



THE FLAME

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October - November 2010

Changes outlined in Deacon Formation Program

The Deacon Formation Program is entering into a rhythm of a new, busy year - one that is providing exciting opportunities for the formation of deacons for the archdiocese, as well as the support of their wives and families. In addition to walking arm-in-arm on the discernment journey with the aspirants, candidates and wives, the DFP also notes the importance of the Diaconate community - those many deacons and wives who serve as mentors, instructors, shepherds, theological reflection group leaders and advisers on DFP boards, and who will always be a vital part of the formation

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Sunrise prayer services take a stand against violence

By Deacon Alfred Coleman II

"I ask all Catholics to pray each day for our children, teens, their families and all men and women who live daily with the threat of violence. Pray for our school children who come to school carrying the pain and fear of violence in their lives." -- Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I. in a letter sent out to all parishes in June

In our communities, our churches stand tall against the beautiful skyline, but our communities need to see where worshippers of our churches stand. On a cloudy Saturday morning, Aug. 21, people gathered together at five different beaches in Chicago to be visible signs that the Church is actively involved with bringing an end to violence.

The Black and Spanish deacons of the Archdiocese of Chicago, along with local priests, bishops and over 500 lay people including visitors from other faith communities, lifted up their hearts and voices to God in special prayer services.

The Back to School Sunrise Prayer Services called churches and the communities that they serve together bringing their



Deacon John A. Cook of St. Felicitas and Father Gabrielle, pastor of St. Anselm lead the prayer service at 31st Street beach.

burdens to the Lord.

The message was clear: We must bring our faith to porches, playgrounds, stores and beaches of our parish areas. We must come out of our comfort zones and reach outside them into the world to all whose lives are threatened. Our communities needed to see our faith in action outside of our churches. We know the saying "bad things happen when good people do nothing." Prayer is needed in all areas of violence. People need to feel safe in our city.

At 8 a.m., the services drew to a close as those in attendance pledged to work to end violence in our homes and communities. After the pledge, those gathered prayed over police officers for their safety and thanked them for their work.

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Read it and pass it on

Where did the summer go? With Labor Day already a memory, the weekly meetings are already ramping up and the busyness of life and ministry are already falling into place.

There are a couple of things I wanted to talk about this time around. Actually, there are three favors I need to ask.

First off, I have been asked by the women of our Diaconate community to pass on a message to the men: **SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER!** Many of the women have said their husbands are not passing on the Flame when they're finished with it so they are missing out on news in the community and upcoming events. The women are trying to plan more

meetings, programs and retreats for themselves and the Flame is one of the best ways to get the word out.

So favor No. 1, guys, point out those pertinent articles to your beloved. They too want to be informed about what's going in our community.

The other thing is that starting with this issue we are going to have a Feedback column. If possible, depending on the contributions we receive, I would like to make it a regular feature. It could serve as a forum for the Diaconate community where comments could be aired. It is something we really haven't had in the past and I think it's important deacons and wives can feel they have a place to share their views and comments on things going on in the Church, the Diaconate, the world,

etc.

Favor No. 2 then is to please feel free to send us your feedback at deaconnews@archchicago.org. I would especially like to hear from deacons and/or couples who have moved from Chicago and are ministering in other parts of the country.

Lastly, I'm looking for the names of women in our community who are involved in their own ministries apart from their husbands. I also would like the names of couples who do a special ministry together. I'm hoping to do future stories that highlight the great work all of us do so please pass on those names and suggestions.

Keep the fire burning,

Deacon Dave Brencic, editor

The Flame

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Léelo y compártelo

¿Dónde se fue el verano? El día del trabajo ya quedó en la memoria, las reuniones semanales ya se están acumulando y la ocupación de la vida y del ministerio ya están quedando en su lugar.

Hay algunas cosas de las que quiero hablar. Actualmente tengo tres favores que pedirles.

Primero, tengo el pedido de algunas de las señoras de la comunidad para mandarles un mensaje a sus esposos para que **comparten "The Flame"**! Muchas de las señoras dicen que sus esposos no comparten nuestro boletín de noticias y así ellas no están al tanto de las noticias de la comunidad ni de los eventos programados. Las esposas están tratando de programar mas reuniones y retiros para ellas y nuestro boletín es la mejor manera de hacer conocer sus planes.

El favor No. 1, hagan saber de esos artículos a sus amadas esposas. Ellas también quieren saber lo que para en la comunidad.

La otra cosa es que, comenzando con este número, vamos a tener una columna para que nos escriban sus críticas. Si es posible y dependiendo de las contribuciones que reciba-

mos, quisiera hacerlo de manera regular. Puede servir como un foro para la comunidad, donde se puedan escribir sus comentarios. Es algo que no hemos tenido antes y que creo que es importante que los diáconos y sus esposas tengan un lugar donde expresar sus ideas y comentar de cosas que están pasando en la Iglesia, el Diaconado, el mundo, etc.

Favor No. 2, por favor siéntanse libres de mandarnos sus comentarios a deaconnews@archchicago.org Especialmente quisiera escuchar de diáconos o parejas que se han trasladado de Chicago y que están haciendo su ministerio en otras partes del país.

Finalmente, estoy buscando nombres de mujeres de nuestra comunidad que están envueltas en su propio ministerio separado del de su esposo. También quisiera nombres de parejas que hacen su ministerio juntos. Tengo la esperanza de escribir algo en el futuro, reafirmando todo el gran trabajo que hacemos todos nosotros; así es que por favor, háganme llegar los nombres y sus sugerencias.

Mantengan el fuego encendido,

Diácono Dave Brencic, editor

Views from the Vicar

Many of you are aware that some changes have been made in the English-speaking Deacon Formation Program. Elsewhere in today's Flame the director of the program, Deacon Bob Puhala, addresses the concerns that some of you have raised at recent gatherings about these changes. Basically, all courses will be offered at one central site. This will help build up the unity of the formation community. There is no more "co-lab" with lay ministry. This will better gear the classes to the Diaconate. It will assure the best instructors for all since it will no longer be necessary to find three instructors for each of the eight courses. There are some who wonder if these changes are an improvement and if this casts any aspersions on those trained in a

different system in the past. I would like to address these concerns.

Historical perspective always helps. In the earlier years, deacon formation directors were going by the seat of their pants because there was no real blueprint, just the general guidelines from the Second Vatican Council. Improvements have continually been made. The Vatican finally produced some guidelines in 1998. The late Deacon John Pistone had worked on the American version of these guidelines while serving as the executive director of the United States Bishop's Committee on the Diaconate. We were blessed to have Cardinal George appoint John to head up our formation program so these could begin to be implemented.

Besides theological formation, these guidelines speak of human, spiritual and pastoral formation.

There are many components now that were lacking in the past. This is not to say those ordained earlier are deficient. There is no substitute for the wisdom that comes only with practical experience and age. When I was in the seminary a half century ago, there was virtually no human or pastoral formation. Our spiritual formation was more geared to being a monk than an active parish priest. I do not feel inferior to the young priests of today. Rather I am grateful they have advantages I did not. The same is true in the Diaconate.

Another topic I would like to address is that of the role of women in the Diaconate. The wives of those in formation are expected to come to key formational events. They are also invited to participate in the theology classes that are offered. I have often heard that a

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Reflexiones del Vicario



Muchos de ustedes ya saben de algunos cambios que se han hecho en el Programa en ingles de Formación de Diaconos. En otro lugar de *The Flame*,

el Diácono Bob Puhala explica las preguntas que algunos de ustedes han hecho en recientes reuniones. Básicamente, todas las clases se ofrecerán en un solo sitio. Esto ayudará a fortalecer la unidad de los participantes en la formación de diáconos. Ya no hay mas colaboración con el ministerio laico. Esto facilitará las clases para el diaconado. Asegurará los mejores profesores, pues ya no será necesario buscar tres profesores por cada una de las ocho materias. Hay algunas personas que están preocupadas por si esto será lo mejor y si tendrá alguna repercusión en los que fueron entrenados en el pasado sistema. Quiero hablar acerca de estas dudas.

Históricamente, siempre ayuda la perspectiva. En los primeros años los formadores de los diáconos hacían las cosas como les parecía mejor, ya que no habían reglas escritas, fuera de las reglas generales que llegaron del Concilio del Vaticano Segundo. Continuamente se han hecho mejoras, hasta que el Vaticano finalmente nos mandó unas directrices en 1998. El difunto Diácono John Pistone trabajó en la versión americana de esas directrices cuando fue el Director Ejecutivo del Comité del Diaconado de los Obispos de Estados Unidos. Fuimos bendecidos de que el Cardenal George nombrara a John para dirigir nuestro programa de formación, para que esas directrices fueran implementadas. El Diácono Dick Baum, y ahora Bob Puhala han continuado de desarrollar lo que empezó John. Además de la formación teológica, estas directrices se refieren a la formación humana, espiritual y pastoral. Ahora hay muchas mejoras, que nos faltaban en el pasado. Y esto no es para decir que

los que se ordenaron antes tenían deficiencias. No hay ningún sustituto para la sabiduría que solo viene con la práctica y con la edad. Cuando yo estuve en el seminario hace medio siglo, no había casi ninguna formación humana o pastoral. Nuestra formación espiritual estaba más dirigida para ser un monje que un sacerdote activo en una parroquia. No me siento inferior a los jóvenes sacerdotes de hoy, mas bien estoy agradecido de ver que tienen ventajas que yo no tuve.

Esto es lo mismo en el Diaconado.

Otro tópico del que quiero hablar, es del rol de la mujer en el diaconado. Se espera que las esposas de los que están en formación asistan a específicos eventos de formación. También están invitadas a participar en las clases de teología que se ofrecen. Muy a menudo he escuchado que una de las mejores cosas del programa de formación es el diálogo entre marido y esposa, o dos parejas que comparten su viaje en

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Symposium slated

The Stephen's Symposium will be from 8 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23, at Concordia University, 7400 Augusta St., River Forest.

Bishop John Manz will give the keynote address on immigration. A question-and-answer session will follow.

Two sessions of continuing education will be offered in the afternoon. Speakers will all be from the Diaconate community and will include: Andy Beierwaltes, "Deacon and his taxes"; Bill Schultz, "Comparative Religions: Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and Catholicism"; Bob Gagnon,

"Preaching"; Barb Manning, "Domestic Abuse"; Dan Welter, "Changes"; Don Grossnickle, "Team Building"; and Tom Lambert, "Ministering to the Mentally Disadvantaged." Other speakers will be named later.

Registration will be from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Photo ID's are planned to be available for those needing one. The keynote address will be in the chapel, while all classes, lunch and registration will be contained in one building. An elevator will be available for those who need it.

Lunch will be in the cafeteria. The cost for the symposium is \$15 per person. For more information, call the Diaconate Office at (708) 366-8900.

Saints of the Caribbean Cruise

This is the last call to sign up for the Saints of the Caribbean cruise Jan. 23-30.

Join the Chicago Diaconate community for a travel study seminar during a seven-night cruise through the southern Caribbean in conjunction with Celebrity Cruises.

During the days at sea, there will be gatherings for liturgy and study. Sister Laurie Brink, O.P., Ph.D., assistant professor of biblical studies at Catholic Theological Union, will lecture on the topics of the "Communion of Saints," "Saints of the Caribbean" and "Call and Cost of Discipleship." The cruise provides an opportunity for continuing education credits.

Deacons and their families will be given priority, but others are also welcome in join the cruise.

The cruise will leave Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and will include stops at San Juan, Puerto Rico; Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas; and Philipsburg, St. Maarten. A special allotment of cabins has been reserved for the Diaconate community.

Cabin prices range from \$799 for an inside cabin to \$1,799 for a sky suite. For more information, contact Deacon Dennis Colgan at (708) 366-8900 or travel agent Matthew Tadla at (800) 614-2628 or email: mtadla@cruisone.com.

Mass Memorial Cards

Mass Memorial Cards are available through the Diaconate Community.

To request cards, please email or call Deacon Chuck McFarland at ctm728@aol.com or call (815) 464 4760.



St. Lawrence Day 2010

*Special guests
the newly ordained deacons
and the Class of 1985.*





I was impressed with the issue of the June-July Flame. The articles by Deacon Lambert and Grossnickle help to keep us focused in the centrality of the deacon mission in Christian charity. It helps to keep us focused.

-- Deacon John Dulen

I have been serving in Florida for seven plus years now. I realize that probably sounds very appealing during the long winter months. However because my roots still reach back to Chicago, I really enjoy receiving the Flame.

I have a comment on two issues raised in the Flame.

Transfer of deacons to another parish: When we moved to Florida, we obviously had a choice to some extent of parishes in our area. Some parishes were looking for a deacon

and some were not. The parishes looking for a deacon varied from a large type parish with a school and a lot of adult faith formation programs (similar to the type of parish we came from) to a small poorer parish with no school, mostly older population, not much adult faith formation and five penal institutions within its boundaries. The smaller parish was not immediately appealing because it was 20 miles away and my full-time job was 25 miles in the opposite direction. However, it had the greatest need.

We have been there seven years now. Yes, we miss our first parish. Yes, the distance is an inconvenience. Yes, the pastor is not perfect. But, you know, service is not about convenience and comfort. And yes, I often have to remind myself about that, too.

My current ministries include visiting three of the five penal institutions weekly, preaching monthly, baptism prep (the pastor does baptisms at Sunday masses) and RCIA weekly. I have also been involved in the Diocesan Mission to our sister diocese in the Dominican Republic raising money for water purification, education, medical help, building houses in remote mountain villages and two visits to

help build them.

Major changes to deacon formation: The recent issue of the Flame alluded to something about the wives and the academic formation. I have not heard about this in the Orlando Diocese yet.

-- Gene O'Hern, class of '99

With regard to the recent issue of Flame, as the wife of a deacon, I continue to thank God for the education and insights I received by going through formation with my husband. People like Pauline Viviano taught me not to be afraid to look at things from other perspectives. I continue to use so much of what I learned in my current ministries here in Florida. All this in addition to the many wonderful discussions my husband and I had and continue to have because of the seeds that were planted there. ... I am so very content in my supportive role (to my husband) and in maintaining my ministries. ... My prayers remain with the deacons and their wives throughout the world.

-- Carol O'Hern

(The Flame welcomes feedback. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. Send letters to deaconnews@archchicago.org)

Lessons from the Early Church

Mike Aquilina, Executive Vice President and Trustee of The St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology and author of the newly published *Roots of the Faith: From the Church Fathers to You*, will headline a two-day seminar on the teachings of the Fathers of the Church at St. Lambert Parish, Skokie, October 22-23, 2010.

The session on Friday, October 22 is particularly targeted to the teacher of the faith, deacons, priests, and catechists. With changes to be taking place in the liturgy, it is an opportune time to

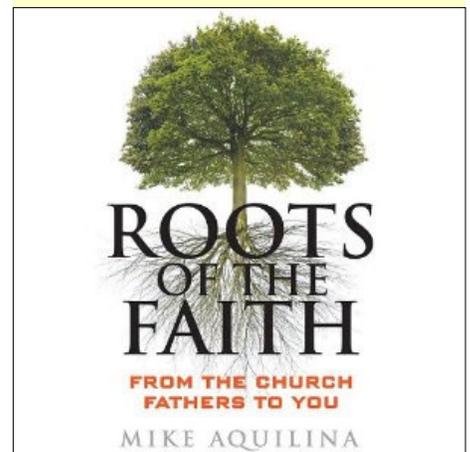
examine the roots of the faith and the Mass itself.

Mike Aquilina will be joined by fellow authors Rod Bennett and Carl Sommer who together with Rev. Richard Simon (Relevant Radio's Rev. Know-it-all) will examine the faith, and particularly the liturgy, from the vantage point of the Fathers of the Church.

The seminar will be held on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 22-23, at St. Lambert Parish, 8148 N. Karlov, in Skokie. Participants may choose to attend either or both days. The program will run from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Cost is \$15 for one day or \$20 for both, and an optional box lunch may be ordered

in advance.

For more information or to register, contact St. Lambert Parish at (847) 673-5090, or Deacon Chick O'Leary at (773) 775-6659.



Sunrise prayer services take a stand against violence

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Copies of the booklet developed by Teresa Gill and the Black Catholic deacons, *Act Now: Silence the Violence*, were handed out at the end of each of the services. The booklet is a great tool for anyone who is



Early on a cloudy morning crowds gathered at 31st St beach to join in prayer.

standing against violence. It is full of easy and practical steps anyone can take and use at home, work and in our places of worship.

The booklet directs young people to make a commitment not to live a life of violence by not bullying or teasing each other and to stay away from alcohol and drugs. It has ideas for local businesses to start mentoring local youth, offer jobs and to adopt schools. The booklet calls faith-based organizations to teach social tolerance, model ethical behavior and provide safe havens from violence.

Many people took time to share goals for their churches and visions for change in their communities. People from all over the archdiocese came together to pray in fellowship

and publicly stand for peace.

A nonviolence workshop is planned for parish leadership Feb. 16. We are also developing workshops to aid schools, churches and all groups to show them how they can use the nonviolence booklet.

A special thank-you to the Office of Black Catholic Ministries, the Archdiocese of Chicago, Mercy Home for Boys & Girls and The Mission Press for their support with underwriting the printing of the booklet. Also we would like to thank the wives of the deacons, Catholics for Nonviolence and everyone who supported the prayer services.

Clergy in attendance at the services included:

12th Street Beach

Father Chris Devron, president of Christ the King High School; Father Larry Dowling, pastor of St. Agatha; Father Thomas Walsh, Trinity High School; Deacon Dexter Watson, St. Malachy; Deacon William Pouncy, St. Martin DePorres.

31st Street Beach

Father Brendan Curran, pastor of St. Pius V; Father Charles Dahm, St. Pius V; Father Bruce Wellums, Immaculate Heart of Mary; Deacon Pablo Perez, Kolbe House/Assumption Church; Deacon David Andrade, St. Rita of Cascia; Deacon Ignacio Alvarez, St. Turibius.



The prayer services, led by deacons, were devout and energetic in their appeal for an end of violence.

Oakwood Beach

Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Perry; Father John Atoyebi, pastor of Holy Angels; Father Gabrielle, pastor of St. Anselm; Deacon LeRoy T. and Mrs. Teresa Gill, Jr., Holy Angels; Deacon John A. Cook, St. Felicitas; Yolanda Larièce, Expressions of You dance group.

63rd Street Beach

Father Robert Miller, pastor of St. Dorothy; Father Matt Eyerman, pastor of St. Columbanus; Deacon Wallace Harris, St. Dorothy; Deacon William McKinnis, St. Columbanus.

Rainbow Beach

Father Thadeo Mgimba, Holy Name of Mary; Father James Flynn, Holy Name of Mary; Father Frank Sasso, St. Thaddeus; Father Andrew Smith, St. Ailbe; Deacon Lendell Richardson, St. Sabina; Deacon Alfred and Mrs. Avis Coleman, St. Basil-Visitation; Deacon Tommy West, St. Helena of the Cross.

To see a video of all five sites you can go to, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvfq_CmLi8A



Phoebe's
Corner

Knowing the signs of
domestic violence

By Helene Albano

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As faith leaders, it is vital to address the violence that assaults our families and communities. Based on that conviction, representatives of our Diaconate community attended a workshop on domestic violence presented by Interfaith Parish Support Services in Schaumburg.

A trained domestic violence counselor conducted a 90-minute presentation and distributed many valuable resources to assist in educating our faith communities. During the presentation, we learned about the patterns of behavior and abuse that characterized families suffering from domestic violence. In addition, we heard about the heartbreaking effects of violence on children and how it often leads to repeated patterns of violence, which affect their future relationships.

Domestic violence can destroy a person's faith and sense of being a loved part of God's creation.

Nevertheless, according to the workshop, a faith leader was first contacted by a victim of domestic violence 21 percent of the time. Therefore, it is imperative that we inform ourselves concerning the vital role we can play in identifying this problem in our communities and how we can offer the possibility of safety, hope and healing to affected families.

As leaders in our faith communities, we should be able to recognize:

1. Signs and cycles of domestic violence.
2. Real physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual dangers facing victims.
3. Fears that victims face when considering their escape from

abusive situations.

4. How abusers can misuse Scripture and church teaching to threaten their victims.

5. Dangers of counseling. Note: It's important to refer victims to trained professional domestic violence counselors.

6. Warning signs of control, isolation and fear when involved in marital/pre-marital counseling.

As leaders in our communities, we need to be alert and responsive to the reality of domestic violence in our midst. We need to educate ourselves to offer a safe and appropriate response when domestic violence is suspected or recognized.

The workshop stressed that when encountering victims of domestic violence it is important to prioritize their needs and address the most important ones first. This threefold priority is:

1. Safety
2. Counseling with professionals experienced with domestic violence.
3. Legal assistance for counseling and advice

We are continuing to investigate ways to educate our faith communities through educational opportunities and distribution of resources. A Domestic Violence Resource Sheet was included in the Diaconate Symposium mailing to provide basic information for ministry in the parish, the community, and the workplace.

This often unrecognized threat to the safety of our families calls us to:

- Educate our faith leaders and communities
- Become aware of the red flags of domestic abuse
- Discuss the role of anger in relationships with couples (i.e. during wedding prep.etc.)
- Prepare homilies on family life that affirm love, respect and *always* denounce violence.

For more information call: Interfaith Parish Support Services/ DV at (847) 230-3749. The Illinois DV Help Line is (877) 863-6338.

Community news

Your prayers are asked for those who have recently gone to the Lord: Deacon Edward Zimmerman, '88, Deacon Robert Devereux, '77, Deacon Ben Aurelio, '98, Deacon Thomas Solon, '72, and Deacon Richard Zborowski, '80, and Jason Stangeland and Terri Ann Fester grandson and granddaughter of Donald and Mary Wheling'87 .

Among the sick, we commend to your prayers: Florence Szady, Marilyn O'Leary, Phil Fragassi, Beatriz Chairez, Charles Tippereiter, Daniel Cabrera, Antonio Navarro, Carol Ciston, wife of Bill Ciston, '91, Maria Patiño, John Wilkenson, Ida Bohannon, Robert DeFiore, Robert Sasseti, Linda O'Donnell, Alicia Rivera, Mel Both, John Lucas, Susan Winblad, Janet Studer, wife of the late Deacon Marvin Studer, '85, Ed Ryan, Frank and Blanche DeVita, Maria Del Llano, Soledad Muñoz, Jim Deiters, Sabino Sanchez, Patricia Gniech, Angelo and Maria Cordoba, Ernestina Ponce, Edwin Martinez, Teresa Ochoa, Donald Palmer, Agnes Barrett, John Burt, José Uroza, Wilmer Rodriguez, Santos Soto, Jose Marrero, Iris Diaz, John Simmons, Ronald Wiener, William Malloy, Mary Actaboski, Bill Warmouth's sister, Cheryl Becker, Deacon Richard Stojak '85, Deacon Rolando Merced and Mary Gronkiewicz.

Please contact the Diaconate Office at (708) 366-8900 if you have anyone to add to our sick and deceased lists.

Changes outlined in Deacon Formation Program

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process.

The goal of the DFP is to provide the best-formed deacons for the archdiocese and the Church. Recent changes in the formation program continue to slowly build on the formation foundations already present and are the result of a gradual implementation of the Directory norms that began in 2006 - in reality, 2001, when the Aspirancy Path, mandated by the Vatican Directory, became part of the formation program.

So what are the most recent changes and what is their effect? Through recent open meetings attended by deacons and wives and conversations with the Diaconate community, the DFP has identified some of the most common questions or comments about the program.

What are the “changes” in the program that began this year and were described in the archdiocesan press release as a new design?

Actually, the new design, though it has a major impact on the entire formation experience, is pretty simple. Eight academic courses formerly taught in collaboration with the lay ministry formation program are now conducted solely as part of the Deacon Formation Program curricula, unifying the intellectual path of the entire program so that it more substantively addresses the mission and identity of the

deacon while preparing him for his potential ministry.

Is formation getting too academic-oriented?

The academic norms for deacon formation come from the National Directory. DFP also suggests that interested parties examine the basic standards for readiness for ordination which appear at the end of the National Directory; the readiness expectations are formidable. While the DFP started in 2006 to gradually implement Directory norms for the human, spiritual and pastoral dimensions of formation, it only addressed the intellectual dimension during the past year. However, even before the Directories were issued, the Chicago DFP always has addressed the candidate's/ deacon's whole person - as well as support wives so that they can understand who the deacon is and what impact diaconal ministry will have on her relationship with her husband and its impact on the family.

Why can't wives participate in classes and how come other participation has been reduced?

These are perhaps the biggest misconceptions concerning the DFP. Wives can attend courses with their husbands, and most formation sessions, too. The difference is that wives now have several options to choose from in terms of participation. Currently, the process is the same one in place for at least three years: In aspirancy, wives must attend key events, have an approved spiritual director (cardinal approves), and may accompany their husbands in all other classes/sessions. In

candidacy, wives have three choices: key events; key events and audit courses; key events, audit courses, and/or concurrently enroll in Called & Gifted. DFP strongly encourages spiritual direction, but does not require it. Wives can receive a certificate of studies in lay ministry if they concurrently enroll in the Called and Gifted program. As a program whose mission is to form deacons, the DFP does not offer any instruction for lay ministry, which has its own specific charism and formation. Therefore it cannot issue certificates for lay ministry training. Certification and/or accreditation for participation status in any formation program are archdiocesan policy issues.

How come the DFP turned down so many applications this year?

This is another major misunderstanding, but probably based on unfamiliarity with formation language. When a man contacts the DFP to express interest in discernment, he is called an inquirer. An inquirer's first official written contact with the DFP is his completion of the Pre-Application & Inquiry form. This form is a tool designed to protect the applicant and the Church; it also is one that is geared to dialogue, if needed, when addressing possible impediments, penalties or extracanonial issues. It has been a tremendous success in addressing readiness for ministry issues, enlightening inquirers about canonical requirements, and clarifying potential for entering the aspirancy path. The inquirer does not need his pastor's permission to access the

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Pre-App form, which is on the DFP website. Just as the name suggests, this is NOT an application to the program; rather it is a form that generates dialogue about the possibilities of application.

When a man receives permission from his pastor to apply to the DFP, he is called an applicant. The pastor must request application materials, which are then sent to both the pastor and applicant. When the applicant/wife (if married) complete the application forms, they send all materials to the pastor for his signature - and then he sends these application materials to the DFP. It is the receipt of these application materials that begins the DFP application process.

If the DFP can invite an applicant/wife to participate in the program, he becomes a *conditional* aspirant until he completes some additional inventories. Successful completion of the inventories results in the conditional term to be removed from his status.

This year, the DFP received 47 Pre-Application & Inquiry forms. Of these 47 inquirers, only 23 actually filed application materials and applied for admission to the program. The attrition of numbers usually is caused by changes in the inquirers' state of life, such as job changes, schedules, pastor

wants more time to discern his admission, his wife cannot/will not commit to key events, etc. Very few individuals present potential serious issues. Of the 23 actual applicants to the DFP, 18 were offered acceptance, and 16 accepted that invitation.

I still don't understand all this emphasis on academics. I though the deacon is all about service, right?

The model of deacon formation in the archdiocese is pastor-driven. A man must have his pastor's support to enter and continue in the program.

It is important to remember a deacon's *diakonia* involves a three-fold ministry of service: to the Word, Liturgy and Charity. Candidates are formed to be ordained ministers, emissaries of the bishop, sharing in his ministry, and to be servant-leaders in all areas of their service ministry -- not simply social workers.

How can a change in pastors sidetrack a man's vocation to the Diaconate? It's just not right.

The model of deacon formation in the archdiocese is pastor-driven. A man must have his pastor's support to enter and continue in the program. If a pastor withdraws his support of an aspirant/candidate already in the program, the DFP has several meetings/dialogues with the man, his wife and his pastor to

see if any collaboration/accommodation can be reached. But ultimately, the pastor must give his support through the formation journey.

Also, when new pastors are assigned to parishes with men in formation, most new pastors accept the recommendation of the former pastor and continue to support the participant. Some pastors desire to develop their own relationships with the man and his wife before giving his official support. When this happens, a participant is placed on an extended formation path with a directed action plan from the DFP.

How come there is not more connection between formation and post-ordination?

Actually, the National Directory describes the formation process (one year of aspirancy, at least three years of candidacy, and three years of the post-ordination path) as one sole organic journey. And for the last few years, the DFP has been working with the Vicar's Office to make a stronger connection between formation and the post-ordination path so that elements of the formation program are affirmed and extended in those three years following ordination. The DFP encourages the Diaconate community to raise suggestions to the vicar for post-ordination path courses/instruction. Also, note that the post-ordination path is distinct from continuing education, an obligation of all deacons.

Stritch Retreat House update

By Deacon Richard F. Hudzik

Allow me to offer a brief update on *your* retreat house.

First, we have heard of an occasion or two where one of our older brothers or sisters would like to come on retreat, but is unable to make the drive here to the far north of the archdiocese. Certainly, traffic, particularly Friday evening traffic, can be a challenge. I think there are two possible remedies. First, know that, generally, we are able to receive you early in the afternoon on Fridays. Check with us if you are looking for earlier than 3 p.m. Likely, we would be able to accommodate an earlier arrival. Second, I wonder if those challenged by the drive might give us a call and let us know of their predicament. Although we cannot guarantee a ride, it may be that someone else in your area might be coming and willing to provide a

ride. We would be happy to ask for you and then let you know.

Second, know that you are welcome here for your own private stays for retreat and renewal. Also, if you feel it would be helpful to give voice to what you are praying, certainly, I would be honored to sit with you and pray together. Truly, it would be a gift to me to help in that way.

Third, know also that, as the archdiocese's retreat house, we are most interested in hosting your parish groups – committees, staffs, prayer groups, planning sessions. An increasing number of parishes are availing themselves of this opportunity.

Finally, set forth below is the schedule of the remaining Stritch-sponsored retreats. Sign up today – you will not only assure yourself of the desired retreat, but you will also satisfy that canonical requirement of an annual retreat (and, for you over-achievers out there, you will receive an A+ on

your annual diaconal evaluation!).

... Oct. 8-10 Deacons (Friar Bernard Kennedy, OFM)

... Oct. 29-31 Deacons and wives (Spanish language)

... Nov. 19-21 Deacons and wives (Fr. James Kubicki, SJ)

... Jan. 14-16 Deacons and wives (Fr. Kevin Scalf, C.P.S.)

... Feb. 11-13 Deacons and wives (Spanish language)

... Feb. 18-20 Deacons (Fr. Kurt Boras)

... April 1-3 Deacons and wives (Dr. Kate Wiskus, D.Min.)

... May 20-22 Deacons and wives (Spanish language)

As always, if you have any questions, let me know. Come away by yourself. *Venite seorsum.*

Deacon Richard F. Hudzik is the director of Stritch Retreat House.

Office of Peace and Justice events

The Office of Peace and Justice for the Chicago Archdiocese is sponsoring several upcoming programs and events.

...The 10th annual Africa Summit will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, at the Cardinal Meyer Center. Summit will focus on "Food Security and Conflict" and how it affects the continent of Africa and the country of Haiti. There will be two speakers from Catholic Relief Services. Cost is \$20, \$15 for students and includes breakfast, lunch and materials.

...The next planning meeting for the Parish Sharing Committee will be from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 30 at the Cardinal Meyer Center, 3525 S. Lake Park Ave. A light lunch and

refreshments will be provided.

...The worst flooding in Pakistan's history has cut a swath of destruction from the northern mountain regions to wheat fields in the south. The Indus River breached its banks again on Saturday, Aug. 14, in southern Pakistan, bringing even more devastation to the area. Government and humanitarian estimates put the number of displaced between 16 million and 20 million people. At least 1,500 people have been killed, millions have lost their homes, crops and livestock, and heavily trafficked roads and bridges have disappeared. Though hampered by washed-out roads and bridges, Catholic Relief Services has reached thousands of people in the north and southwest parts of the country. CRS Pakistan's emergency activities include response to drought, the Afghan refugee crisis and earthquake emergency

response and rebuilding.

Please keep the people of Pakistan in your prayers. To make a donation, make your check payable to Catholic Relief Services, 3525 S. Lake Park Avenue, Chicago, IL 60653-1402. On the memo line write "Pakistan."

...The Illinois Parental Notification Act of 1995 has been in legal limbo since it was enacted nearly 15 years ago and parents have been kept in the dark about underage abortions in Illinois.

The Catholic Conference of Illinois supports the Parental Notice of Abortion Act and has spent significant time and resources defending the law in the legislature and various courts. To support the current effort, a website has been set up by Students for Life of Illinois: <http://www.letparentsknow.com/>. The site offers information and ideas about how you can help.

Annulments and the RCIA

(The following was sent out from Father Michael Hack, Judicial Vicar, to pastors, administrators, deacons, pastoral ministers and RCIA directors in regards to annulments. This is an edited version.)

As parishes begin gearing up for their RCIA Programs, I want to remind those involved in the RCIA ministry about matters concerning divorced individuals. These matters pertain to the catechumen/candidate and their fiancé or current spouse.

I hope the following information will be helpful:

First of all, please keep in mind that all marriages count in one way or another.

Who needs a declaration of nullity (annulment)? Whenever two people exchange marital consent, the Church presumes that a valid marriage bond has been formed, since it is the consent of the parties that creates the bond. If the parties are Catholic or Orthodox Christians, that consent has to be exchanged in a certain way for it to be considered valid (i.e. before a priest or deacon and two witnesses). For all others - baptized or not - the Church recognizes the validity of their marriage *regardless of where the consent was exchanged.*

For those seeking initiation into the Catholic Church, if a previous marriage(s) has failed and they are involved in a subsequent marriage, the Tribunal must look into the circumstances of the previous marriage(s) before the person can be allowed to be baptized or received into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

This also applies if their fiancé or current spouse has been in a

previous marriage(s), so please make sure you ask about any previous marriages of the person's fiancé or current spouse.

The Tribunal and RCIA cases:

We realize that it is somewhat delicate to inquire about a candidate's marital situation upon first meeting and we encourage this to take place in a one-on-one meeting. However, if the Tribunal is to assist them when a Declaration of Nullity is needed for the candidate and/or the current spouse/fiancé, we need a tribunal application submitted as soon as possible. Your parish office should have a supply of Tribunal Applications and a booklet entitled: "Frequently Asked Questions About Declarations Of Nullity." This information is also available on the Archdiocesan Website: www.archchicago.org (Click on "Departments" and then "Tribunal".) We have English, Spanish and Polish applications.

We will make every effort to finish a case prior to the Easter Vigil, but I would ask that you do not make a promise that a case will be finished by that time. There are many variables that affect a case - the Respondent's possible involvement, witnesses who do not return information in a timely manner, the possibility of a prohibition placed on a Petitioner that must be lifted before a current marriage can be convalidated, the possibility of a negative decision.

We must have the Petitioner's (TOP), not just the application, before Oct. 1, if there is any possibility that a case can be completed before the Easter Vigil.

Those being received into the Catholic Church: Please be aware that the Rite recommends that the Easter Vigil is to be reserved for those being *baptized*; and that those being *received into full communion of the Catholic Church* do so at a different time. No. 33 of the National Statutes of the

Catechumenate states: "It is preferable that reception into full communion not take place at the Easter Vigil lest there be any confusion of such baptized Christians with the candidates for baptism, possible misunderstanding of or even reflection upon the sacrament of baptism celebrated in another Church or ecclesial community, or any perceived triumphalism in the liturgical welcome into the Catholic Eucharistic community."

By receiving baptized Christians into the Catholic Church at a time apart from the Easter Vigil, you will avoid the problem of having to have any marriage nullity case completed prior to Holy Week.

Baptized non-catechized Catholics. Finally, for those Catholics who have been baptized and have received the Eucharist and are now preparing for Confirmation, it should be noted that the RCIA considers them to be catechized. They should complete their initiation into the Church through Confirmation administered by a bishop. However, for pastoral reasons the Office of Canonical Services will give delegation for a priest to confirm these individuals. The RCIA reserves the term "baptized but uncatechized" for those who have received Catholic baptism only. For those "baptized but uncatechized" Catholics who are completing the Christian Initiation through Eucharist and Confirmation, priests need delegation from the Office of Canonical Services to confirm these individuals.

If you have any further questions about any RCIA matters or need to discuss an individual case, you can call the Office of Divine Worship (312) 534-5153, or the Office of Catechesis and youth Ministry (312) 534-3700, or the Office for Canonical Services (312) 534-8382, or the Metropolitan Tribunal "on call" person (312) 534-8280 or me at (312) 534-8255.

Reflexiones del Vicario

(Continued from page 3)

carro, al ir a la clase. El aprendizaje de los adultos es tanto dentro de la clase, como fuera de ella. Esto tiene que continuar, pero la esposa tiene que hacer la decisión de participar en estos eventos y de participar en las clases con su esposo.

Después de la ordenación, algunas de las esposas escogen hacer ministerio con sus esposos. Algunas piensan que no tienen el llamado de participar en el momento, sino ofrecen su apoyo en la casa. Otras, inclusive, escogen trabajar en su propio ministerio, separado al de sus esposos. Todas estas tres opciones son válidas. Lo que quiero afirmar es el regalo vital y esencial que es la esposa para su esposo tanto en la formación, como después de la ordenación. Diferentes esposas lo harán de diferente manera; pero es esencial que se sientan apreciadas tanto en

su valor personal como en su importancia en complementar el rol al que sus esposos se sienten llamados a vivir. La Formación del Programa Diaconal siempre continuará desarrollándose y sus preocupaciones y sugerencias siempre serán valoradas.

Hablando de continuo desarrollo, necesitamos recordarnos que nunca acabamos nuestra formación. Les digo esto porque el número de diáconos atendiendo a retiros ha bajado mucho. Lo sé, porque ha bajado el número de pedidos de reembolso tanto en nuestra casa de retiro como también en otros lugares. Mientras que estoy al tanto de que algunos de ustedes pagan por sus propios retiros (lo cual agradezco, porque nos ayuda financieramente), También se que algunos de ustedes se han permitido el estar muy ocupados para tener tiempo para un retiro. Si no quieren hacer un retiro porque lo merecen, o porque el derecho canónico lo demanda, háganlo por la gente a la

que sirven.

Ellos se merecen que ustedes estén en lo mejor de su espiritualidad. Y lo mismo va con tener una dirección espiritual. Muy pocos de nosotros entramos a la segunda etapa de nuestra vida sin tener un médico de cabecera. ¿Es acaso menos importante el tener un director espiritual para que nos guíe y ayude a encontrar salud espiritual?

Nadie de nosotros quisiera ir a un médico, o llevar nuestro carro a un mecánico, que no se mantiene al día en su profesión. ¿Acaso estamos buscando asistir a eventos que se ofrecen o preferimos buscar alguna excusa? ¿Ya se han inscrito al Simposio de San Esteban? ¿Y la Conferencia Ecuuménica del 12 de Noviembre? ¿Tienen que inscribirse a un retiro? Cuidense a si mismos y así estarán cuidando también a las personas que aman y a las personas que sirven.

Padre Michael Ahlstrom

Views from the Vicar

(Continued from page 3)

highlight of the formation program was the conversation that took place between husband and wife, or two couples sharing a ride, on the way to and from class. Adult learning takes place outside the classroom as well as in it. This needs to continue. But the choice is the wife's whether to attend key events only or fuller participation while accompanying their husbands.

After ordination some wives choose to do some ministry with their husbands. Others feel their call is not to do ministry at this time, but be supportive at home. Still other women choose to do their own form of ministry independent of their husband. All three of these are legitimate options. What I want to affirm is the vital and essential gift that the wife is to her husband both in the formation program and after ordination. Different women

will do this in different ways. What is essential is that they feel affirmed both as to their own worth and their importance in complementing the role their husbands are called to live. The Deacon Formation Program will always remain a work in progress. Your concerns and suggestions are always valued.

Speaking of works in progress, we all need to remember that we are never done in our formation. I say this because the numbers of people making retreats are down. I know this because the numbers at our retreat house are down and there are fewer people requesting funds for retreats elsewhere. While I know some of you choose to pay for your own retreat (for which I am grateful because it eases our financial burden), I also know some have allowed themselves to be too busy to find time for retreat. If you will not make a retreat because you deserve it or canon law demands it, do it for the people you serve. They

deserve to have you at your spiritual best.

The same goes for spiritual direction. Very few of us go into the second half of life without a personal physician. Is it any less important not to have a spiritual guide to help us find spiritual health?

None of us would want to go to a physician or even bring our car to a mechanic who does not keep up with the latest information in their profession. Do we look forward to ongoing formation events or try to take the easy way out? Have you signed up for the St. Stephen Symposium? What about the ecumenical conference on Nov. 12? Do you need help in finding a spiritual director (we have some new additions to our list)? Do you need to sign up for a retreat? Take care of yourself and you will be taking care of those whom you love and serve.

Father Michael Ahlstrom

Diaconate Council Notes September 11, 2010

Treasurer's Report, Charles McFarland, Treasurer

As of June 30, 2010 the bank balance was \$35,369.93. Since then credits to the account of \$14,012.96 and disbursements of \$8,921.04 leave a current balance as of Aug. 31, 2010, of \$40,461.85.

McFarland stated that the monies held by First American were transferred as of Aug. 18. The \$138,554.04 was divided as follows: \$42,000 in 90-day CD; \$96,554.04 in a 12-month CD.

McFarland suggested that when a deacon or wife dies a memorial card should be sent on behalf of the council. By voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously. If you wish to receive memorial cards, please contact McFarland at (815) 464-4760.

Report Concerning Diaconate Formation Directive

Father Mike Alstrom and Associate Director Denis Colgan met with Bob Puhala, director of the Diaconate Formation Program, about the formation changes. In Father Mike's absence, Denis Colgan outlined the changes:

1. Eliminating the combined lay ministry and deacon formation classes, deacons will now be trained separately.
2. All deacons will meet at one site, one teacher for uniformity, builds community by all deacons learning together.
3. Grades are now given with a minimum passing grade of 70%
4. Wives are not excluded, but encouraged to attend. They do not receive credit and can only audit the class. (They may attend the Called and Gifted program that gives a certificate of studies. That would require the wives

to attend another night separate from the deacon's class.)

5. Fr. Mike suggested forming an advisory board for the Diaconate Formation Program made up of deacons, wives and priests.
6. The class location is at the new DePaul/O'Hare University site.
7. There will be no changes to the Spanish program.
8. The small group meetings still require attendance by both the deacon candidate and his wife.

A discussion about the changes and the concerns of the council ensued. The woman's role and especially the spiritual growth between the men and woman was a main concern. Additionally was the concern of not allowing the women who audit the classes to receive credit. It was also suggested that a wife of a deacon be added to the advisory board when it is established.

A motion was made by Marge Colgan and seconded by Peggy Virruso that the secretary of the council send a letter on behalf of the Diaconate Council.

Chairman Report William Stearns

Chairman reported that the Policy and Procedures manual was going along well and that the next meeting would be Sept. 15. The changes will be available online for review.

DFP Report from the Formation Office by David Kalina, DFP DC Liaison

On Aug. 29, the DFP's 2010/2011 formation year began with a Mass of the Holy Spirit. Nearly 200 people attended the Mass.

The intellectual Dimension of the

Candidacy Path began on Sept. 7 with the kickoff of the 10-week fall quarter courses.

Vicar's and Associate Director's Reports, Dennis Colgan

Secretary Sal Lema has volunteered as the co-chair for the St. Stephen Symposium. The theme this year is "Return to Center." The symposium will be held at Concordia University in River Forest on Oct. 23. Most Reverend, John R. Manz, auxiliary bishop of Chicago, will give the keynote address on "Immigration Reform." In the afternoon, there will be eight speakers, all of whom are deacons or wives of deacons. Cost for the day including breakfast and lunch is \$15. The day begins with prayer at 9:30 am and ends at 3:15 pm.

The ID card system has been received. Dennis asked for volunteers to learn how to operate the System. Tom Coffey and James Deiters volunteered.

March 12 is the date for the next Convocation. The theme for the day is the "New Roman Missal."

Motion to sponsor continental breakfast. Associate Director Denis Colgan stated his thanks that each year the council has generously covered the cost of the continental breakfast for the Symposium.

Reports from VDCs & DDCs

1. Vicariate I: VDC not present.
2. Vicariate II: Paul Spalla gave copies of a pass out that was sent to all deacons within Vicariate II.
3. Vicariate III VDC not present
4. Vicariate IV John Gaughan stated that Bishop Manz is their acting bishop.
5. Vicariate V Joseph Truesdale stated that Bishop Gustavo and the members of

In the face of tragedy

By Deacon Don Grossnickle

"For it is in giving that we receive." -- St. Francis of Assis

I recently picked up a nice spanking new book called: "Time: Haiti-Tragedy and Hope" (Time Inc 2101).

The opening lines of the book jacket struck hard like a hammer to my head: Check out these words that shake like an earthquake.

"Tragedy often has a way of visiting those who can bear it least" ... "And on January 12, 2010, that is exactly what happened to Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere ... Immediately, the scale of the tragedy was apparent, a nation already so often on its knees had been knocked to the ground."

So often we hear the empty unreassuringly shallow words of well-meaning bystanders - "God only gives a person as much suffering as he or she can bear."

I have seen those who receive

such advice shake their heads and ask, "Can God really somehow help me sustain the strength I need to go on? How can I go on? I really don't know the way."

So many ask, "Can God give more than shares of tragedy to the weak?"

Yes, I believe so. God gives community, a spirit of solidarity with brothers and sisters. And more, God inspires some an ability for the embracing of misery with compassionate forbearance. The Holy Spirit is connected and reaches out in humble dignity from the despair to connect upwards with the wonderful and beautiful gift of hope upon hope.

Beyond platitudes, beyond token gifts of a few dollars, solidarity of standing beside the struggling and suffering is the great gift that counsels more than words and gestures can offer.

My lament in discovering the inner workings of catastrophic football injuries and paralysis is the deeper tragedy of the boys and families who wallow in spiritual poverty, disconnected from community.

In fact for 11 years, I have seen the tears, the struggle, of those who could bear it least, too often alone, distanced by safe-seeking others.

We who take the time to witness the plight of the tragedy deeply appreciate and admire how some mightily and quietly bear up in their lives of quiet desperation.

We notice the effects of refreshment, like a drink of water for the thirsty living in the desert. People are boosted by small little rays of sunshine because a very few on occasion demonstrate some amount of care.

Who will rally from the comfort of apathy and complacency and cynicism and skepticism and hear the calling to move paralysis along?

Who is not intimidated by overwhelming obstacles and sure and certain pathways of more despair without relief?

"Tragedy often has a way of visiting those who can bear it least."

Tragedy is being alone in the midst of a community.

Deacon Council Notes

(Continued from page 13)

Vicariate V were grateful for Father Mike Ahlstrom's attendance at the Sept. 1 meeting.

6. Vicariate VI had no report.

Report from William Pouncy Black Deacon Representative

On Aug. 21, they sponsored sunrise Masses and prayer services at five South Side beaches to pray for an end to violence. Pedro Sedano, of the Hispanic deacons, reported that over 135 people from the Hispanic community also attended.

Old Business

Saint Lawrence Day. A good time was had by all who attended this year's Saint Lawrence Day gathering. The outing honors both the new class of deacons and those who have achieved 25 years of ministry, yet the event was not well attended. A new chair is being sought. Also a co-chair from Vicariate VI, who will be the chair in the following year, is needed. Any member of Vicariate V and VI that wishes to volunteer for the two positions are asked to contact Dennis at the Diaconate Office.

New Business

Chairman Stearns reminded the VDC's and DDC's of their

responsibilities to inform deacons about the dates of upcoming events. He passed out a list of events and asked that each VDC and DDC refer to it when they contact a deacon.

Deacon Tom Coffey stated his intention to resign as DDC of Vicariate IV Deanery E. His resignation will take affect when a replacement has been selected and accepted.

A request to place the Council Notes, which are the unofficial minutes until ratified, on the website was requested.

Next meeting will be Nov. 13.

In Memoriam

Deacon Robert Devereaux

Deacon Robert Devereaux, 79, class of 1977, died July 30.

Deacon Devereaux had ministered at Our Lady of the Mount in Cicero. Over the years, he was involved in baptismal prep, marriage prep and a wide variety of general parish duties, according to his wife, Joan.

Before his retirement, Deacon Devereaux worked as a truck mechanic and was a supervisor at Greyhound's maintenance garage.

"He was a wonderful father and husband," Joan said. "He was very active in the parish and at work. His ministry took him to the workplace."

Deacon Devereaux was involved as a Boy Scout leader and worked with the Girl Scout Council.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by five children, 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Deacon Thomas Solon

A member of the first Diaconate class of 1972, Deacon Thomas Solon died Aug. 23. He was 80.

Deacon Solon served at St. Denis Parish in Chicago and was very active in ministry. Over the years, he taught Religious Education and Confirmation classes, led a Bible study group, was a former member of the Diaconate Council, visited hospital patients, delivered food to St. Agatha Parish, worked with the food pantry, founded the parish's men's group, was involved in CHIRP, led reflection groups in the parish and the home during

Advent and Lent, and drove cancer patients for treatments.

"He was the greatest guy in the world," said his son Terry Solon. "In the last 48 hours, I have heard so many stories about my dad - from all ages - 5 years old to 105. Everyone loved him."

Terry Solon said his father's motto was: "Until further notice, celebrate everything." In fact, Thomas' sister cross-stitched the motto and presented it to him as a gift.

"I can't remember him not having a smile on his face. He loved people. He loved the Lord and loved life," Terry said.

Deacon Richard Zborowski

Deacon Richard Zborowski, 87, and a member of the class of '80, died Aug. 29.

During his work life, he was chairman of the math department at Riverside-Brookfield High School. During his ministry, he served at St. Louise de Marillac Parish in LaGrange Park.

Deacon Zborowski's son Monsignor Richard Zborowski said his father visited the hospitals and took communion to the sick and homebound, preached, assisted at Mass and was active with the parish council.

"He was a very well educated man, a quiet, confident man. He had a deep faith and a deep prayer life," Monsignor Zborowski said.

He is survived by five children, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Deacon Edward Zimmerman

A member of the class of '88, Deacon Edward Zimmerman, 77, died Sept. 14.

Over the years, Deacon Zimmerman ministered at St. Camillus, St. Symphorosa and Our Lady of Snows parishes in Chicago, and Christ the King parish in Lombard. Before he took ill, he was involved with the baptismal prep program, the share food program, helped out at funerals and assisted at Mass. During his work life, he was a truck driver.

Daughter Adrienne Zimmerman described her father as: "a Good Samaritan who would help anyone. He had a good heart. He was a really good person ... who liked his sweets."

He is survived by five daughters and seven grandchildren.

Deacon Benjamin G. Aurelio

A member of the class of '98, Deacon Ben Aurelio passed away on August 1, 2010 at the age of age 63.

Deacon Aurelio originally served at St. Robert Bellarmine in Chicago where he was involved in a wide range of ministries, but his greatest involvement was with the Legion of Mary with which he had been active for many years both prior to and following his ordination.

Ben retired from his occupation as a social worker following the death of his late wife, Mina and had not had a formal parish assignment for several years.

A classmate recalls that "Ben was always a quiet and soft-spoken man who radiated an intensity of faith. His devotion and humble service spoke more loudly than his words."

He is survived by his sisters Letty Dino and Norma Torres; his brothers Eden and Noel, and many nieces and nephews.

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sweaters**

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All aboard!!

See page 4 for info

Archdiocese of Chicago
Office of the Diaconate
816 Marengo
Forest Park, IL 60130

Calendar

October

- 16 10th annual Africa Summit
- 23 St. Stephen Symposium
- 22-23 Patristics Seminar
- 29-31 Deacons and wives retreat
(Spanish language)
- 30 Parish Sharing Committee
meeting

November

- 1 All Saints Day
- 2 All Soul's Day
- 5-6 Catechetical Conference
- 13 Diaconate Council meeting
- 19-21 Deacons and wives retreat
- 25 Thanksgiving

Numbers to know:

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The Chicago Deacons Web site:
deacons.archchicago.org

**Access The Flame
online at
deacons.archchicago.org**