



DIRECTOR'S NOTES FOR DEACONS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



SHINNING ARMORS OF FAITH

WRITTEN BY BY GLENDA MEEKINS

Eighteen men entered the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe in anticipation and gratitude, June 11, as they prepared to be ordained permanent deacons. In his homily, Bishop John Noonan called the men “shining armors of our faith.”

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REGISTER NOW! CONVOCATION: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022

The Annual Deacon Convocation will be held Saturday, October 1, 2022, at Holy Family Parish in Orlando. We will participate in the celebration of Mass with Bishop Noonan at 8am and renew our vows. Deacon Lucio Caruso is our featured speaker. Deacon Lucio is known for his joyful humor and his ability to excite people about their faith. Born in Italy, he came to the U.S. when he was 18 months old. He was ordained in 2010 for the Archdiocese of Louisville and served for 13 years as the Director of Mission for Catholic Charities Louisville. He recently retired to focus on his parish assignment where he serves as Pastoral Ministry Director. He will discuss, "The Divine Way of Jesus: Following His Descending Path of Love." Please note attendance is required for all active deacons. You may only be excused with a written request sent in advance to the Director of Permanent Deacons.

[Click to register](#)



CATHOLIC MEDIA AWARDS

Deacons' Den was awarded third place for Best Podcast Series by the Catholic Media Awards.

Judges' Comments:

Deacon Dave Camous is a very, very good host. Smooth, concise. Good humor. Loosely scripted and conversations.

Congratulations Deacon Joe & Deacon Dave!

CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SENIOR DEACONS!

- Bruce Dwyer - 93
- Henry Libersat - 88
- Frank Campione - 83
- Oswaldo Ramos - 83
- David Sandburg - 83
- John Lammers - 81
- Jesus Davila - 81
- John Howell - 80
- Jose Gonzalez - 78



CHEERS TO YOU!



WELCOME OUR NEWEST EXTERN DEACON!

Deacon Tom Dubois joins us from the Diocese of Toledo, OH, where he was ordained in 2000. Deacon Tom served as the Executive Director of the National Association of Deacon Directors from 2008-2020. Deacon Tom will serve at All Souls Parish in Sanford. He and his wife, Deborah, live in Deland.

Welcome Deacon Tom and Deborah!

ANNUAL FORMS DUE

Current Deneary Standings:

65.7% Southern

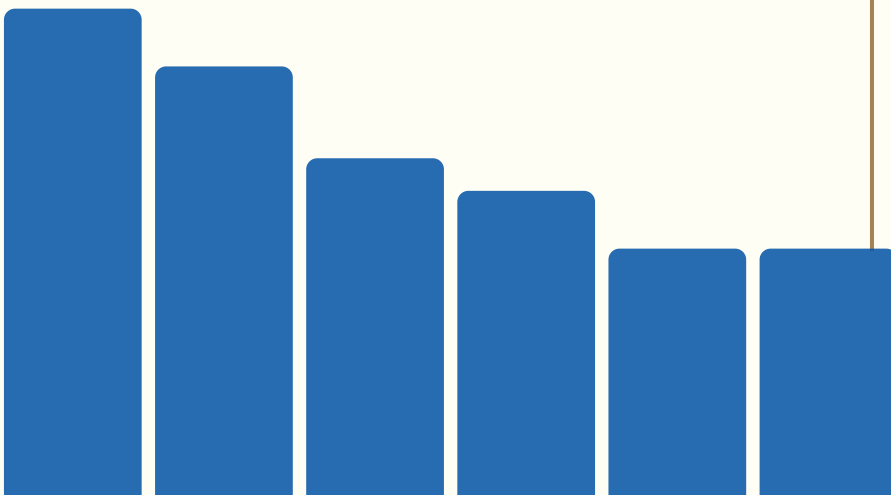
57.9% Western

45.5% Central South

41.1% Central North

33.3% Northern

33.3% Eastern



The number is growing! 95 deacons have turned in their annual forms. Each year our community gets a little timelier. (Okay, they were due June 1st, so timeliness is relative!) Every active deacon must annually submit the Self-Assessment, Pastor Assessment, and Continuing Formation forms.

Please remember annual completion of these forms is required for letters of good standing needed to serve outside the diocese.

[Click here to download the forms](#)

DIACONATE ENDOWMENT FUND

Please help grow our benevolent fund to provide tuition assistance for formation of new deacons and continuing formation for those already ordained. The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida helps manage this fund. Please 'pay it forward' to ensure the vitality of the Diaconate in the Diocese of Orlando.

[Click to learn more](#)



PAY IT FORWARD



IN REMEMBRANCE

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Louise Struttmann, mother of Deacon Eddie Struttmann, of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Indialantic.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.



MEMORIAL MASS FOR CLERGY

Gather at San Pedro Spiritual Development Center on the last Friday of each month to pray for priests and deacons on the anniversary of their deaths, and for laity recently buried at Queen of Angels Cemetery.

MEMORIAL MASS SCHEDULE

Mary, Mother of God Chapel, Friday, July 29, 2022.

- 8:00 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours for the Dead
- 8:30 a.m. Memorial Mass for Priests, Deacons & Laity recently buried

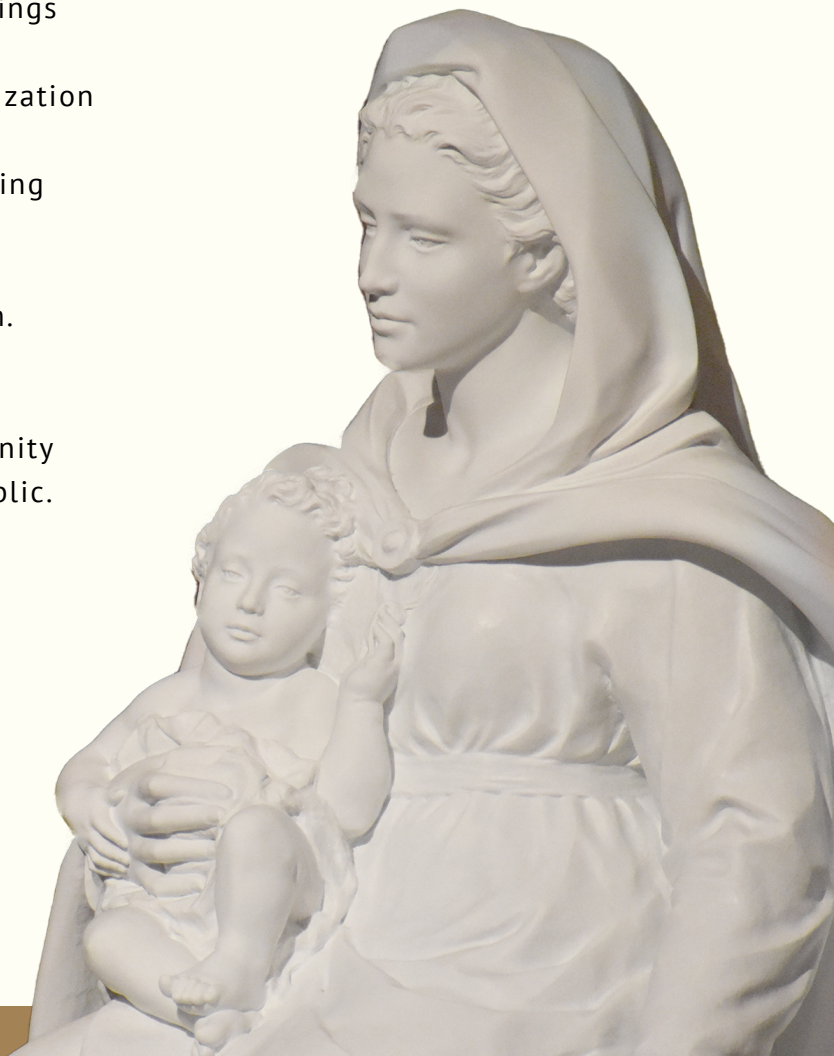
MINISTRIES

TOURISM MINISTRY

More than 70 million people visit Orlando each year. They travel from every state and many countries across the world. Some five million of these annual visitors are Catholic. Hence the need for an appropriate – and unifying – place of worship. No place could be more appropriately unifying than a shrine dedicated in the name of Mary, Queen of the Universe.

The Basilica provides our teeming tourist population the facilities needed for worship, teaching, and witness. Indeed, vacationers may come simply to pause in tranquil surroundings and commune with their Creator and Lord. What a marvelous opportunity for evangelization and witness for Catholicism. If you are interested in serving the liturgy on a rotating basis, contact Deacon Joe Gassman (jgassman@orlandodiocese.org) to be placed on the Tourism Ministry Team. Deacons and men in formation serve on a rotation anywhere from once each month to once a quarter. It is a beautiful opportunity to engage and witness to the traveling public.

BE WITNESS
TO THE
TRAVELING
PUBLIC.



MINISTRIES

PRISON MINISTRY MEETING

On Saturday, June 25th, the Office of Permanent Deacons was honored to host a gathering of key representatives involved in ministry to the incarcerated in the Diocese of Orlando. Deacon Richard Dodd facilitated the meeting. The day started with the celebration of Mass with Bishop Noonan at the chancery and continued with powerful presentations and discussion. Highlights included hearing the first-person experience of a woman recently released from prison and how the caring support of Deacon Dodd allowed her to quickly overcome hurdles to find a home, car and a job. A key presentation was provided by St. Peter Claver Ministry explaining a well-structured approach to reintegration services, including mentorship for those released in their first year. Honest conversations transpired about the need for more volunteers, better training, materials for catechesis to the incarcerated, and more opportunities to offer Sacraments. If God is touching your heart to learn more about this ministry. Please contact Deacon Dave at dcamous@orlandodiocese.org.

I WAS IN
PRISON
AND YOU
VISITED
ME.

(MATTHEW 25:3)



CONTINUING FORMATION

SPONSORED BY LAITY, FAMILY AND LIFE SECRETARIAT

FALL DEANERY MEETING DATES

- Southern Deanery, Tuesday, August 23 @ Our Lady of Grace
- Central North Deanery, Thursday, August 25 @ St. Margaret Mary
- Northern Deanery, Tuesday, August 30 @ Our Lady of the Springs
- Central South Deanery, Thursday, September 1 @ St. James Cathedral
- Western Deanery, Thursday, September 8 @ St. John Neumann
- Eastern Deanery, Tuesday, September 13 @ Our Lady of Hope

[Click to register](#)



QUO VADIS RETREAT

An invitation from the Church, or someone representing her, is often all people need to consider a life dedicated to Jesus. Please help the Office of Vocations spread the word about this annual discernment retreat for young men, Quo Vadis, August 1-3 at San Pedro Spiritual Development Center. If you know any young men open to living as disciples, please consider inviting them to attend. This is an opportunity to learn how to listen to God and grow as a follower of Jesus Christ. Regardless of their calling, this retreat will serve them well. You can share the [registration link](#) or use these flyers:

[ENGLISH](#) | [SPANISH](#). Please keep an eye out for similar events for young women.

SAN PEDRO SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

San Pedro Spiritual Development Center offers a variety of resources to continue spiritual development. Check out the upcoming events at the link below:

<https://www.sanpedrocenter.org/upcoming-events>



LITURGICAL CORNER



DIOCESAN
LITURGICAL
CALENDAR



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN



CONFIRMATION
SCHEDULE



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN IN
SPANISH



MARRIAGE
PREPARATION

FORMATION

COHORT	SAINT LEO COURSE	DIMENSIONAL WORKSHOP
2022	ORDAINED	
2024	ECCLESIOLOGY	
2026	SUMMER BREAK	



DEACONS' PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
since the time of the Apostles
you have inspired the Church
to commission certain members
to assist in a special way
in the pastoral mission of Christ.

Bless the deacons
and all other ordained
and non-ordained ministers
that they may be humble
and faith-inspired in their service.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen

