required annual forms and stay current on Safe Environment Certification in order to remain in Good Standing. Forms must be submitted no later than June 1st.** Please download the required forms from the diaconate website to ensure you are using the most current version. **Each year a deacon must complete a Self-Assessment, obtain a Pastor's Assessment, and complete their Continuing Education form.** Since it may be more difficult to meet with your pastor during this time of pandemic, we suggest you start now. (Zoom meetings count!)

DIACONATE ENDOWMENT FUND

Please help grow our benevolent fund to provide tuition assistance for formation of new deacons and continuing formation to those already Ordained. The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida is helping manage this fund. Our donations help our brothers in need. *To learn more, [CLICK HERE.](#)*

IN MEMORIAM

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Omaira, wife of Dcn. Luis Abreau, St. John Vianney, Orlando.

Clara, wife of Dcn. Eric Makoid, St. John the Baptist, Dunnellon.

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

CONTINUING FORMATION

2021 ORLANDO MINISTRY FORMATION CONFERENCE: I THIRST



God thirsts for us and we thirst for Him, too! This year's Ministry Formation Conference, *I Thirst*, will help us recognize we can only be satisfied by the love of God, and He yearns to give it to us.

Who can come? Everyone! For those active in ministry and those who hear God's invitation to serve!

What is it? *I Thirst*, the annual Ministry Formation Conference for the Diocese of Orlando to prepare people to serve Christ in His people.

When? February 5-6, 2021. Bishop Noonan will share a livestreamed opening reflection on Friday evening at 7:00pm, and the conference takes place 9:30am-1:00pm on Saturday.

Where? The conference is virtual and in-person at satellite sites around the diocese.

Why should I come? To experience the love of God in a new and profound way.

I Thirst will feature a series of talks on God's desire for us from **Mother Adela Galindo**, foundress of the Pierced Heart Sisters of Jesus and Mary, **Br. Adam Neri** of the Brotherhood of Hope and Director of Campus Ministry at UCF, and **Michelle and Asís Lopez**, leaders of Catholic Campus Ministry at the University of Miami.

Reflections will be available in **English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Creole**. To register visit <https://mfc2021.eventbrite.com> or scan the QR code.



The registration is reimbursable by submitting your paid registration receipt to Jennifer Kuhn at the Office of the Permanent Diaconate.

WEBINAR SERIES ON THE LITURGICAL BOOKS

Don't forget to sign up for the new FDLC webinar series on the Liturgical Books! Although the series has begun, they will continue every Wednesday until March 2021. **These weekly 75-minute seminars are FREE!**

Online registration is easy! Visit <https://www.fdlc.org/formation>

FREE INTERACTIVE THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE / WORKSHOP
PASSING ON THE FAITH: THE CHALLENGE AND THE BLESSING

**FEATURING:
DR. JOSH PACKARD AND DR. BOB McCARTY**

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10 FROM 7-8:30 PM EST



Empowering young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ is increasingly a challenge... and a blessing! The territory for pastoral ministry is changing rapidly, as evidenced by the significant increase in the “nones” - non-affiliated. This presentation will describe the changing religious landscape for young people and the need to rethink everything when it comes to the ways we engage with the most diverse generation in history. We will also discuss the role of the Church in accompanying young people on their spiritual journey.

Dr. Josh Packard is the executive director of Springtide Research Center and an accomplished researcher, speaker, and author studying the sociology of religion and new forms of religious expression. He has written numerous articles and given dozens of speeches about religion in America. He is also author, with Ashleigh Hope, of *Church Refugees: Sociologists reveal why people are DONE with church but not their faith* (Group, 2015).

Dr. Bob McCarty is a pastoral ministry consultant and trainer and adjunct faculty at The Catholic University of America and The University of Dallas. He offers consultations, retreats, workshops and training programs in ministry skills and issues internationally. Bob serves as the project coordinator for the Saint Mary’s Press research project, *Going, Going, Gone: The Dynamics of Disaffiliation in Young Catholics*. His most recent book is *Faith Talk: Having Conversations with Young People That Matter!* (Saint Mary’s Press 2018).

**TO RSVP AND RECEIVE THE LINK TO THE SEMINAR- EMAIL:
RANDALL.WOODARD@SAINTLEO.EDU**

[SAN PEDRO SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER](#)

San Pedro Spiritual Development Center is offering a variety of online resources to help you continue spiritual development during this time of social distancing. The following link has many free resources.

<https://www.sanpedrocenter.org/spiritualresources>

LITURGICAL CORNER

Ministry of Liturgy

[ADMINISTERING ASHES IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC](#)

Many deacons and parish staff members have made inquiries to the Chancery regarding the proper method for distributing ashes during this time of pandemic. I share below the update from the Offices of Liturgy and Music regarding the directive issued from the Congregation for Divine Worship regarding this method.

Ash Wednesday - February 17th

The following directives were issued on January 12, 2021 from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments and pertain to the method of distributing ashes, during a time of pandemic.

- The Priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes. He sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything. *Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: “Repent, and believe in the Gospel”, or “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return”.*
- The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a facemask, and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places. *The Priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything.*

Where ‘Priest’ is mentioned, ‘Deacon’ is to be understood if you are presiding.

[DIOCESAN LITURGICAL CALENDAR](#)

[Click here](#)

[CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE](#)

[Click here](#)

[DIOCESAN BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

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

[MARRIAGE PREPARATION ANNOUNCEMENTS 2020](#)

[Click Here](#)



OUTSIDE THE WALLS

MINISTRY OF CHARITY & JUSTICE

Please send us updates on your Outside the Walls Ministry to share, including photos, if available.



Deacon Joe Gassman with Habitat for Humanity of Seminole County & Greater Apopka.

FORMATION

FORMATION WEEKEND

Cohort	Saint Leo Course	Dimensional Workshop
All		
2022	Ecclesiology	Canon Law
2024	Hebrew Scriptures	Liturgical Music & Chant
2026		<i>Spiritual Dimension</i>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars

Join us for the annual Mass for Marriage with Bishop Noonan

Saturday, February 13th,

10am

St. James Cathedral

This Mass is for all married couples and all those who support the Sacrament and vocation of marriage. Social distancing protocols will be followed.

Masks are required.

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

QUESTIONS? If you have questions you would like to see addressed by this office, you may email them to dcamous@orlandodiocese.org or jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org.

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