



DIRECTOR'S NOTES FOR DEACONS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

BISHOP'S LETTER: SANCTIFY

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

St. Peter reminds us of the importance of never losing focus on God, to sanctify Christ as Lord in our hearts. He tells us to be ready to explain the reason for our joy; for if Christ is in our hearts, we are joyous, and others may not understand this sacred joy. He reminds us in our daily living, in our living joyously, to greet the people with reverence, no matter how they might treat us. By doing this, they will also know the love of Christ and the reason for your joy.

[Click here to read the letter](#)

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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

The Ordination of three new priests for the Diocese of Orlando is scheduled at 10:00 a.m. on May 27th at the Basilica Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe. If you plan to attend, please email Jennifer at jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org by May 22.



ANNUAL FORMS

DUE JUNE 1ST

The time is getting short! Please submit your Annual Forms ASAP so you can remain in good standing as we start the new Diocesan Fiscal Year ahead (July 1st through June 30th). For “Active” deacons that requires your Self-Evaluation, your Pastor’s Evaluation, and Continuing Formation form. If these are not turned in and you request a Letter of Good Standing to serve outside of the Diocese of Orlando, we would not be able to issue your requested letter, and none of us want that to happen. Help us help you by getting your Annual Forms in now!

[Annual Forms.](#)

We are pleased to announce that we now have a Spanish version of the annual forms. [Oprima aqui](#)

ANNUAL RETREATS

Thank you to Jennifer, and all those who had a hand in organizing the diocesan sponsored retreats this year. More than 100 deacons, most with their wives, attended the three English language and one Spanish language retreat offered at San Pedro Spiritual Development Center. There was a great diversity in styles of retreat masters to meet the needs of our deacons and wives. If you have retreat directors you would like to recommend for future years, please send contact information to Deacon Dave.

If you were not able to attend one of the offerings or prefer to take an individual retreat, remember you can get up to \$300 reimbursement for your retreat by submitting a copy of your paid invoice from the retreat center to Jennifer for reimbursement.



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 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.

CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER



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 week of ongoing formation for deacons. The Institute provides inspiring presentations, intellectual stimulation, and time for prayerful recollection 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 Sister Mary Roberta Connors or call (561) 503-4799

[Click to Register Here](#)



DISCERNMENT NIGHT SCHEDULE

We have confirmed our discernment night schedule to begin selecting the men seeking to enter Cohort 2030 for the Permanent Diaconate. If you know someone who believes they are being called to the Diaconate, please ask them to attend one of these nights.

September 26th at St. Charles Borromeo, Orlando

September 28th at St. Paul, Leesburg

October 3rd at St. John the Evangelist, Viera

October 5th at St. James Cathedral, Orlando

October 11th at St. John Neumann, Lakeland

October 12th at Our Lady of Hope, Port Orange



FORMATION MENTORS NEEDED

Thank you to those who 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. The process involves meeting with the candidate and, ideally, his wife to discuss 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 future deacons and have not yet completed the mentor training, please email Deacon Dave at dcamous@orlandodiocese.org to indicate your interest.



WELCOME DEACON GERALD NORRIS!

Please join me in welcoming Deacon Gerald Norris to the Diocese of Orlando. Deacon Gerald was born in Grand Rapids, MI, and was ordained a Permanent Deacon on June 22, 2013, in the Diocese of Biloxi, MS, from where he and his wife, Sandra, have recently moved. Gerald and Sandra have been married for 31 years and have three adult sons. Deacon Gerald is the Director of Procurement for Kennedy Space Center. Prior to joining the NASA team in 2006, he served our nation for 21 years in the U.S. Air Force. Deacon Gerald has been assigned to serve at St. Mary Parish in Rockledge. We are delighted to have them join the Diocese of Orlando diaconate community!

SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for our Annual Deacon Convocation on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at Annunciation Parish in Altamonte Springs. We also hope to host a social evening on Friday, October 6th, if there is sufficient interest. More details to come over the summer, but please reserve those dates!

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 May 26, 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

Msgr. Fachtna Joseph Harte
Rev. John W. Garvy
Rev. Patrick O'Carroll
Rev. James MacLoughlin

DEACONS

Deacon Jose Cruz
Deacon Irvin Huff
Deacon Joseph Richiuso
Deacon Robert Roe



CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SENIOR DEACONS!

Deacon Andy Murello- 91
Deacon Robert Laplante- 90
Deacon Celso Diaz- 89
Deacon Frank Falotico- 87
Deacon Antonio Martinez- 87
Deacon David Wendel- 81
Deacon John Gravois- 80

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

[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