

Director's Notes

Words of Thanksgiving and Congratulations as we celebrate these changing seasons.

Congratulations to the 15 deacons ordained on the first Saturday of October. These men and their wives worked very hard through school, internships and formation requirements. They now join us in parish ministry to continue the good work begun in them. It may surprise you to note that there are about 140 "assigned" deacons ministering in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

John Budde and his committee are due words of thanks for their hard work in pulling off another great convocation. Ron Rolheiser, OMI grabbed our attention early on and held it throughout the week. There are recordings available of Ron's talks, but they are only for our personal use. Next convocation's dates are September 27th – October 1st 2009, and the chairman for the week is Mark Brauer.

Congratulations to Tim Hogan as he returns to the Archdiocese of Detroit after some 16 years serving in the Navy. Tim's parishioners out in Novi claim that he seems to be adjusting to civilian life, even though they do note he ducks whenever a car backfires. We also wish Ray Bucon well as he re-deploys with his unit back into harm's way.

Adjusting back into ministry after a time are Matt Ellis, Tyrone Robinson and Tim Kane; keep them and their ministry in your prayers. Best of luck to Bob Williams, who will be attending sabbatical this winter/spring in Rome.

- Mike LeFevre

Diaconate Notes

To the Diaconate Community,

On the first Saturday of October, the Archdiocese of Detroit was blessed with the ordination of 15 new Permanent Deacons. As is to be expected, it was both a meaningful and a beautiful ceremony. The Cathedral was full – not only due to the limited seating for each man's family and friends but also because of the largest number of priests, deacons and deacons' wives that have attended an ordination in recent recollection.

To think: God's grace rested on each man through the laying on of hands, and because of that they are now enabled to call upon God on behalf of his faith-filled people, and God will respond to their beckoning with grace and blessing irrespective of their personal dispositions, be they good or not so good. It is absolutely amazing that God would place such great power into the hands of His unworthy human servants. But He does.

That same weekend the second reading for Sunday was taken from Paul's second letter to Timothy in which Paul wrote, "I am reminding you now to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you." How providential is that, that God would remind us through Paul of the great gift that each of us has likewise received. This would seem to cause each of us to ask whether or not we have been intently and energetically waving the fan on the spark that we have received from God's Holy Spirit. We have truly been baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire. Do we know, appreciate and use what has been given to us to its fullest extent?

Continued on Page 3

In this issue:

Director's Notes	1
Diaconate Notes	1
Barter's Corner	2
Congratulations	2
Good Leaders/Good Shepherds	2
Presbyteral Council	2
Spiritual Assistant Needed	2
Convocation Pictures	3
From the Editor	4
In Memory/Sick Bay	4
On the Agenda	4

STRUCTURED COMMITTEES OF THE PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL

Effective last month the committee structure of the Presbyteral Council has been changed to mirror the "four pillars" for ongoing formation of priests:

Human Formation: This committee will track those recommendations from the Total Pastoral Plan for Priests (TPPP) that pertain to our physical and emotional good health. They will also take leadership in mentoring projects and walking priests through the various "ages" of their ministry.

Intellectual Formation: Committee members will discuss our relationship with SHMS, the Vocations Office and issues of Ecumenism. This committee also deals with the "off year" convocation and the "Disputed Questions" seminar.

Pastoral Formation: Probing questions regarding the signs of the times find their way onto the agenda of this committee. TPPP issues of Diversity and Racism will be investigated by this group of priests.

Spiritual Formation: Committee members will form themselves as a working group to plan the various retreats and days of prayer offered throughout the year. Also germane to this group is to develop an active list of Spiritual Directors.

Barter's Corner

- 350 to 400 Journey hymnals for sale. \$5 apiece or best offer for all. Used but in good condition. Contact: Dcn. George Posavetz @ St. Mark Church, 4401 Bart Ave., Warren, 48091. (586) 759-3020 or e-mail stmarkchurchbartst@comcast.net with "Dcn. George Posavetz" in the subject line.

- Hammond "Colonnade Model" full-size organ available to be donated to a parish. Excellent condition; fine as a regular or spare/practice instrument. E-mail John Lafata: john.lafata@gm.com to discuss.

GOOD LEADERS – GOOD SHEPHERDS THIRD COHORT FORMING



Fifty-six priests are well into their curriculum for leadership development. Most of the priests involved in the project agree that the skills that are being fine-tuned in the curriculum are necessary for ministry in today's church.

The third cohort of priests is being formed; so far eleven priests have signed on to begin their curriculum on January 29th – February 1st. If you have not received your information on this project, you need to call the Office for Clergy Life and Ministry as soon as possible so that the appropriate dates can be sent to you. We need a minimum of 28 priests to run a cohort.

Some of the solicited comments offered by current participants include Fr. Tony Richter: "Good Leaders, Good Shepherds has strengthened my own identity as a priest and my understanding of my role in the parish, the diocese and the world..." And Fr. Todd Lajiness adds: "I would highly encourage priests to make the commitment, even in the midst of busy schedules. The benefits of this program are invaluable, both for the priest himself and for his interaction with the people of God."

Spiritual Assistant Needed

Spiritual Assistant sought for Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites community, now meeting at Shrine of the Little Flower, Royal Oak, second Sunday afternoons, Sept.-May.

Primary role--to give individuals spiritual direction in context of Reconciliation, with appreciation for Carmelite spirituality as expressed by St. Teresa of Jesus and St. John of the Cross; guidance if necessary regarding discernment of vocation to Secular Order. Stipend.

Contact: Ruthann Distler, OCDS, President, Our Lady of the Paraclete Community, jdistler@umich.edu, (734) 665-6846.

Congratulations...

...to our 15 new Permanent Deacons!

Deacon Thomas R. Avery
Deacon John S. Burke
Deacon Jerome J. Campernel
Deacon George F. Cousino
Deacon Charles R. Dreyer
Deacon Robert D. Gajda
Deacon Franz Hoffer
Deacon Scott M. LaForest
Deacon Glenn R. Melenyk
Deacon Paul A. Mueller
Deacon James M. Sanders
Deacon Gerald L. Schiffer
Deacon James R. Thibodeau
Deacon Michael E. Von Ende
Deacon John F. Wright



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Diaconate Notes

Continued from Page 1

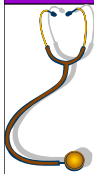
In Luke 12:49 Jesus tells us that he had come to set the earth on fire and that He wished it was already blazing. We, His servants, are called on to act with fervor to bring this about.

It is something to think about as we reflect on God's graciousness to each of us.

In Christ,

Deacon Michael McKale

Sick Bay



We hope to list the priests and deacons within the Archdiocese of Detroit who are currently in need of our prayer, a note, or a phone call. To add a name to the listing please contact the person first to make certain they want such information published and then send the name through to our office.

Priests:

- * Fr. Jim BJORUM
- * Fr. Aaron DePeyster
- * Fr. Michael Hrydziuszko
- * Fr. Joseph Janiga
- * Fr. John LaCasse
- * Fr. Norbert Maciejewski
- * Fr. Janusz Marzynski
- * Fr. Bernie Mullen
- * Fr. John Nowlan
- * Fr. Bill Petron
- * Fr. Jim Profota
- * Fr. Jacob Samonie
- * Fr. Francis Skalski
- * Fr. Jerome F. Treacy, SJ
- * Fr. Richard Ugolik

Diaconate Community:

- * Dcn. Luther Aman
- * Dcn. Andy Fairbanks
- * Dcn. Wyatt Jones
- * Dcn. William Lenny
- * Aspirant Ralph Luddecke
- * Karen McMahan, wife of aspirant Mark McMahan
- * Diana Shubik, wife of Dcn. Rich Shubik
- * Clarice Urbiel, wife of formation student Joe Urbiel

In Memory

*Happy are those who have died in the Lord;
let them rest from their labors for their good
deeds go with them.*

Dcn. William Johr
Dcn. John Kenny
Alice Lewandoski, wife of Dcn.
Anthony Lewandoski
Staniaslaw Zomerfeld, father of Fr.
Zbigniew Zomerfeld



From the Editor

Wow—Advent is right around the corner (hence the color choices for this issue of *Clergy News*), and soon I and the other RCIA sponsors will be standing up for the Rite of Welcome at St. Anastasia, just as my sponsor did for me just under a year ago. I haven't been in the Church long enough to have a favorite liturgical season, but Advent would definitely have to be in the running. I love the joy of anticipating the birth of Our Lord!

It recently came to my attention that—now, don't be shocked by this! - **not everyone reads the *Clergy News*!** I'm not actually surprised, because I know very well how busy priests and deacons are, and I certainly don't take it personally.

However, the way I see it, this is a great opportunity for growth. If you're reading this, it's either because you **do** read *Clergy News* at least occasionally, or it's because you picked up the wrong piece of paper. Whichever it is, I'd like to hear from you. I'd like to know what you like about *Clergy News*, what you might like to see changed, and if you know of a fellow priest or deacon who doesn't read it, maybe ask him to say why. "I don't have time" is a good reason, but what would make it worth your time? I can't promise to implement every suggestion, but I'd love to hear any ideas you might have.

God bless,
Katie Orloff

On the Agenda



- Nov. 6: Mass for deceased priests, SHMS
- Nov 12-16: Clergy Fall Retreat, SPC, Fr. Marty Iott, OP
- Dec 3: Advent Reconciliation Service, SHMS
- Jan. 7-10: NOCERCC Annual Forum, Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor
- Feb. 20: Lenten Day of Prayer for Priests, Manresa
- Feb. 21: Pastor Prep, CP
- March 13: Pastor Prep, CP
- April 17: Pastor Prep, CP
- May 10: Presbyteral Ordination, BSC
- May 12-16: Clergy Spring Retreat, SPC, Fr. Patrick Collins

CP= Cathedral Place (office bldg behind the Cathedral)

BSC = Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

SPC = St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Ctr.

SHMS = Sacred Heart Major Seminary

