

ARCHDIOCESE OF
ATLANTA
PERMANENT DIACONATE

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2401 Lake Park Drive
Smyrna, GA 30080
404-920-7325 F 404.920.7326

THE BEACON

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA

SUMMER 2018

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My Dear Brothers, Happy June.....oops it's almost over! Can you believe how time is flying? So much has been going on and I feel like we just got into this year, not having it nearly half gone. And some wonderful things indeed have occurred.

We had a beautiful Ordination this year for our Permanent Deacons and then just a few weeks ago we had the Ordination of Deacon Mark White to the Transitional Diaconate. This past weekend we celebrated the Ordination of five new priests for our Archdiocese. All of these were truly joyous occasions. Sadly, we have also laid to rest several of our beloved priests. Prayers for Vocations must continue every day!

Our Eucharistic Congress was a wonderful success. I am always so pleased to see our deacons there in large numbers. This is one day a year when you

all can just come and be lifted up by beautiful liturgies, wonderful talks, joyful music and the camaradery of 30,000 fellow Catholics. I heard from one long time deacon who shared that it was the first time he had sat through all of the talks and he enjoyed it immensely. It's also a joy for the people of our parishes to see the deacons in large numbers processing for the liturgies. I encourage you to mark next June 21 and 22 on your calendars. Keep the day, especially Saturday the 22nd free and join us for the 24th Annual Congress!

We are working on a few transfers and new assignments for our deacons. Please keep in mind that if you are thinking of transferring you should contact the Office of the Permanent Diaconate BEFORE you start shopping for a new parish assignment. We have a protocol and the Archbishop is the one who makes these assignments. If we preempt the process, we run the risk of alienating both your current pastor and whoever you have spoken to about

the move. Let us do our back channel work before making this a public move. Just a call or an email can begin the process.

I pray all of you have a safe and restful summer. I know I plan on some quality family time as well as the quiet of the coast and the mountains in the next month.

Come July 22 I hope to see many of you in New Orleans as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Restoration of the Permanent Diaconate here in the US. What a joy it will be. As of today, we have nearly 3000 people coming to the event. There is more information about the Congress in the following pages. Remember, we can allocate your annual retreat expense to cover the registration fees.

Know that I am here to serve you and that you are in my prayers. Please keep our entire community in prayer!

Sincerely in Christ,

Deacon Dennis

Formation Forum



**Co-Director of
Diaconate For-
mation**

**Office of the
Permanent Di-
aconate**

**Archdiocese of
Atlanta**

Only in God will my soul find rest.

Psalm 62

We are on Summer Break from regular Diaconate Formation Classes, but not from Diaconate Formation. The months of June and July will have no classes, so what will those in Diaconate Formation do with all of their free time?

The Eucharistic Congress is held this year on the first weekend of the summer break. All of the men in formation and many of their wives volunteer hours and hours to do the many tasks that help the Archdiocese host this wonderful event. From the transportation of the stands that hold the banners and the poles used in the procession on Saturday morning, as well as all of the supplies needed (including a very heavy tabernacle), to clean up, those in Diaconate Formation gladly work everywhere and anywhere they are needed.

The Summer Break will also hold the opportunity for some of the men to go on a mission trip to help the poorest of the poor; others are working at Vacation Bible Schools in their parish; some will go on summer camp trips with youth groups.

We share with the men and

wives to also take some time to read a book (not required reading for one of their courses), relax in a hammock, go fishing, play with the kids, golf, spend quiet time with God. No matter who we are, we all need Sabbath time. Time away from the routine to find rest in God – a very important part of formation.

There is an important difference between education and formation. Education requires 'head knowledge', which is very important to those who will serve as deacons to know scripture, theology, and doctrine. Formation, though, requires that we are formed by faith, and God shapes our whole life.

We seek ways to help those in Diaconate Formation to encounter the living God and grow in the love of God. To do so, we step away from the everyday and let the Spirit seep into our very being, refresh our souls and our bodies too.

While we are on break from classes, we have work to do – to deepen our relationship with God.

Peace,

Penny Simmons

Please Pray for us

FOR THOSE THAT HAVE DIED

Jack Shipley, Father-in-law of Deacon Ron Leidenfrost 6-8-18
 Luciano Melara Sr., brother of Deacon Israel Melara, 5-28-18
 DeLeslyn (Dess) Bickerstaff, sister of Deacon Michael Bickerstaff, 5-11-18
 Deacon Hilliard Lee, 5-8-18
 Gladys Carballo, Mother-in-law of Deacon Miguel Echevarria, 5-6-18
 August Joseph Tramonte, father of Deacon James Tramonte, 3-5-18
 Kathleen Byrne, sister of Deacon Mike Byrne, 3-1-18

FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Deacon Richard Searls
 Cathy Carazza, wife of Deacon Dennis Carazza
 June Sholander, mother of Deacon Mark Sholander
 Deacon Scott Sparks
 Deacon Jim McDermott
 Deacon Scott Medine
 Linda Melvin, wife of Deacon Ken Melvin
 Deacon Gary Atkinson
 Deacon Scott Parker
 Deacon Stan Ford



Mercy Center, Inc.

520 West Buena Ventura
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

719.633.2302

719.633.1031 fax

www.mercycenter.com

themercycenter@aol.com

April 23, 2018

Dear Pastoral Ministers,

If you have a diocesan mailing or the ability to share this information with the parishes and schools of your diocese would you be so kind as to share this upcoming training program. We can provide a PDF file if needed for e-mail delivery.

Announcing: The Pastoral Leadership Institute

*August 27 – September 7, 2018 at the Mercy Center Inc. located in
Colorado Springs, Colorado.*

Limited to 15 participants.

The Pastoral Leadership Institute

A two-week personal and professional renewal for men and women who are pastors, provincials, principals, pastoral associates, pastoral staff providers, deacons and parish leaders. The Pastoral Leadership Institute is a unique and innovative program that has been designed to provide personal and professional growth experiences. The program design includes the combination of small group sharing, classroom lectures and leadership assessments. The program goal is to provide each participant with a knowledge of their pastoral leadership skills, fine –tune their personal style and professional applications that will empower and renew each pastoral leader so they can return to their pastoral work renewed and invigorated.

Tuition: \$1,850 includes, room/board, workbooks, leadership assessments, access to reading material, transportation to/from the Colorado Springs Airport. Books for sale during the training program.

Thank you,

Rev. William J Jarema, MS, M.Div., MAS, NCC
International Director – Mercy Center Inc.



Thank You from Bishop Joel Konzen, S.M

Dear Brothers in Christ and in Holy Orders,

Thank you for your generous gift as I assume the responsibility of Auxiliary Bishop. Your thoughtfulness has been expressed already by so many of you and is deeply appreciated.

It is one of the great benefits I now enjoy in this role: to have the aid, accompaniment, and support of the Permanent Deacons of the Archdiocese wherever I go. I hope that I can, by my prayers and my filial respect, along with my service to you in your ministries and families, somehow return the favor.

+ Joel Konzen, S.M.

ANNUAL SEMINARIAN COOK OUT

Dear Brother Deacons:

Each year we are pleased to do a Seminarian Cook Out for the men who are in Seminary from the Archdiocese of Atlanta. We provide a great dinner – steak and chicken this year – as well as two golf shirts for each seminarian.

While the men in Diaconate Formation provide labor and some of the side dishes and plates, etc. along with Deacon Bill Hampton who does the grilling for the Dinner, we depend on the donations of our Deacons to provide the funds to purchase steaks and chicken and the golf shirts for the seminarians.

Donations to cover the costs should be made to the Archdiocese of Atlanta, with a memo note "Seminarian Cook Out", and sent to the Chancery, attention Kath Owens.

Please complete the attached survey no later than June 30, 2018 to let us know if you and your wife will be attending the Seminarian Cook Out on Wednesday, **July 18, 2018**. The evening starts with Mass in Grand Hall A at the Chancery at 5:30 pm, with dinner immediately following in Grand Halls B and C.

Survey Link: [2018 Seminarian Cook Out](#)

Please feel free to contact Penny Simmons psimmons@archatl.com if you have any questions.

REBUILDING HOPE MISSIONS, INC.

Are you interested in a chance to discover a deeper level of compassion and a servant heart within yourself? Join us on a working mission trip and become involved in helping the Catholic Church and its communities in Puerto Rico. Rebuilding Hope Missions is currently setting its plans for 2019 to begin mission work trips to Puerto Rico to assist the poor, the Church, and those impacted from Hurricane Maria.

The Board and special guests have been invited to take a special mission trip on June 21-24, 2018 to experience first hand the impact Hurricane Maria has had on the island and the work ahead to help those in most need. We are extending this invitation to the diocese formation community to get involved and to potentially share this new ministry with your parish and community. If you are interested in joining us or want to learn more, please contact Randy J. Ortiz at 404-955-0684 or email at rjortiz1966@gmail.com.

ABOUT US

It is through your generosity in sharing your time, talent, and treasures that we can build and rebuild hope back to communities that are impoverished by manmade or natural disasters. Our vision is to assist the poor, the Church, and shape social consciousness.

WHO WE ARE

Rebuilding Hope Missions is a ministry program of the Archdiocese of Atlanta rooted in the Gospel and grounded in Catholic Social Teaching. Our mission is twofold: to serve the physical and spiritual needs of the poor, assisting with rebuilding homes, communities and churches. We are also called to bring people into radical and life-changing encounters that will help direct a person's life path.

WHAT WE DO

We enable the poor to live better lives and build hope during despair. Our mission is to provide hope through the assistance of volunteers willing to fundraise for a rebuilding project and assist with its completion. Each project is unique and we combine our work efforts with spirituality or what is known as the "spirituality of work" — an understanding that all human activity presents us with an opportunity to grow in our relationship with God. We are open to all who wish to engage in a working retreat from a Catholic perspective.

Prayerfully consider joining us on our trip on June 21-24th to learn more and become involved in this new ministry of the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Join our team!

Position Announcement Mission

Educator - Promoter

Team Leader for Deacon Mission Partners

The Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers share the Good News of God's love by accompanying and serving marginalized people throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America. Maryknoll serves the Roman Catholic Church locally in the U.S. by fostering a "culture of mission" and supporting "communities of missionary disciples" through its mission education programs.

Maryknoll is seeking a **Mission Educator - Promoter** to work primarily with the **Deacon Mission Partners Outreach Team as Team Leader** and other teams, including outreach to following communities: Hispanic leaders, Teachers-Catechists and Young Adult leaders, depending on the applicant's experience and interest. This position is primarily mobile but can be based out of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, Seattle, New York or Chicago. This can be structured as either a Full Time or Half Time Exempt Position with paid vacation, medical, dental and other benefits. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Target start date: May or June 2018.

Read more about the Responsibilities, Qualifications and how to apply.

New Dates!

Mission Immersion Trip to Jamaica

September 20-26, 2018

Deacon Ordination June 16, 1990

**Happy anniversary to us one and all
who 28 years ago heard the call**

**And walked through the Cathedral Door
to do what the Bishop asked and more**

**Now that all seems like a short time ago
maybe longer than we all wish to know**

**Of the eleven, six of us are still here
the other five in our hearts are near**

**So now we pray Dear God for the very best
fun, joy, faith. Love, service & all the rest**

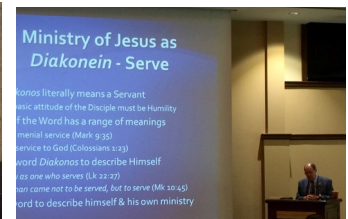
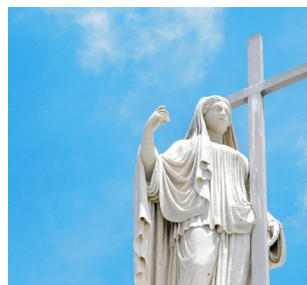
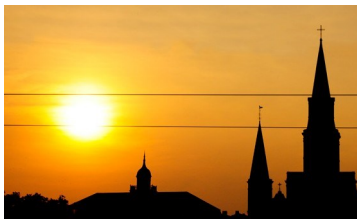
**We trust you Dear Lord and have no fear
as we embark and start our 29th year.**

Over 40 speakers, inspiring daily liturgies, workshops on topics you can use in your ministry, 75 vendors and the chance to meet with deacons and their families from all over North America and other continents wrapped-up in a package that is uniquely New Orleans!

2018 National Diaconate Congress

Christ the Servant: Yesterday, Today, Forever

July 22–26, 2018



Register at: www.deacon2018.org