



DIRECTOR'S NOTES FOR DEACONS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

BISHOP'S LETTER: THE EUCHARIST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

We continue our pilgrimage during this holy season of Lent to recognize Jesus within one another as we are called to serve one another. In the Scripture of the Second Sunday of Lent, we marvel at the Transfiguration of Jesus; He who was called beloved at His Baptism is again called out, distinguished by God the Father who says, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased, listen to Him."

[Click here to access the letter](#)

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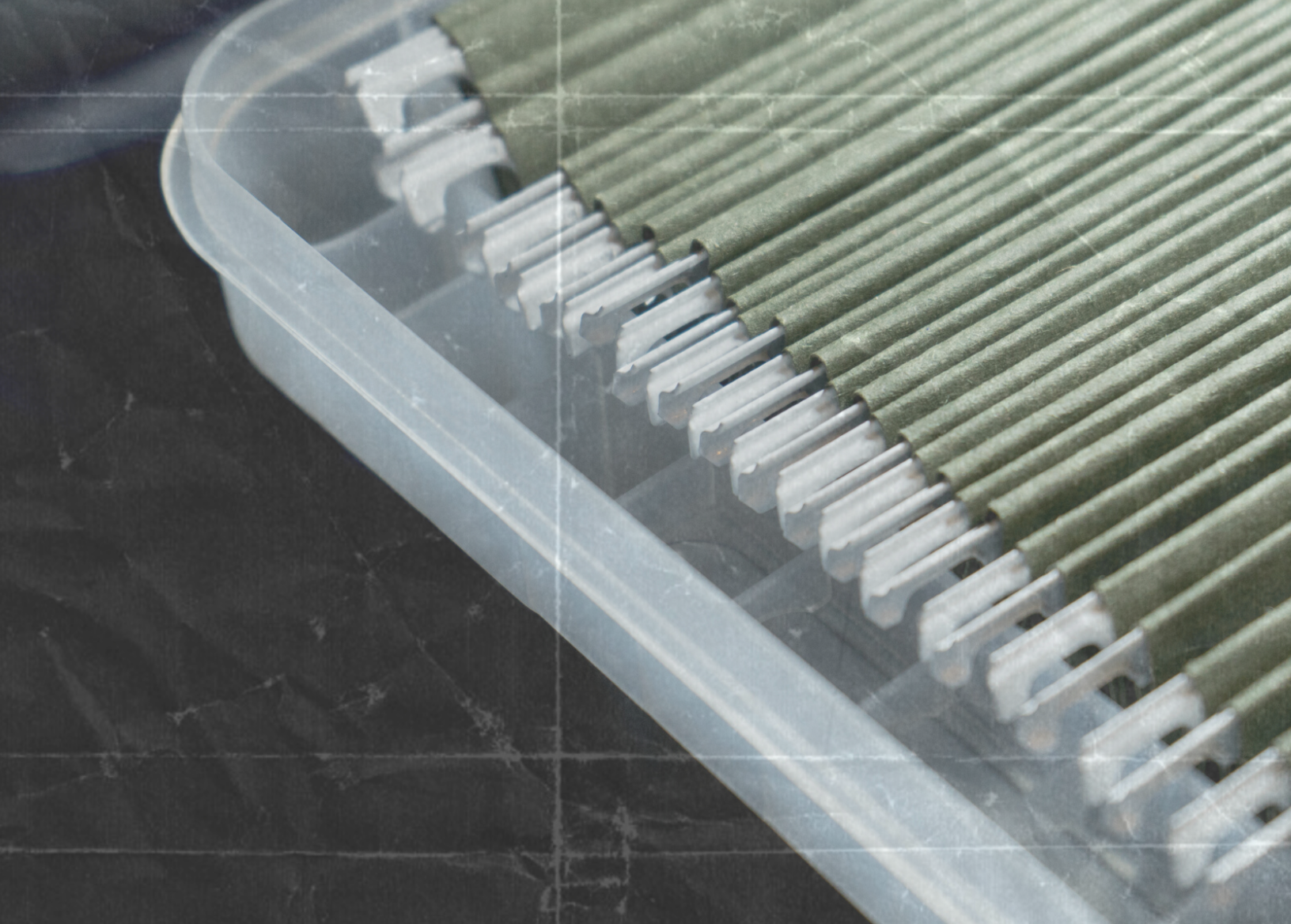
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ANNUAL FORMS

Why be stressed about submitting annual forms on time? All active deacons are required to 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 meeting to get his pastor's evaluation.

Spanish Forms- we are very happy to announce we are working on having our Annual forms translated into Spanish.

[Click here for Annual Forms](#)

OFFICE OF PERMANENT DEACONS

CLOSED MARCH 13-18, 2023

In an occurrence that happens almost as infrequently as the 'Green Comet,' all three members of the Office of Permanent Deacons will be out the same week, March 13th through 18th. Deacon Joe will be traveling out of state, Deacon Dave will be out of the country, and Jennifer will be on spring break with her family. Deacon Dave and Deacon Joe will be checking email regularly, and can be reached by phone.

If an urgent situation arises. If you need a Letter of Good Standing now through early April, please submit it immediately to ensure it is processed. Emergency requests during that time (i.e. a funeral out of state) will be processed by the Vicar General's office.

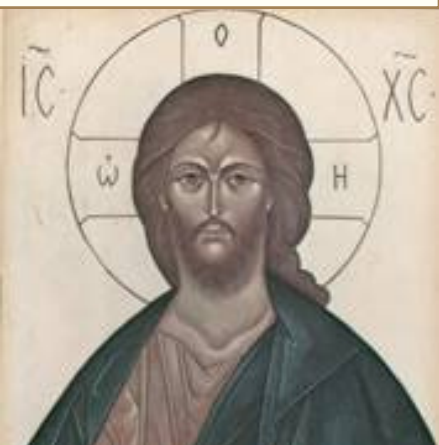


A close-up photograph of a hand with fingers spread in a prayer gesture, resting over an open book. A lit candle in a brass holder is visible in the background, casting a warm glow. The scene is set against a dark, textured background.

DIACONATE RETREATS

Last call for our sponsored retreats. If you would like to attend, please sign up today.

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)



MARCH 24-26, 2023, DEACON MIKE AND MARY FRANCES BERSTENE, “CONFIGURED AS THE ICON OF CHRIST”

The Sacred Order of Deacons is permanently restored as a “living icon of Christ the Servant within the Church.” The lives of the deacon and his wife are profoundly transformed by the diaconate and in their respective calls they become living icons of Christ the Servant. This retreat explores the spiritual journey through which we become aware of God's presence and the image of Christ that shapes every part of our lives.

We will use an icon of Christ as a focal point that invites us to a deep spiritual reflection on how we see God, how we see ourselves and how that leads us to be a reflection of God's love as living icons.

Deacon Mike and Mary Frances Berstene have been married for 51 years. Mike was ordained in 1993 and served as the director of deacons for the Diocese of Norwich Connecticut. Mike was awarded the Bart O'Leary award for outstanding leadership and service by the National Association of Diaconate Directors in 2013.

DIACONATE RETREATS CON'T

[CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER](#)



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

“Soñemos Juntos” Let’s dream together.
More details to come.

DEACON FACEBOOK PAGE

If you haven’t joined our Deacon Only Facebook page, click this link to join.

https://fb.me/g/p_okQfVbnejyhJxmxB/p5QEJpvp





COMING SOON

We are excited to announce we are working on more efficient and effective way of communicating with you all. MASS TEXTING. Our communications and IT departments are finalizing the contracts. We are so delighted to be able to be part of this. We will be able to text when podcasts are uploaded, newsletter has been emailed and available on the website, calendar updates, etc. If you have changed your cell phone number recently, please email Jennifer at jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org with your new phone number.



FORMATION MENTORS

Thank you to those who have already indicated their willingness to be added to the mentor list for deacon candidates in formation. 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 to indicate your interest.



PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM

IDENTITY, MISSION AND HISTORY

The Josephinum Diaconate Institute of the Pontifical College Josephinum offers educational programs through distance learning – in both English and Spanish – to diaconal aspirants and candidates, permanent deacons and their spouses, and lay ministers serving or preparing to serve the people of God through ministry in the Church. Its mission is to strengthen pre- and post-ordination diaconate formation on a national and worldwide basis.

FULLY ACCREDITED AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES OF USCCB'S NATIONAL DIRECTORY

The Institute's state-of-the-art distance learning program is fully accredited by The Association of Theological Schools. Courses fulfill the continuing education and formation requirements of permanent deacons, in accord with the USCCB's National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and the Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States.

THEOLOGICAL AND PRACTICAL COURSES TAUGHT BY QUALIFIED FACULTY

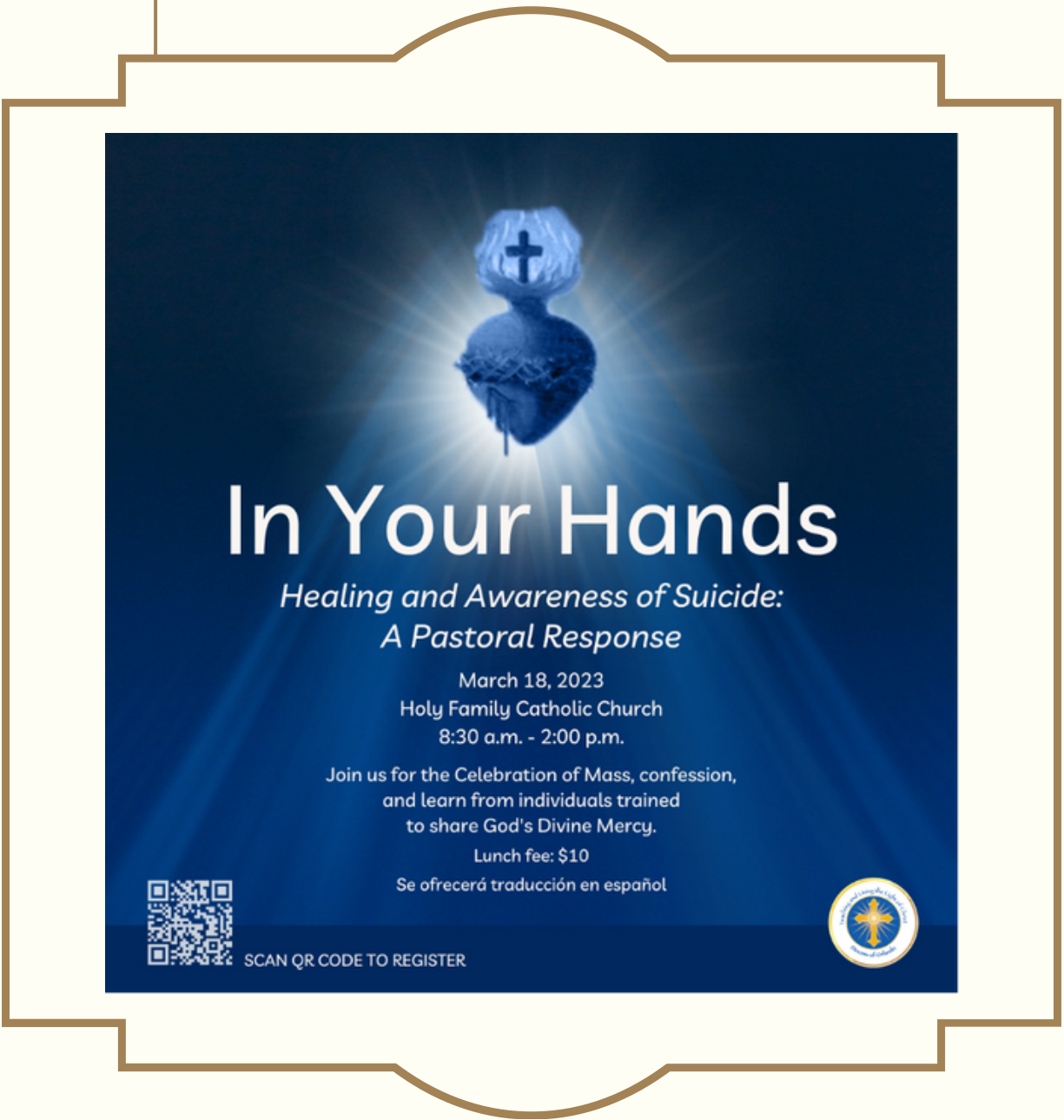
Courses are taught in fall, spring, and summer 12-week trimesters by highly qualified permanent deacons, priests, and laity with academic credentials and years of pastoral experience. Designed to accentuate both the theoretical and practical dimensions of theology, courses are hybrid in nature and may include reading assignments, brief reflection papers, and online forums utilizing state-of-the-art technology.

BILINGUAL AND FINANCIALLY ACCESSIBLE

Degree and certificate programs offered by the Institute are available in both English and Spanish to students from all walks of life and academic backgrounds. The Institute strives to serve (arch)dioceses with limited personnel and financial resources by offering modest tuition rates and fees.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
PCJ.EDU





Click to view video:
[In Your Hands- Healing and Awareness of Suicide](#)

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 Friday, March 31, 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

Monsignor Martin B. Power
Reverend Thomas Gross
Reverend Paul Kajdan
Reverend Sean P. Molloy

DEACONS

Deacon Richard Basso
Deacon Al Castellana
Deacon Elias Coll
Deacon James Coughlin
Deacon Louis Klein
Deacon Maurice Pujol

UPCOMING DIOCESAN LITURGIES

CHRISM MASS

Scheduled for MONDAY, April 3, 2023, beginning at 11am at the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe.

If you plan on vesting and attending, please email Jennifer at jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org.





CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SENIOR DEACONS!

Deacon Jack Martin- 86

Deacon Lee Stilwell- 84

Deacon Nick Varsalona- 84

Deacon Sergio Colon- 81

Deacon Rich Kaseta- 81

Deacon Eddie Berrios- 80

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

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

[Click to view the Diocesan Calendar](#)



LITURGICAL CORNER



DIOCESAN
LITURGICAL
CALENDAR



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN



CONFIRMATION
SCHEDULE



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN
ESPAÑOL



MARRIAGE
PREPARATION



DIRECTOR'S NOTES FOR DEACONS
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DIOCESE OF ORLANDO