



## BISHOP'S LETTER

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### WE ARE TRANSFIGURED INTO THE FACE OF JESUS

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Jesus speaks to us of treasure, but it is not treasure of earthly things. He speaks to us of the treasure of divine love; the love which He offers us in the gift of the Eucharist. The Eucharist, His Real Presence, is a salvific gift for our flourishing all our days. In the course of time, we may desire earthly treasure. We may want an 'upgrade' – whether it be a phone or other instrument of technology; an automobile; a home; clothes; or other things. Jesus tells us that the treasure of this earth is one another; each one made in the image of God – marvelously made! And there can be no other. We cannot be in relationship with God if we are not also in relationship with one another because of our relationship with God. Jesus tells us our upgrade is holiness to breathe upon the entire world.

[Click here to read letter](#)

## CONTENT

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DIACONATE CONVOCATION

DISCERNMENT NIGHTS

INSTITUTED ACOLYTE

PARISHES IN NEED OF DEACONS

HELP NEEDED

REBOOT

ARS CELEBRANDI WEBINAR

MINISTRIES

GOOD NEWS

BIRTHDAYS

MEMORIAL MASS

# DIACONATE CONVOCAATION

It's time to register for our Diaconate Convocation. We look forward to welcoming all deacons and their wives to our annual gathering.

## **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2025 | 7 A.M. - 3 P.M.**

Check-in begins at 7 a.m., continental breakfast, followed by line-up for Mass at 8:30 a.m.

*Annunciation Parish*

*1020 Montgomery Road, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714*

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At our 9 a.m. Mass with Bishop Noonan, we will welcome Cohort 2026 as Instituted Acolytes and renew our vows. Our keynote this year is Father Miguel González.

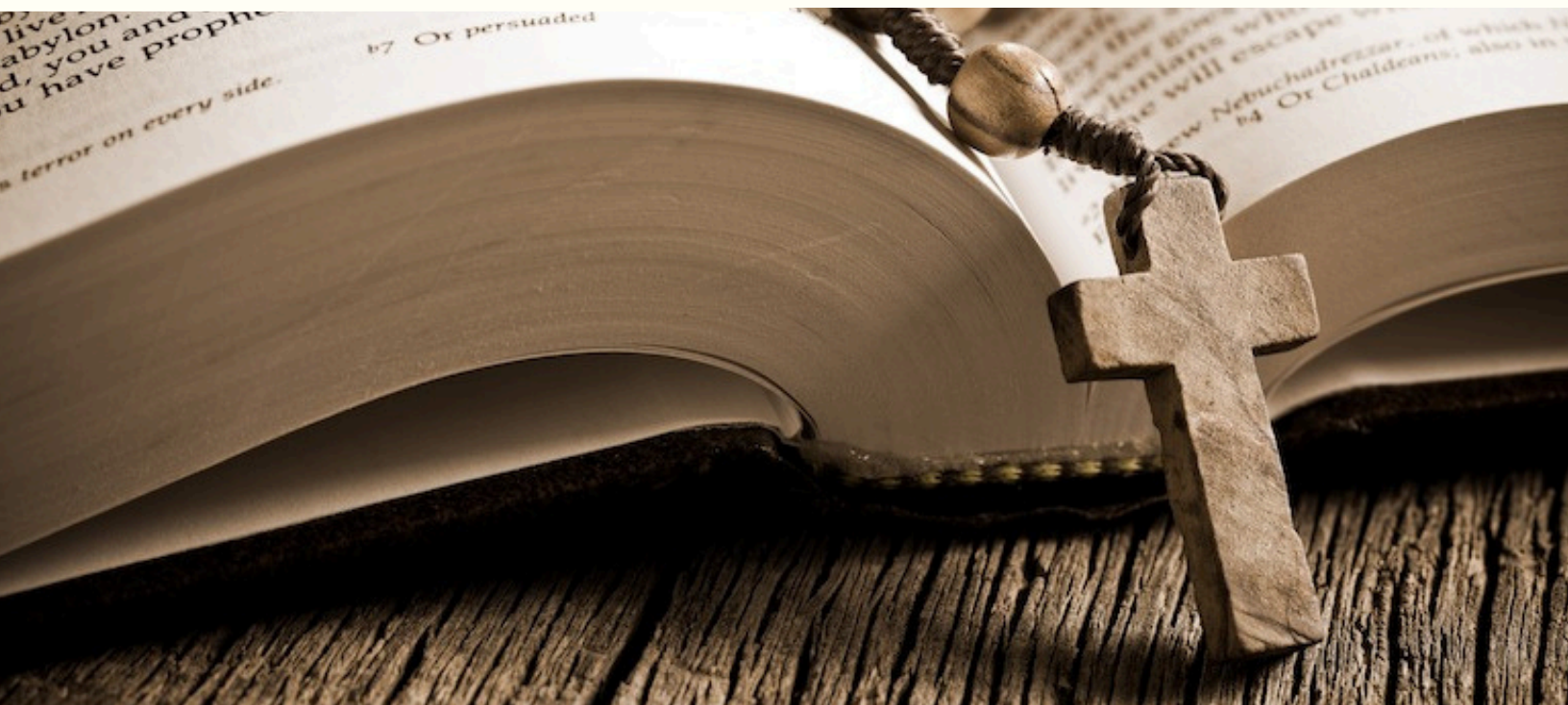
Father González was ordained May 23, 1998, at St. James Cathedral, Orlando where he currently serves as rector. He has served as parochial vicar, then pastor of St. John Vianney Parish, Orlando, headed the Spanish TV Mass ministry, served as spiritual director of the Spanish Cursillo movement, and was the vocations director for the Diocese from 2004-2011. He was also an active radio host on Radio Paz and on Buena Nueva FM. In early October of 2016, Bishop John Noonan named him Rector/Administrator of St. James Cathedral Parish. In addition to his parish duties, Father González is the diocesan and national spiritual advisor to the Council of Catholic Women. He serves on the board of directors of Bishop Grady Villas, a residential community and outreach for adults with disabilities. He also serves as vicar of clergy, member of the Diocese of Orlando Priests' Personnel Board, and member of the Diocese of Orlando Presbyteral Council.

We always look forward to hearing the bishop's thoughts and challenges for our order, and we will recognize service awards for our diaconate community. As with the Priests' Convocation, every active deacon in the Diocese of Orlando is expected to attend unless previous authorization for an excused absence is received from the Office of Permanent Deacons.

On Friday night we will offer an evening social event from 6–9 p.m. at Annunciation. This is a time to relax and reconnect in an informal setting with brother deacons and their wives. Please note there is a second link below to register for the social.

**[Click here to register for Convocation, Saturday, October 4th.](#)**

**[Click here to register for Social on Friday, October 3rd.](#)**



## FORMATION DISCERNMENT NIGHTS

*You are encouraged to invite all men and their wives who believe they may have a calling to the diaconate to attend one of our upcoming Discernment Nights this fall. All evening sessions are scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and should end by 8:30 p.m. The Discernment Night schedule is as follows (inquirers need only attend one of the sessions).*

**SEPTEMBER 11**

**ST. JOSEPH**

Lakeland

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**SEPTEMBER 17**

**ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO**

Orlando

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**SEPTEMBER 18**

**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

Viera

**SEPTEMBER 23**

**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY**

Port Orange

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**SEPTEMBER 24**

**ST. JOHN VIANNEY**

Orlando

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**SEPTEMBER 25**

**ST. TIMOTHY**

Lady Lake

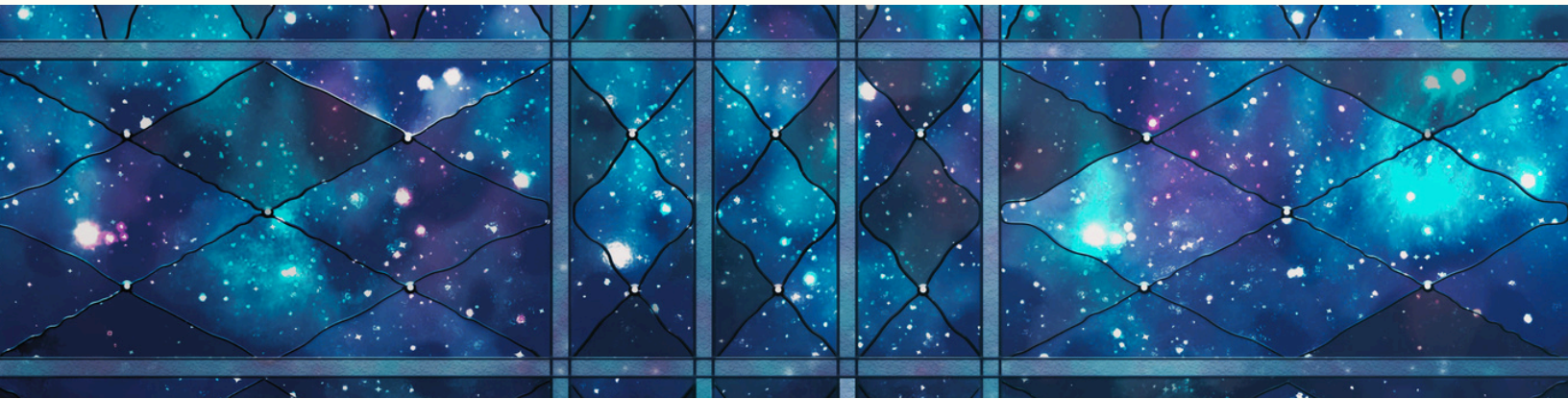
Ordained deacons are welcome to attend and pray with these inquirers and their wives and answer their questions afterward.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN INSTITUTED ACOLYTE

On Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, the nine men in Cohort 2026 will be instituted as Acolytes, the last of the rites prior to their planned Ordination as Permanent Deacons in June 2026. During the eight months prior to Ordination, they are expected to serve as instituted acolytes at Masses at their parishes to assist them in their liturgical training. Per the standards established by the Diocese of Orlando, here is a list of the functions that an instituted acolyte should serve at Mass.

In the Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite for the celebration of Mass, acolytes may perform the following duties (preferred options for the Diocese of Orlando are in italics):

- **Entrance:** Carry the processional cross or candles at the front of the entrance procession. Others may carry incense and a thurible. (May also be entrusted with holding the Roman Missal during the prayers delivered from the Presiders Chair.)
- **Liturgy of the Word:** If it is a regional habit, candles and/or incense can be carried in procession to the ambo or lectern for the proclamation of the Gospel.
- **Offertory:** When the priest receives the gifts, acolytes may assist him by carrying them.
- **Preparation of the chalice:**
  - Presents the cruets of water and wine for the deacon or priest to pour in the chalice.
  - An acolyte administers the water to the priest as he ritually washes his hands.
- **Liturgy of the Eucharist:**
  - Acolytes ring the altar bell at the elevations of the species. (Or may be asked to incense the Body and Blood of Christ at the Elevation.)
  - He is a permanent Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.
  - He may purify the communion vessels used during Mass. (Note: acolytes instituted by the bishop are the only ones who may purify vessels other than the priest or deacon.)
- **Recessional:** When the priest and the acolytes leave the altar, again the processional cross and candles are carried.



## PARISHES IN NEED OF DEACONS

Several pastors have requested additional deacons be assigned to their parishes. If you feel God may be calling you to one of these parishes, or that God may be letting you know it is time to change parishes, please contact Deacon Dave at [dcamous@orlandodiocese.org](mailto:dcamous@orlandodiocese.org) to discuss one or more of these opportunities:

### ST. ANDREW PARISH

801 N. Hastings St., Orlando | Needs a bilingual English/Spanish deacon.

**Pastor:** Father Leo Hodges

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### ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH (WINTER HAVEN)

532 Ave. M, NW, Winter Haven | Needs a bilingual English/Spanish deacon.

**Parochial Administrator:** Father Glenn Lopez

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### BLESSED TRINITY PARISH

4545 Anderson Rd., Orlando | Needs a bilingual English/Spanish deacon.

**Pastor:** Father Phil 'Skip' Negley

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### ST. PAUL PARISH AND SCHOOL

1330 Sunshine Ave., Leesburg | Needs a deacon (bilingual Spanish/English preferred).

**Parochial Administrator:** Father Stephen Ogonwa

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## HELP NEEDED

Recently, Deacon Hector Rodriguez's home was struck by lightning and sustained extensive damage. Deacon Hector is assigned to Good Shepherd Catholic Church. If you wish to reach out to Deacon Hector, **please contact our office** for his contact information.



# SAVE THE DATE!

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Basilica of the National Shrine of  
Mary Queen of the Universe  
8300 Vineland Ave., Orlando, FL 32821

# REBOOT

## A LIFE-CHANGING EVENT

This high-energy, 2-hour event with internationally acclaimed speaker **Chris Stefanick** will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY!

It will help you rediscover the JOY you were created for, and is perfect for everyone... even friends, family, and children (12+) who may not be actively practicing their faith.



SCAN QR CODE TO SECURE YOUR SPOT OR GO TO:  
[HTTPS://BUYTICKETS.AT/REALLIFECATHOLIC/1663067](https://buytickets.at/reallifecatholic/1663067)

## CONTINUING FORMATION

# WEBINAR SERIES NOW POSTED ON THE FDLC WEBSITE

From May 7 to June 4, 2025, more than 900 people participated in our weekly series on “Ars Celebrandi: Something More is Required.” Now even more people can view this excellent series! Perhaps you’d like to see a session again. Perhaps you’d like to use a session to train your liturgical ministers or your parish commissions. Each video is 75 minutes long.

All of the Ars Celebrandi videos and handouts are now posted [here](#).

### SESSION I

#### UNDERSTANDING ARS CELEBRANDI

Father Paul Turner and Father Bruce Cinquegrani

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### SESSION II

#### THE ROLE OF THE ASSEMBLY

Sister Ann Zimmerman, CppS

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### SESSION III

#### ARTFUL PRESIDING

Bishop Mark Seitz

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### SESSION IV

#### LAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Msgr. Michael Begolly and Victoria Tufano

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### SESSION V

#### THE ART OF LITURGICAL MUSIC

Dr. Dolores Martinez and Dr. Steve Janco

# CONTINUING FORMATION

Thanks to Deacon Chris Meehan, here is an extensive list of free programs that can help all of us with our continuing formation requirements. Thanks, Deacon Chris for your amazing work in collecting the following robust list of resources:

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## BOSTON COLLEGE

School of Theology and Ministry offers free online digital resources as well as continuing education programs. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## ST. PAUL CENTER (DR. SCOTT HAHN AND OTHERS)

School of Theology and Ministry offers free online digital resources as well as continuing education programs. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## MARIAN SERVANTS OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE SCHOOL OF SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

*(Associated with Franciscan University of Steubenville)*

Offers courses and retreats as well as a certification in spiritual direction. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE

Scroll down their main webpage and click on the [\[ENROLL NOW\]](#) button to find free online courses.

## HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Scroll down to the button that says [\[VIEW ALL COURSES\]](#).

## THE ST. JOHN PAUL II FOUNDATION

(Per their website), the Foundation offers priest-focused and deacon-focused initiatives. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## WORD ON FIRE APOSTOLATE

Offers study programs based upon their various in-house resources and other materials. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## FEDERATION OF DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSIONS (FDLC)

Offers seminars on various topics of liturgy. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## RC SPIRITUALITY

Offers a number of online classes that are of good quality. [Click here to learn more.](#)  
*Regnum Christi is made up of the Legionaries of Christ, the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, the Lay Consecrated Men of Regnum Christi, and lay members from all walks of life.*

## AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Offers good quality short courses for a fee. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL SEMINARY

Offers summer course for deacons. [Click here to learn more.](#)



## MINISTRIES

### AIRPORT CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The new CEO, COO, Chief Customer Experience Officer, and leaders of the Orlando International Airport have approved a new Chaplain Program through Chaplain Care for fiscal year 2025-2026 beginning October 1, 2025. This program would incorporate three part-time Chaplains (Roman Catholic, Jewish, and Muslim) to accommodate people of different faiths who either work at or travel through the airport. **Interested deacons please click here.**

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, PATHWAYS TO CARE

**Learn how to volunteer.**

### TOURISM

Contact **Deacon Joe Gassman** to learn what is needed to serve at the Basilica.

### MINISTRY TO THE INCARCERATED

If you want to learn more about this ministry, reach out to **Deacon Jimmy Avellan**.

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## GOOD NEWS

Congratulations to Deacon Dave Baker who has completed the spiritual direction certification program at San Pedro Spiritual Development Center.

In July, Deacon Bob and Ann Turbitt celebrated 66 years of marriage. Congratulations!

# 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*

**SPANISH - FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 8:30 A.M**  
**ENGLISH - FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 8:30 A.M.**

Mary, Mother of God Chapel  
San Pedro Spiritual Development Center

# *Happy Birthday*

— TO OUR SENIOR DEACONS! —

DEACON JUAN VARGAS

86



# DIOCESAN CALENDAR

Click to view  
Diocesan Calendar



## LITURGICAL CORNER



**DIOCESAN  
LITURGICAL  
CALENDAR**



**DIOCESAN  
BULLETIN  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**CONFIRMATION  
SCHEDULE**



**ANUNCIO DEL  
BOLETÍN  
DIOCESANO**



**MARRIAGE  
PREPARATION**

