



DIRECTOR'S NOTES FOR DEACONS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

BISHOP'S EASTER MESSAGE:

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I greet you with the Good News – He is risen. Jesus appeared to His disciples and the disciples came to believe as their hearts were opened that Jesus truly has risen.

Do you recognize Jesus? The Jesus that is within each one of us. Jesus shows us clearly how to make our lives a gift of love to the Father for the good of our brothers and sisters. He calls us to be the Eucharist. May we serve as His dwelling place, transfiguring our world into a Eucharistic feast.

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CLICK HERE TO WATCH BISHOP NOONAN'S EASTER MESSAGE.

ANNUAL FORMS

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO BE ON TIME!

Why stress about getting your annual forms in on time? All active deacons must submit an annual self-evaluation, pastor's evaluation, and continuing formation summary to the Office of Permanent Deacons no later than June 1st. However, early submissions are accepted! Given your pastor's busy schedules, we recommend you get on his calendar now for a evaluation.

We are pleased to announce we are translating the Annual forms into Spanish.

[Click here for Annual Forms](#)



A close-up photograph of a hand with fingers spread in a prayer gesture, resting on an open book. To the left of the hand is a lit candle in a brass holder. The background is a dark, textured surface.

DIACONATE RETREATS

Last call for our sponsored retreats. If you would like to attend, please register by April 22, 2023.

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)



APRIL 28-30, 2023, SPANISH LANGUAGE RETREAT – FR. FRED RUSE

“Soñemos Juntos” Let’s dream together.



OPTIONS TO SPONSORED RETREATS

While there is great convenience and cost savings in attending a diocesan sponsored retreat and we do significant research to identify diverse, quality retreat directors, every deacon also has the opportunity to schedule their own annual overnight retreat at a retreat center of their choosing. If you do, you may submit a receipt from the retreat center for reimbursement of up to \$300. We have personally experienced retreats at the following retreat centers in the Southeast, and provide the following information for your review:

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP RETREAT AND SPIRITUALITY CENTER, VENICE, FLORIDA

OLPH offers regularly scheduled group retreats for which you may register, as well as directed or self-directed individual retreats. The beautiful grounds are located along the Myakka River, and offer individual rooms with private baths, full meals, and daily Mass. The retreat center was closed for reconstruction after Hurricane Ian, but will begin welcoming guests later this Spring. <https://www.olph-retreat.org/>

ST. LEO ABBEY GUEST HOUSE, ST. LEO, FLORIDA

The Benedictine Monks of St. Leo Abbey welcome those seeking a quiet respite from our hectic world to book a private overnight retreat at their Guest House. The house is located adjacent to beautiful Lake Jovita. Lodging includes rooms with a private bath, a private study and screened back porch with a lake view for reading and contemplation, daily Mass and Liturgy of the Hours with the monks, and meals shared with the monks in their dining room. Currently offering private, self-directed retreats, although monk led private retreats are in-the-making. <https://saintleoabbey.org/>

IGNATIUS HOUSE, JESUIT RETREAT CENTER, SANDY SPRINGS, GA

Take a silent getaway to unplug, break from daily routine, and focus on what's most important in this world – your own authenticity and well-being. Spiritual retreats at Ignatius House give you the space and solitude to focus on who your Creator made you to be – not just your best self, but your truest self. Ignatius House offers spiritual retreats inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, a Spanish nobleman recognized as a Catholic saint for his simple-yet-powerful, five-step method for daily reflection that has been improving lives since the 16th century. Ignatius House offers 20 acres of lush and secluded forest along the Chattahoochee River near Atlanta with 1.5 miles of trails, riverfront views, private decks, gazebos, outside Stations of the Cross, and St. Ignatius Chapel. A perfect environment for prayer and reflection.

[Spiritual retreat Atlanta](#) | [Ignatius House](#)



CONTINUING FORMATION

Deacon Summer Institute
June 4-9, 2023
St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary

THE PROPHET EZEKIEL: GOD'S VOICE FOR A PEOPLE IN DARKNESS

This course will put us in contact with one of the most fascinating figures in the Bible: the prophet Ezekiel, who was called by God in exile in Babylon to accompany the people of Israel in the darkest moment of its history. From studying the social, cultural, and religious impact that the exile represented for the Israelites, we will approach Ezekiel's pastoral activity and preaching by analyzing his main oracles. Ezekiel's prophetic experience will teach us to respond faithfully to God's call, even amid rejection and misunderstanding. From him, we will also learn to closely and firmly accompany the people of God in times of uncertainty, helping people to accept reality with faith in the loving fidelity of the Lord and awakening in their lives hope for a new future. During the course, you will also learn to read this prophetic book from the perspective of the paschal mystery of Christ.



PRESENTER: BISHOP SILVIO JOSÉ BÁEZ

Bishop Silvio José Báez is a Nicaraguan Discalced Carmelite who studied at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, obtaining a degree in Sacred Scripture in 1988. In 1999 he defended his Doctoral Thesis in Biblical Theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome with a dissertation on the subject of Silence in the Hebrew Books of the Bible. He has been visiting professor of Biblical Spirituality in Spain at the Pontifical University of Salamanca. From 2005 to 2009, he was Vice President of the Pontifical Faculty of Theology of the Carmelite Fathers in Rome, the Teresianum. He is currently Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Managua, Nicaragua, and professor of Old Testament at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in Boynton Beach.

Each year St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary sponsors the Deacon Summer Institute, a study week of ongoing formation for deacons. The Institute provides inspiring presentations, intellectual stimulation, and time for prayerful recollection – all in a pleasant, peaceful environment. Private accommodations. Great food. Good camaraderie.

COST:

\$595 - TUITION, ROOM AND MEALS

\$350 - COMMUTER - TUITION & MEALS

For information and questions please fill out this [Contact Form](#) and you will reach Sr. Mary Roberta Connors directly or [\(561\) 503-4799](tel:5615034799)

[Register Here](#)





FORMATION MENTORS

Thank you to those who have already indicated their willingness to be added to the mentor list for deacon candidates. We will offer the mentor orientation webinar later this spring. For those of you still contemplating this opportunity, every candidate for diaconal formation is required to have a deacon mentor to walk with them during their last three years of formation, as well as their first year after Ordination. We need experienced deacons who can offer these men 2-3 hours of their time each month to accompany them on this journey. The process involves meeting with the candidate and, ideally, his wife each month to discuss the growth and challenges during formation. Each mentor is required to complete a brief appraisal each month to submit to the Formation Director. If you feel called to help form our future deacons and have not yet completed the mentor training, please email Deacon Dave at dcamous@orlandodiocese.org.

TOURISM MINISTRY, OPEN ENROLLMENT TIME

The Tourism Ministry in partnership with the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary Queen of the Universe has become a popular and rewarding experience for many deacons and men in formation.

While it is a primarily liturgical ministry, with the encouragement of Very Rev. Anthony Aarons, it is becoming so much more. His openness to the diaconate community has created opportunities to engage the traveling public (the pilgrims) seeking refuge from the noise of Orlando's tourist corridor, where the pilgrims find beautiful liturgies and Sacramental Reconciliation among the beautiful architecture and art of the Basilica. The Basilica has also become an effective training ground for our men in diaconal formation.

If you have questions or are interested in participating the Tourism Ministry, please contact Deacon Joe Gassman at jgassman@orlandodiocese.org.





RESTORATION OF THE CUP TO THE FAITHFUL

Now that the CDC has lifted many pandemic-era restrictions, many dioceses are restoring the practice of the distribution of the Precious Blood to the faithful. Some Bishops chose Ash Wednesday; others chose the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper as the date of implementation. The following links may be of help when preparing diocesan policies and/or providing catechesis to the faithful.

History of the Practice of Communion under Both Kinds
"Take and Eat, Take and Drink"

<https://fdlc.org/eucharistic-revival-resources/>

Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States (USCCB)

<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass/norms-for-holy-communion-under-both-kinds>

IN REMEMBRANCE

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

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



MEMORIAL MASS SCHEDULE

Scheduled for April 28th, 2023 at The Mary, Mother of God Chapel at San Pedro
Spiritual Development Center

- 8:15 a.m. Liturgy of the Hours for the Dead
- 8:30 a.m. Memorial Mass for Priests, Deacons & Laity recently buried

PRIESTS

Most Rev. Thomas Grady
Rev. John Walsh
Rev. Edward Hamilton
Rev. Domingo Gonzalez
Rev. Eduardo Benitez
Msgr. Terrence J. Farrelly

DEACONS

Deacon Louis Bonneau
Deacon Richard Del Papa
Deacon Vern Henry
Deacon Alan Michels

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD

ORDINATION: SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023 AT 10 A.M.

Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe



DEACON ÁNGEL GARCÍA
HOLY REDEEMER, KISSIMMEE



DEACON ZACHARY PARKER
EPIPHANY, PORT ORANGE



DEACON EDGAR SERRANO
ST. MARY'S, ROCKLEDGE

ORDINATION TO THE TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE

ORDINATION: SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2023 AT 11 A.M.

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church

To View the Mass via Livestream - www.svdp.edu/live



PHILLIP RICHARD MILLS
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY,
CANDLER



MICHAEL BATISTA
ST. CHARLES BORROMEO,
ORLANDO

CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SENIOR DEACONS!

Deacon Jerry Kelly- 84
Deacon Rafael Mejia- 84
Deacon Luis Abreu- 83
Deacon Robert Basye- 82
Deacon Phillip Pierpont- 81
Deacon Luis Roman- 81
Deacon Jose Vidal Ramos- 81
Deacon Larry Brockman- 80



DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Check out some of the wonderful events
going on in April.

[Click to view the Diocesan Calendar](#)



LITURGICAL CORNER



DIOCESAN
LITURGICAL
CALENDAR



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN



CONFIRMATION
SCHEDULE



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN
ESPAÑOL



MARRIAGE
PREPARATION



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DIOCESE OF ORLANDO