

# CLERGY NEWS

September/October 2009

## From the Director

Fall 2009 offers us a multiplicity of distractions from our usual fare. For the first time, the priests and deacons of the Archdiocese of Detroit are headed north toward Harbor Springs to spend some time together and discern what it is that God has in store for us in the next twenty-four months. Well, not together. The deacons are following the priests up to Boyne Highlands; entering into convocation on the weekend following the presbyteral convocation.

Following up on a great article in America magazine last month, Bill Diteweg offers our deacons and their wives some focus to their unique ministry as he joins them in their convocation at Boyne Mountain. For the priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit, Bishop Dan Flores, Fr. Clarence Williams and Dr. Richard McCorry team up to prompt a discussion on change in our midst.

What our metroplex tends to forget, we, the Church of Detroit try to put on display: although we may look different, we are one church. During my own 27 years in the priesthood, I have noticed a shift in how our presbyterate and diaconate reflect the landscape of our counties. We are old and young, prosperous and challenged, native and foreign born – yet all of us one church.

Please pray about your role in this changing society. Consider joining in the discussions up at Boyne Mountain so that your voice is not lost, but resonates with the one faith we share in common.

*- Mike LeFevre*

## Diaconate Notes

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To the Diaconate Community:

Soon over 40 couples and a few deacons will be heading to Boyne for our first out of town Convocation. The desire to do this was one of the items raised to the Total Pastoral Plan for Deacons that was completed in 2006. The main speaker for the men will be Deacon Bill Ditewig who was at the USCCB before their recent reorganization. He will be talking to us about the history of the Diaconate, the Diaconate today, and in the future. Mary Schulte and Patti Giangrande will be taking the ladies on their own tract. We look forward to a blessed time together.

As you have probably heard by now the departments of the Archdiocese are reorganizing in order to stem a negative cash flow problem. There will be 77 fewer people working for the diocese. During the week of September 21 the jobs descriptions that will remain will be posted and those currently working for the diocese will have an opportunity to apply for them. Please hold those who will need to leave in your prayers.

*- Deacon Michael McKale*

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The Archdiocese of Detroit's Women's Ministry Office, as part of the Dept. of Parish Life and Services, works to serve the women of every parish through not only the annual Women's Conference, but also through Archdiocesan sponsored retreats, Catholic women's luncheons, and the ENDOW women's study program (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women). Information on all upcoming events will be sent through consolidated mail and also posted on the Women's Ministry Website, [www.aodwomensministry.org](http://www.aodwomensministry.org).

Representatives will also be visiting parishes with promotional materials for the upcoming Conference, entitled "Bearers of Hope." To be held on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at St. Genevieve Church in Livonia, the annual event invites women from throughout the Archdiocese. Drawing inspiration from Scripture and examples of saints and holy people, women will reflect on their role in transforming society, overcoming challenges, strengthened by faith. Additional materials or information on all of our activities can be found at [www.aodwomensministry.org](http://www.aodwomensministry.org). Questions may be directed to Judy Maten at [maten.judith@aod.org](mailto:maten.judith@aod.org). Thank you in advance for your support and promotion of these activities!

## ECUMENICAL—GLAZER INSTITUTE

Rabbi Daniel Syme and the Congregation Temple Beth El invite archdiocesan priests and deacons to join them in a new format for the traditional Glazer Institute for Clergy as Bishop Keith Butler of Word of Faith International Christian Center speaks on the weekend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday.

(January 15 7:30p.m. Friday service, or January 16 10:30 a.m. Saturday)

Please call the rabbi's assistant, Tina Crozier (248 851 1100) if you plan to attend.

## IT'S KENEDY DIRECTORY TIME AGAIN!

Shortly after Labor Day, *The Official Catholic Directory* (the "Kenedy Directory") will be sending an annual Parish Data questionnaire (usually [on blue paper](#)) to all parishes in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Please make sure that this envelope is not overlooked or mistaken for junk mail, as it is very important to **maintain your parish's tax-exempt status**.

It is the pastor's responsibility to ensure that this Parish Data questionnaire is: 1) completed in its entirety, with any necessary changes or corrections; 2) signed by the pastor; and 3) returned in the envelope provided with the questionnaire (pre-addressed to Marie Wilkie at the Chancery) by the deadline of **September 30, 2009**.

*If you **do** not receive this year's form from the publishers, or if you have any questions regarding its completion, please call Marie at 313.237.5833. Thank you for your timely assistance in providing this important information.*

## ASSIGNMENT CHANGES

- ⇒ **Fr. Raymond Arwady**, ordained May 30, appointed associate pastor, St. Michael Parish, Livonia
- ⇒ **Fr. Timothy Babcock**, appointed administrator, St. Joseph Parish, South Lyon. (Existing assignment as Coordinator of Mentors and Acculturation Services continues concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Fr. Alfonsas Babonas**, granted senior priest status
- ⇒ **Fr. Robert Bauer**, appointed pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Maybee. (Existing assignment at St. Joseph Parish, Carleton, continues concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Fr. James Bjorum**, appointed administrator of Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Clair Shores (merge of St. Germaine and St. Gertrude)
- ⇒ **Fr. Ronald Browne**, appointed Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Marquette
- ⇒ **Fr. Richard Cavellier**, appointed pastor, Sacred Heart of the Hills Parish, Auburn Hills
- ⇒ **Fr. Kenneth Chase**, granted sabbatical through December 20
- ⇒ **Fr. Philip Ching**, ordained May 30, appointed associate pastor, St. Lawrence Parish, Utica
- ⇒ **Fr. James Cronk**, appointed pastor, St. Owen Parish, Bloomfield Hills
- ⇒ **Fr. John Currin**, appointed pastor, St. Aloysius Parish, Romulus
- ⇒ **Fr. David Cybulski**, ordained May 30, appointed associate pastor, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Farmington
- ⇒ **Fr. Arnold D'Achille**, granted senior priest status
- ⇒ **Fr. Donald Demmer**, appointed administrator, St. Alan Parish, Troy, and St. Columban Parish, Birmingham
- ⇒ **Fr. Festus Ejimadu**, appointed pastor, St. Gerald Parish, Farmington
- ⇒ **Fr. Charles Fontana** appointed pastor, St. Clement Parish, Dearborn
- ⇒ **Fr. Bradley Forintos**, appointed pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Trenton
- ⇒ **Fr. Charles Fox**, appointed Secretary to the Archbishop
- ⇒ **Fr. Bernard Fraser**, appointed pastor, St. Thecla Parish, Clinton Twp.
- ⇒ **Fr. Vitalii Guz, S.Chr.**, appointed associate pastor, Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish, Sterling Heights
- ⇒ **Fr. Dong Hyuk Jeon**, appointed pastor, St. Andrew Kim Korean Catholic Community, Northville
- ⇒ **Msgr. John Kasza**, appointed Dean of Studies. SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake
- ⇒ **Fr. James Kean**, appointed pastor, St. Joseph, St. Michael, and St. Vincent de Paul Parishes, Pontiac
- ⇒ **Fr. Frederick Klettner**, granted senior priest status

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## ASSIGNMENT CHANGES, cont'd.

- ⇒ **Fr. Robert Kotlarz**, appointed administrator, Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish, Detroit. (Existing assignments at St. Raymond and Our Lady of Good Counsel Parishes, Detroit, continue concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Fr. John LaCasse**, granted senior priest status
- ⇒ **Fr. Don LaCuesta**, appointed associate pastor, Our Lady of the Lakes Parish, Waterford
- ⇒ **Fr. Raymond Lewandowski**, appointed pastor, St. Raphael Parish, Garden City
- ⇒ **Fr. James Mayworm**, granted senior priest status
- ⇒ **Fr. John Nedumcheril**, appointed associate pastor, St. Augustine Parish, Richmond
- ⇒ **Fr. William Ollendick, O.F.M.**, appointed pastor, Church of the Transfiguration, Southfield
- ⇒ **Fr. John Owus-Achiaw, C.S.Sp.**, appointed associate pastor, St. Mary Parish, Greektown
- ⇒ **Fr. Siaosi Patau**, appointed pastor, St. Mary Mystical Rose Parish, Armada
- ⇒ **Fr. Jaroslaw Pilus**, appointed associate pastor, St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, Shelby Twp.
- ⇒ **Fr. Walter Ptak**, appointed pastor, St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, Wyandotte. (Existing assignment at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish, Wyandotte, continues concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Fr. Maurice Henry Sands**, appointed administrator, St. Alfred Parish, Taylor
- ⇒ **Fr. Robert Scullin, S.J.**, appointed pastor, Gesu Parish, Detroit
- ⇒ **Fr. James Serrick, S.J.**, appointed associate pastor, Gesu Parish, Detroit
- ⇒ **Fr. Robert Shafer**, appointed administrator, St. Victor Parish, Gibraltar. (Existing assignment at St. Timothy Parish, Trenton, continues concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Fr. Dariusz Strzalkowski**, appointed pastor, Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Taylor
- ⇒ **Fr. John Sullivan**, granted senior priest status
- ⇒ **Fr. Scott Thibodeau**, appointed pastor, Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Parish, Beverly Hills
- ⇒ **Fr. Gregory Tokarski**, appointed pastor, St. Clare of Assisi Parish, Farmington Hills
- ⇒ **Fr. Donald Walker**, appointed administrator, St. Hilary Parish, Redford. (Existing assignment at Our Lady of Grace Parish, Dearborn Heights, continues concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Fr. Steven Wertanen**, appointed pastor, St. Mary Parish, Royal Oak, and St. James Parish, Ferndale

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**The Clergy Newsletter** is published by the Office for Clergy Life and Ministry, Archdiocese of Detroit. If you would like an additional copy of this or any past issue of the *Clergy News*, or would like to submit information for a future issue, contact:

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## ASSIGNMENT CHANGES, cont'd.

- ⇒ **Fr. Charles White, IV**, ordained May 30, appointed associate pastor, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Plymouth
- ⇒ **Fr. Michael Wilkes**, ordained May 30, appointed associate pastor, St. Hugo of the Hills Parish, Bloomfield Hills
- ⇒ **Fr. Eugene Wojtowicz**, granted senior priest status
- ⇒ **Fr. Edward Zaorski**, appointed administrator, St. Anthony (Lithuanian) Parish, Detroit. (Existing assignment at Ss. Andrew and Benedict and St. Stephen/Mary Mother of the Church Parishes continue concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Msgr. John Zenz**, appointed administrator, Divine Providence Parish, Southfield. (Existing assignment at Holy Name Parish, Birmingham, continues concurrently.)
- ⇒ **Fr. Zbigniew Zomerfeld, S.D.B.**, appointed administrator, St. Mary Parish, Port Huron

## FROM THE EDITOR

As you no doubt have all heard by now, the Archdiocese is undergoing a significant staffing restructure. It is possible that the next or subsequent issues of *Clergy News* may be edited by a different person. **To ensure that your submissions are received, please e-mail them to [clergyandministry@aod.org](mailto:clergyandministry@aod.org)** instead of to my e-mail. Presumed deadline for November/December submissions is October 16.

It has been a joy and a privilege to be able to serve our priests and diaconate community. Whatever happens, please rest assured you will all remain in my prayers.

*Katie Orloff Jremblay*

## RETIREMENT PLANNING

The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) out of Georgetown University issued a special report last spring on the state of senior priesthood. I brought some copies to the Senior Priest luncheon last month, but I do have a few extras if anyone would like to read up on the findings.

After six years in the Office for Clergy Life and Ministry, I have found that most priests are not financially prepared to care for themselves through the challenges of their "third age." Most priests have enough financial support to maintain themselves through the early years of their retirement, but as soon as the priest is no longer able to preside at liturgy or help at celebrating the Sacrament of Penance his income drops and he finds himself challenged. Usually at this same moment, the priest needs to move from his independent living to either assisted or nursing care; accompanied by a staggering change in costs.

What the CARA study reveals is that we here in the Archdiocese of Detroit are well cared for in our retirement, however, retirement planning is just that, planning. We have always focused on three legs to our financial futures, our pension, our personal investments and the Social Security we have paid into during our working years. When priests don't do the planning they then find themselves unable to fund the fullness of their third age.

Most priests rely on parishioners to assist them in their financial planning, however, you may want to use resources suggested by the Michigan Catholic Conference or some those suggested to us through our involvement in the National Federation of Priests Councils (NFPC). If you are currently not contributing into your own retirement fund, you really need to sit down with a professional and arrange for your future.

*Mike LeFevre*

## 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. Joseph Janiga
- \* Fr. John Nowlan
- \* Fr. Dale Redwanski
- \* Fr. Francis Skalski
- \* Fr. Kevin Thomas
- \* Fr. Jerome F. Treacy, SJ

### Diaconate Community:

- \* Dcn. Frank Alex
- \* Micki Bovitz, wife of Dcn. Bob Bovitz
- \* Dcn. Gerald DeShaw
- \* Debbie Gajda, wife of Dcn. Bob Gajda
- \* Bonnie Krauskoff, widow of Dcn. William Krauskoff
- \* José Martinez, formation student
- \* Dcn. Al Morad
- \* Dcn. Marv Strzyzewski
- \* Leonor Valdez, widow of Dcn. Fernando Valdez



## In Memory

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

**Mary Helen Buckley**, sister of Dcn. Bill Waldmann

**Fr. Francis Claerr, CMM**

**Fr. Maurice Decker**

**Margaret Mary DeHondt**, mother of Fr. Ron DeHondt

**Martha Ejimadu**, grandmother of Fr. Festus Ejimadu

**Robert Fehribach**

**Terrance Flynn**, brother of Fr. Thomas Flynn

**Fr. A. William Immel**

**Fr. William King, SJ**

**György (George) Kiss**, father of Fr. Barnabás Kiss

**Fr. Henry Kreft**

**Joseph Lughermo**

**Vincent Osebold**, brother of Fr. Richard Osebold

**Msgr. Zdzisław Peszkowski**

**Fr. Ricardas Repsys**

**Bruno Savickas**, father of Fr. Michael Savickas

**Diana Shubik**, wife of Dcn. Rich Shubik

**Mary Alice Small**, mother of Dcn. Vince Small

**Mary Lou Swartz**, wife of Dcn. Ed Swartz

**Fr. Richard Ugolik**

**Leo Weingartz**, brother of Fr. Francis Weingartz

**Fr. Charles Zeeb**

## On the Agenda

- **Sep. 20—24:** Presbyteral Convocation, Boyne Highlands
- **Sep. 24—27:** Diaconate Convocation, Boyne Highlands
- **Oct. 3:** Permanent Diaconate Ordination, BSC
- **Oct. 6—10:** FDLC Convention
- **Oct. 14:** Relics of St. Damien of Molokai, BSC, 1:00 p.m.
- **Nov. 9—13:** Clergy Fall Retreat with Fr. George Aschenbrenner SJ, SPC
- **Nov. 30:** Presbyteral Advent Reconciliation Service, SHMS
- **Feb. 9—10, 2010:** Fr. Paul Turner, presentation on the new missal
- **Mar. 11, 2010:** Fr. Timothy Radcliffe, OP
- **May 10—14, 2010:** Clergy Spring Retreat with Fr. James Marchianda, OP

CP= Cathedral Place (office bldg behind the Cathedral)

BSC = Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

SJC = St. John's Retreat Center

SPC = St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Ctr.

SHMS = Sacred Heart Major Seminary

