



BISHOP'S LETTER:

TRUSTING GOD WILL OFFER US COMPASSION AND MERCY

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

We are at the midpoint of our Lenten journey and God, through His many messengers, guides us on the right path. By our participation in the Sacrament of Baptism, we become His messengers, and it is we who are leading each other to God.

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ANNUAL FORMS

Now is the time to schedule your meeting with your pastor so he can complete your annual pastor's assessment. Annual forms are due June 1st, 2024. In addition, please remember to keep a copy of what you turn in to our office. If there is a delay in meeting with your pastor, you can always turn in a copy of your self-assessment and continuing education forms and forward the pastor's form when it is completed.

APPLICATIONS FOR DEACON FORMATION COHORT 2030

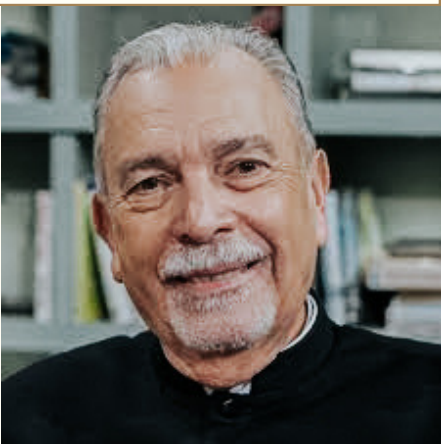
The application window has now closed for men seeking to enter a formal discernment year in anticipation of starting the 5-year formation program pointing toward possible ordination in 2030. At the request of pastors, 35 applications were sent out to prospective applicants this winter with more than 20 were received by the March 1st deadline. A seven-person review team has been assembled, each of whom will read and evaluate every application prior to a decision on who to call in for interviews this Spring. Please keep the applicants and review team in your prayers during this decision period so that God's voice may be clearly heard in the discernment of these men's possible vocations.



LAST SPONSORED 2024 DEACON COUPLE RETREAT

Registration for this retreat ends April 15th, 2024. Please register today if you want to attend.

HAGA CLIC PARA
REGISTRARSE



APRIL 26-28, 2024 (SPANISH LANGUAGE)

Retreat Director Monsignor Wilfredo Peña.

“Todo lo que hagan, háganlo de corazón, como para el Señor y no para los hombres” (Col. 3:23).

Nacido en Cuba y residente en Puerto Rico desde muy joven. Fue ordenado sacerdote en la Arquidiócesis de San Juan el 30 de marzo del 1974. Obtuvo su Bachillerato en Humanidades-Filosofía en la Pontificia Universidad de Ponce y un Bachillerato en Teología de la Universidad Gregoriana de Roma. Posee una Licenciatura en Derecho Canónico de la Universidad Lateranense de Roma y ostenta un Doctorado en Derecho Canónico de la Universidad de Santo Tomás de Aquino de Roma.

Fue asignado a los Estados Unidos a principios de los años ochenta. Llevó a cabo una intensa labor evangelizadora y pastoral en las Arquidiócesis de Miami, Florida y Los Ángeles, California. Fundó Cor-Jesu (Comunidad de Fe, Esperanza Caridad) junto a un grupo de laicos en Miami.

Desde el 1989, es Párroco y Pastor de la Parroquia Santa Bernardita de San Juan donde ha tenido una exitosa trayectoria desarrollando eventos pastorales y retiros. Por más de 28 años ha celebrado convivencias de renovación y evangelización para su comunidad de fe que se transmiten por internet al mundo entero. Cuenta con sobre 34 ministerios activos y se ha dedicado a cumplir con la formación cristiana de su feligresía que sobrepasa los mil creyentes.

Sacerdote soñador, emprendedor y dinámico, ha dado paso a nuevos enfoques de Evangelización de la Iglesia Católica con su lema “Abriendo Puertas para Cristo” y con ese carisma especial ha llevado el mensaje de la Buena Nueva a miles de almas a través de sus misiones en diferentes países.

Please remember that if you are an Active or Senior Active deacon and your parish has paid the annual assessment, the cost of one of these retreats each year for you and your wife is completely covered. Optionally, if you choose to schedule a retreat at a different location to fulfill your annual obligation, you may submit your receipt after the retreat has been completed, and our office can reimburse you for up to \$350 of the cost. Thank you for ensuring your spiritual selfcare each year by fulfilling this canonical requirement.

CONTINUING FORMATION

FORMATION OPPORTUNITY

Please be advised of a new series of webinars co-sponsored by the McGrath Institute for Church Life (University of Notre Dame) and the National Catholic Partnership on Disabilities (MCPD) . Entitled “In Communion,” they will focus on the sacramental inclusion of persons with disabilities. These FREE webinars will run March 7, 14, 21 and April 11, 18, and 25. Each will run from 3:00 to 4:30 PM (Eastern). For more information, please follow this link [In Communion | NCPD - National Catholic Partnership on Disability](#)

COMING IN MAY – ANOTHER FREE FDLC WEBINAR SERIES WEDNESDAYS 1:00 TO 2:15

MAY 1 Rev. Ed Foley, OFM, Capuchin
History and Theology of Eucharistic Adoration after Vatican II, Part 1

MAY 8 Rev. Ed Foley, OFM, Capuchin
History and Theology of Eucharistic Adoration after Vatican II, Part 2

MAY 15 Dr. Steve Janco
Music for a Period of Exposition

MAY 22 Rev. Matthew Ernest
Best Practices for Adoration and Exposition

JUNE 5 Rev. Dustin Dought (BCDW) and FDLC Staff
An examination of the newly revised liturgical text, Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharistic Mystery outside Mass (First use, September 14)



RETREAT REGISTRATION

THE REAL COST OF LAST-MINUTE CANCELLATIONS

The Diocese of Orlando is privileged to host four retreats each year for deacon couples, simplifying the process for deacons to fulfill their annual obligation to take an overnight retreat. However, in the past couple of years, an increasing number of deacons have signed up to attend retreats and either cancelled within the last two weeks before the retreat or simply did not attend. The result is that costs that have been incurred for meals, and occasionally for the rooms, are still paid by the Office of Permanent Deacons on their behalf. This is not good stewardship of the financial resources of the diocese or your parishes that have been assessed to pay for your retreats.

As a result, starting in 2025, if a deacon cancels his registration for a diocesan sponsored retreat within two weeks of the start date of the retreat, for other than a serious medical condition, the \$350 provided by the diocese for the deacon's annual retreat will be forfeited. This means the deacon will not be reimbursed for any other retreat he may take that year, and if he chooses to attend another diocesan sponsored retreat, he will need to pay the cost for that replacement retreat. This decision is being made to encourage us all to be more careful of our scheduling and to be better stewards of the resources of the Church.





EXTERN ORIENTATION MEETING

We recently hosted a Deacon Extern Orientation Meeting on February 21, 2024. This meeting featured key speakers from Catholic Charities, Catholic Foundation, Office of Communications; Office of Tribunal, Office of Liturgy and Music, Offices of Laity and Family Life; Office of Ecclesiastical Properties; and Offices of Leadership and Parish Life. Thank you to those who attended. This meeting is a great opportunity for deacons new to our diocese to make connections with key personnel and resources with whom they may partner in their ministry. If you are an extern who has arrived in Central Florida in the last two years and would like to benefit from this orientation, please keep an eye out for the next one of these half-day sessions offered at the Chancery. Our next meeting will be later this year. We will be working on a date but believe it will take place after our Diaconate Convocation.

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

**Diaconate Convocation: TBD
October 5th, 2024**

[Click to view the Diocesan Calendar](#)



LITURGICAL CORNER

Need a refresher on chanting? [Click to learn more](#)



DIOCESAN
LITURGICAL
CALENDAR



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN



CONFIRMATION
SCHEDULE



DIOCESAN
BULLETIN
ESPAÑOL



MARRIAGE
PREPARATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Priest Ordination will be May 25, 2024, and Diaconate Ordination will be June 8th, 2024. Both will be held at the Basilica, National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe.



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. Amen.



MEMORIAL MASS SCHEDULE

Scheduled for Friday, March 22, 2024 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 Kaidan
Reverend Sean P. Molloy

DEACONS

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SENIOR DEACONS!

Deacon Jack Martin-87
Deacon Nick Varsalona-85
Deacon Sergion Colon-82
Deacon Eddie Berrios-81
Deacon Miklos Beregszaszi-80



CHRISM MASS

In the Diocese of Orlando, the Chrism Mass marks the beginning of Holy Week. The word "chrism" comes from the root word for Christ which means the anointed one of God.



MARCH 25, 2024
11:00 A.M.

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

*If you will be attending Chrism Mass, please email
Jennifer at jkuhn@orlandodiocese.org*



DIRECTOR'S NOTES FOR DEACONS
MARCH 2024 | VOL 21
DIOCESE OF ORLANDO