



Summer Issue 2003

Class of '03 Receives Holy Orders Eighteen Deacons Ordained

Executive Committee of the Council of Permanent Deacons

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(portered@rcan.org)

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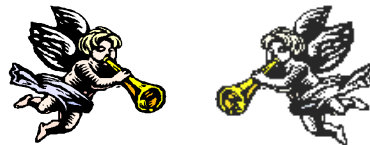
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DeacoNews Editors

Deacon Ed Campanella SFO
edcampy@comcast.net
Deacon Thomas Smith
deafaith@ccsnewark.org



In Memorial

Pray for Deacons at Peace who have left
us this century

Vishno Brennan	Tom Noone
Joe Cunningham	Tom White
Al Mistretta	Charles Kiley
Bill Shelhamer	David Garcia
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Congratulations

Class of '03 is Ordained

Under the capable supervision of Deacon Asterio Valasco, Formation Director of the Spanish Speaking Track of the Permanent Diaconate, eighteen men of the Class of 2003 were ordained by Archbishop John J. Myers at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark, NJ on May 31, 2003. See pages 3&4 for class picture, names, and biographical sketches.

Class of '05 Installed as Readers

On May 12, 2003, at Holy Trinity Church in Hackensack, NJ, thirty-eight men of the Diaconate Formation Class of 2005 were installed as Readers, their first step toward Ordination. Acolyte Installation and Candidacy remain. Bishop Charles J. McDonnell presided with Deacon's Ed Porter, Joe Lubas, John Baltus and Joe Kim assisting. As they received the sacred scriptures Bishop McDonnell told them, "*Take this book of holy Scripture, and be faithful in handing on the word of God, so that it may grow strong in the heart of his people*" (see page 2)

Deacons Meet

The Annual General Meeting of the Council of Deacons, Men in Formation, and their wives was held on May 4, 2003 at the Archdiocesan Center. The keynote speaker was Rev. Daniel Lanahan O.F.M. He presented a reflection on "St Francis, Deacon of Peace." Archbishop John J. Myers, addressed the meeting after Deacon Joe Yandoli's introduction. Attendees received: newly instituted Deacon burial procedures, by-laws, a new Deacon Class Directory, a memorial St. Francis prayer card.

Office of the Permanent Diaconate of

DeacoNews

The Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey

Our Director Speaks



Deacon Ed Porter

We've now reached the half-way point of this year 2003. For the Diaconate of the Archdiocese it has been very exciting. The men in the formation class of 2003 will be ordained on May 31 at the Cathedral Basilica and on their part there is obviously much joy, enthusiasm, and a little bit of fear. I have every belief that these 18 men will serve the Church as Deacons in a way that we can all admire.

On May 4th we celebrated our annual meeting at the Archdiocesan Center and were welcomed by Archbishop Myers. The program was well prepared with "business reports" and an inspirational talk by Father Daniel Lanahan O.F.M.

On May 12th the men in the class of 2005 were installed as readers by Bishop McDonnell at Holy Trinity Church. In addition to family and friends, there was an outpouring of priests and deacons in attendance. We can rejoice knowing the measure of high regard bestowed on our men in formation

I'm looking forward to another year of growth within ask for your fervent prayers as we continue to serve the Lord as Deacons, men in formation, and wives. Keep up the good work that you always do.

05'ers Installed to "Reader"



The men in the Diaconate Formation Class of 2005 are in their second year of formation. They were installed as "readers", the first of three installation ceremonies leading to ordination. They were installed by Most Reverend Charles J. McDonnell at Holy Trinity Church, Hackensack on Monday, May 12, 2003. Many Priests, Deacons, family members & friends were in attendance in support of the men. The Bishop's homily focused on making the Word part & parcel of their lives. Installed were: John Bejgrowicz, Joseph Carlo, Vincent DeFedele, Dennis LaScala, Peter Emr, Alejandro Estremera, Andrew Golden, Albert Ganter, Keith Gibbons, James Guida, John Holoduek, David Hughes, Michael Keary, Ted Kotz, Stanley Kwiatek Anthony LaTerza, Clod Leonida, Louis Loffredo, James Looby, Walter Maher, Peter Merceus, Guy Mier, Michael Missaggis, Orlando Perez, George Poulo VictorPuzio, Gregory Quinn, Kevin Regan, Jerry Rossi, Cesar, Sarmiento, John Sarnas, Raj Srinivasa, Reynaldo Trinidad, Nicholas Valdez, Thomas Walsh, John Wedemeyer, James White, and Michael York

Did You Know?

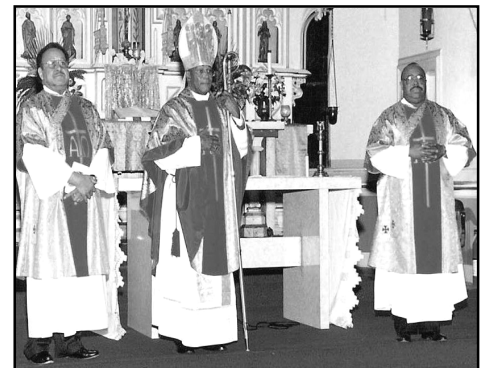
The "St Lawrence Deacon's Fund" is a donation supported fund instituted to assist Deacons who are seriously challenged financially. To donate, contact Deacon Ed Porter.

Deacons in Service

By Deacon Marshall Andrews



(Left - right) Deacon Gerald Freeman, Rev. Larry Evans, Deacons Sidney and Keith McKnight with Bishop Moses Anderson, S.E.E., DD. of the Diocese of Detroit at the reception held in the Bishop's honor at the Chancery.



Our Deacons gave strong support to the successful 7th Annual Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. hosted by the Archdiocesan Office of Black Catholic Affairs and the Queen of Angels Parish Men's Group - The Ministers of Victory. Auxiliary Bishop Moses B. Anderson of the Archdiocese of Detroit was the guest celebrant and homilist for the Mass. Deacons Sidney Huff and Keith McKnight served as Deacons of the Mass. In attendance and vested were Deacons Marshall Andrews, Alonso Jackson, and Gerald Freeman. Tracey Battles, Director of the Office of Black Catholic Affairs indicated that he was grateful for the dedication and service of the Diaconate to the Archdiocese



Jesus Aristy, married to Nancy, father of Roxy & Jesus, is a Senior Youth Worker for the Juvenile Justice Commission of the State of New Jersey. Jesus is a Youth Group Coordinator and Eucharistic minister at Our Lady of Libera Church in West New York.

Jose Miguel Class, resides in Newark and is Chaplain for St. Michael's Medical Center, Newark. He and his wife Nancy have a son, Isaias. He serves in the Pastoral Care Department Chapel at St. Michaels and is involved in the ministry of the sick

Juan A. Cordero, married to Julia and father of Vladimir, Francisco and Jose, is a barber and a Eucharistic

Class of 2003 Ordained Deacons on May 31, 2003

Minister & Catechist at Saint Nicholas Church in Jersey City.

Edward Donosso, he and his wife Miriam have a son named John and three grandchildren, Edward Joseph, Tommy, and Aniza. Edward is an accountant. He is also a Eucharistic Minister and member of the Knights of Columbus at Saint Augustine in Union City.

Miguel A. Figueroa, a Catechist, Eucharistic Minister, and Lector at Saint Michael's Church in Newark

is married to Addis and has three children: Luis, Leonel, and Deborah.

Miguel A. Franco, a Lector & Eucharistic Minister at St. Aloysius in Jersey City is married to Maria, and they have three children: Erika, Johanna, and Diana. Miguel works as a handyman.

Luis C. Lorza, a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, RCIA Sponsor & Catechist, Baptism and Pre-Cana Team Member, and Renew Facilitator at Saint Mary the Assumption in Elizabeth, is married to Maria The Lorza children are Luis Carlos & Maria Claudia. Luis is a Life & Health Producer for the Knights of Columbus.

Albino P. Marques, married to Maria has two children, Rosa Maria & Ana Paula. Albino is a tailor and is a Eucharistic Minister & Lector at Saint Fatima Church in Newark, and is the Archdioceses first Portuguese Deacon.

Jose A. Negron, Zulma's husband, is a mail clerk at Quest Diagnostic and the father of Jazmin, Jezina, Jacqueline, and Johanna. Jose is from St. Michael's Parish in Newark and is involved in Eucharistic Ministry, Pre-Cana & CCD.

Pedro A. Nieves, father of Pedro & Daniel is married to Carmen. They have two grandchildren – Jonah and Anthony. Pedro is a supervisor in a nail polish Business. At Saint Mary's in Plainfield, Pedro is a Eucharistic Minister and visits the elderly.

Ernesto Nunez, an accountant from Resurrection Parish in Jersey City is a Eucharistic Minister, Bible Instructor, and Coordinator for Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors. Married to Rosa they have six children – Ernesto, Hegel, Natalie, Buenaventura, Rose Mary and Randal &

eight grandchildren – Bryant, Darlene, Mike, Leslie, Chris, Estefany, Joel & Jaime.

Alejandro A. Polanco, a Eucharistic Minister from Saint Francis in Hackensack, is married to Migdania. They have three children: Alejandro, Gaspar, & Katiana. Alejandro is a bus driver.

Cecilio S. Polanco, a machinist from Kearny, is married to Claridilia and they have two children – Aldwin & Erick. Cecilio lectors, and assists at Pre-Cana, Baptism Classes & RCIA at St. Michael's Parish in Newark.

Nelson B. Ramirez, a chemical operator, is from Saint Leo's in Irvington, is a Cathecist for adults, Lector, and a Eucharistic Minister. Nelson is married to Hipatia and they have three children – Nadis, Hipatia, and Crystal.

Jerry Romero, from Saint John's Parish in Orange, is a customer service manager. At Saint John's Jerry is involved in Parish Social Services, RCIA, CCD, is a Lector, Eucharistic Minister and Youth Minister.

Orlando D. Sanchez, married to Rosanna is a GNC programmer & foreman for Lehigh Precision. His Parish is Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary / Saint Michael's in Elizabeth. Orlando is the DRE, a CFM Instructor, Eucharistic Minister, and is involved in Pastoral Council, Liturgy, as well a couples retreats and evangelization

Cesar A. Torres, a Sacristan at Sacred Heart Parish in Newark (Vailsburg). He works at the church and his ministry service involves being a coordinator for the parish.

Alfredo Zapata, married to Norma, is a parishioner at St. Aloysius in Jersey City. Norma & Alfredo have three children – Alfredo Jr., Carlos, and Marta. Employed as a school bus driver, Alfredo is a Eucharistic Minister at St Aloysius.



Our Attitude Towards Suffering

By George Poulo, Class '05



“And at once the Spirit drove Him into the desert land He remained there for forty days, and was put to the test by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and the angels looked after Him.” (Mark 1:12)

Christ in the desert forty days, driven by the Spirit, tested by Satan. Christ suffering. Was he gloomy? Depressed? Anxious? Doubtful? I used to think he was. Today I know He had great joy. Anyone who has experienced God's love, who has experienced new birth, tasted of God, willingly submits to being driven by the Spirit into the desert for testing. The person who has experienced God's love, has found the pearl of great price, will joyfully give up house, family, job, position, power, wealth, fame for the kingdom of God. When one experiences the love of God, His mercy and kindness, one is overwhelmed with a sense of gratitude and to suffer for the kingdom is easily accepted. Jesus, of course, is no exception. This is confirmed many times in scripture.

“Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the joy which lay ahead of Him, He endured the cross despising the shame of it.” Heb 12:2

Jesus is our model for suffering according to the will of God. We must fix our eyes on Jesus who brings our faith to perfection. What did this Jesus do? For the 'joy' that lay before Him, He endured the cross. What a marvelous testimony. I would surmise that for the sake of the joy that lay before Him, He endured being tested by Satan in the desert as well. When God allows us to be tested, when trials come our way, an inevitable consequence of creation (Creation implies imperfection), we must look to Jesus, no doubt, but we must find in the trial faith and peace to triumph. We must look at it with joy.

James says it well, “Count it all joy when you fall into various temptations” or “Blessed is anyone who perseveres when trials come such a person is of proven worth and will win the prize of Life, the crown the Lord has promised to those who love Him.” (James 1:12). Our hardships, our trials, our testing, are our opportunity to prove to God that we are worthy of the crown. Again, if we look at the beatitudes what we find is joy or happiness or blessedness in times of hardship. Joy for being poor in spirit, happy for being meek, blessed for mourning, joy for hungering and thirsting after righteousness. To suffer as a Christian is to suffer for our love for God. It is a sacrifice. It is something which makes us sacred, the true meaning of sacrifice. St. Paul talking to the Colossians states, “It makes me happy to be suffering for you now, and in my own body to make up all the hardships that still have to be undergone by Christ for the sake of His body, the Church.” (Col. 1:24). St. Paul is happy to be suffering for Christ and the church.

To have an attitude of victory in trial, to suffer joyfully is to allow God the freedom and opportunity to be merciful to us. “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice.” Or “Always be joyful then in the Lord. I repeat, be joyful.” (Phil. 4:4). Joy is a

fruit of conversion, a sign of victory in the midst of hardship and trial. If we meet our obstacles with joy, we shall never be defeated. And this might just be the case, that if we meet our trials with joy, God will deliver us, heal us, raise us up, and anoint us to be victorious in this present age and in the ages to come. Amen.

On the Lighter Side

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married? A. Ruthless

Q. Who were the greatest male and female financiers in the bible? A. Noah, he was floating his stock while every one else was in liquidation and Pharaoh's Daughter who drew out a little prophet on the banks of the Nile.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the bible? A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the garden in a Fury. David's Triumphs were heard throughout the land and finally, Honda, because the Apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Who was the bible's greatest comedian? A. Samson, he brought the house down.

Q. What excuse did Adam give his children why he no longer lived in Eden? A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.

Q. Which biblical servant of God was the most flagrant? A. Moses – He broke all Ten Commandments at once

Input-To-Output

Send input: edcampy@comcast.net
or mail to Deacon Ed Campanella
1801 NorthWood Ave, Linden, NJ,
07036 or Fax 908-925-8718.

