



BISHOP'S LETTER: SAINTS HELP US NOURISH THE DESIRE FOR HOLINESS

Beloved:

We are the people who long to see the face of God. He calls us His beloved, for we know in the depth of our soul this matchless love which God, throughout all eternity – now and forever – bestows upon us. He calls us His children.

[Click here to read the letter](#)



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DIACONATE CONVOCATION

It was wonderful to see so many of our diaconate community gathered for our Convocation at St. Mary Magdalen on October 5th. It was the largest attendance we've had since prior to the pandemic. Fr. Albert Haase was an engaging and inspirational speaker. It's always good to have time with Bishop Noonan. The social on Friday night was very enjoyable and had a marked increase in attendance, which means we will plan to keep it on the schedule for next year.

Thank you to all those who completed the survey and gave us your affirmations as well as considerations for improvement. Here are some key takeaways:

Length - A couple of survey respondents thought the Convocation was too long, and a couple thought it was too short. We will, however, be keeping the length the same in the future, as the vast majority of respondents were pleased.

Start Time - We certainly understand travel time for our deacons from the farthest communities. We generally try to match our Mass time to that of the parish so we don't disrupt their schedule, but we will look at this more closely next year. We may be able to arrange a slightly later start. Our ending time is fixed, though, as we need to clear the parking lot before the parish Saturday evening Mass.

Food - While most thought the food was very good, we understand the comments about needing more coffee stations, and providing protein other than chicken. We will look into additional possibilities next year.

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH NEXT YEAR'S CONVOCATION
OCTOBER 4TH, 2025
HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH, ORLANDO**



PARISHES NEED DEACONS!

THE FOLLOWING PARISHES NEED BILINGUAL
DEACONS TO MINISTER TO PARISHIONERS

ST. ANDREW, ORLANDO
ST. JOHN VIANNEY, ORLANDO
ST. JOSEPH, WINTER HAVEN

ST. JOSEPH ALSO NEEDS
ENGLISH-SPEAKING DEACONS.



IF YOU FEEL CALLED TO
ASSIST, PLEASE EMAIL
DEACON DAVE AT

DCAMOUS@ORLANDODIOCESE.ORG



DEANERY MEETINGS

Please don't miss your deanery meetings. They are a great opportunity to connect with other deacons and wives in between our annual convocation. It is an important way to keep up with diocesan news affecting the diaconate. For example, we are working with our IT department to roll out an online directory. We are excited about this opportunity to stay connected. Additional information will be sent by your Deacon Deanery Lead.

YOU VOTED! - 2 INQUIRIES

Based on your vote at the Convocation, the Clergy Database Update Inquiry will be split from the Survey which is done every five years. Jennifer will send the Information Update Form to you this month. She is currently working on the survey and hopes to send it no later than January 1, 2025.

POST-ELECTION BRIDGE BUILDING

As important as it was in the period before the election to remember that we minister to all parishioners, no matter their political beliefs, it is equally as important to work to bring the community together across the chasm of triumph versus discouragement. Let us keep all our comments grounded in the Love and Mercy of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ, both in person and especially on social media. Remember we are called to be Bridge Builders.



DEACON RETREATS 2025

JANUARY 24-26

DIRECTED RETREAT

LED BY FATHER LUCIUS AMARILLAS, O.S.B.

Diakonia: How Not to Serve at Table

The Church's ministers, especially deacons, have been formed to bring the selfless service of Christ to the peripheries of the world and Church; yet, how easy is that radical life of service? What happens when we lose sight of the Lord in the ones we serve? We know how our ministry in the Church is defined, but do we know how to bring it to fruition?

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

This weekend retreat will explore our relationship with Jesus Christ, and our place in the Kingdom of God. Our identity as workers in the vineyard of the Lord... formed when Jesus first began to call us and perfected by the Holy Spirit that dwells within us... is a fluid reality. Among other things, you'll explore what gets you out of bed in the morning. How far are you willing to go? And what do you want people to say about you when you are gone?

FEBRUARY 21-23

DIRECTED RETREAT

LED BY DEACON ANDY NEU

The Hiddenness of the Diaconate

We will aim to see more truly the hidden (interior) work of conversion in our lives, the hidden manner of the Father's love, especially through relational prayer, and the particularly hidden character of what is essential to our diaconal participation in Jesus' diakonia. All of these have implications for our marriage and celibacy, too.

MARCH 21-23

DIRECTED RETREAT

LED BY DEACON JOSEPH MICHALAK

Identidad de la Familia Diaconal, Signo de Esperanza

En el marco de la celebración del Año Jubilar 2025 "Peregrinos de esperanza", este retiro ofrece la oportunidad para fortalecer la identidad de la familia diaconal, que es signo de esperanza cristiana. Tendremos la oportunidad de reflexionar y orar juntos, para que al encuentro con Jesús y fortalecidos en la conciencia del don recibido, el servicio diaconal se manifieste como signo de esperanza en el pueblo de Dios al que servimos en el ministerio eclesial, según la indicación del apóstol Pedro: "El que ha recibido el don de la palabra, que la enseñe como palabra de Dios. El que ejerce un ministerio, que lo haga como quien recibe de Dios ese poder, para que Dios sea glorificado en todas las cosas, por Jesucristo. ¡A él sea la gloria y el poder, por los siglos de los siglos!" Amén. (1 Pedro 4,11).

ABRIL 25-27

RETIRO DADO EN ESPAÑOL

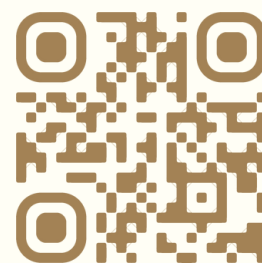
DIRIGIDO POR P. DUBERNEY RODAS GRAJALES

Retreats are held at San Pedro Spiritual Development Center.

For more information and to register please visit
www.sanpedrocenter.org/deacon-retreats,
scan the QR code or call Jazmine Hernandez at
407-671-6322 ext. 115.

Registration will close two weeks before the retreat.

RETREAT COSTS
ARE PAID BY
THE DIOCESE
OF ORLANDO





TOURISM MINISTRY

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Travel occupies an important aspect of the human condition. In modern times, tourism has served also as an occasion to nourish the spiritual longings of the human person. This nourishment is achieved when the Church communicates the faith in many ways to travelers, including inviting religious tourists to interact with sacred art and architecture. The concept of ‘religious tourism’ may be understood, according to the consensus of many authors, as a mixed combination of both religious pilgrimage and secular tourism.

Pope Francis points out, in *Evangelii Gaudium* (EG) that the Church’s proclamation of the faith is ‘capable of responding to the desire for the infinite which abides in every human heart’. Evangelization also demands ‘the use of eloquent symbols, insertion into a broader growth process and the integration of every dimension of the person within a communal journey of hearing and response’. Pope Francis encourages the Church to evangelize through the arts, building on the treasures of the past and drawing upon the wide variety of contemporary expressions to spread the faith in a new “language of parables” (EG 167).

Through the liturgy, in combination with sacred art and architecture, the Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe nourishes the souls of pilgrims from all over the world.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR MINISTRY TEAM,
PLEASE CONTACT DEACON JOE GASSMAN
JGASSMAN@ORLANDODIOCESE.ORG



TRIBUNAL ADVOCATE NEEDED

The Marriage Tribunal of the Diocese of Orlando is looking for an individual to serve/assist as an Annulment Advocate for the parishes of Brevard, Orange and Polk counties.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- Explaining the Annulment process to petitioners
- Assisting and representing parishioners before the Marriage Tribunal by introducing petitions for Declarations of Nullity on their behalf
- Recording petitioner testimonies and as the liaison between petitioners and the Marriage Tribunal
- Updating pastors regarding cases from their parishes
- Assisting OCIA Directors in determining marital status of candidates and catechumens
- Maintaining a close working relationship with the Marriage Tribunal Staff



The Advocate should possess an understanding and training in the annulment process in the Catholic Church as well as an understanding of the theology of the Sacrament of Marriage.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT
DIANA ANDERSON AT 407.246.4851 OR
DANANDERSON@ORLANDODIOCESE.ORG

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SENIOR DEACONS!

Deacon Bob Turbitt - 87

Deacon Joe Iskra - 84

Deacon Tommy Tate - 84

Deacon Mike Biennas - 82

Deacon Hugh Muller - 80



NEW TRANSLATION OF THE

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOP FOR

Clergy, catechetical leaders, teams, liturgists, and music ministers who are involved with their parish OCIA

FRIDAY

15

CLERGY

9:00 A.M.-
3:30 P.M.

NOVEMBER

2024

SATURDAY

16

LAY
MINISTERS

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church
5300 Old Howell Branch Rd.
Winter Park, FL 32792

Deacons may attend either day.

Presenter: Rita Thiron, Executive Director of FDLC
Registration is \$50 and includes lunch.

Copies of the new translation of the OCIA and/or study edition from Liturgy Training Publications will be available for purchase at a 25% discount when registering for this event.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER EXTENDED
SCAN QR CODE OR [CLICK HERE](#)



OFFICE OF WORSHIP AND
THE SECRETARIAT FOR
LAITY, FAMILY, AND LIFE



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

Friday, November 29, 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 and deacons recently buried

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

[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
NOVEMBER 2024 | VOL.29

DIOCESE OF ORLANDO