



Winter 2023 Issue

Cardinal & Deacons Pray

Council of Deacons Executive Committee

Director of Selection & Formation
Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Chapel
Director of Deacon Personnel
John J. McKenna,
President Michael York
Vice-President Walter Wiggins
Associate Directors
Deacons Joseph Yandoli & James Tobin
Education: Deacon Andrew Saunders

Retreats: Deacon Andy Golden

Essex Richard O'Hara
Walter Wiggins

Bergen Andy Golden
Michael Giuliano

Hudson
Michael Missaggia
Marcello David

Union Michael York
David Farrell

Hispanic Community
Jorge Montalvo
Pedro Herrera

Publicity, DeacoNews Editor
Deacon Ed Campanella OFS, Ret

In Memorial of our recently departed

Robert C. Millea	Willie Malarcher
James Stumbar	Anthony Scalzo
John Baltus	Louis Acocella
Nicholas Fargo	Wilfrid Leconte
John Inguaggiato	Modesto Reyes
Albert Tizano	Daniel O'Neil
Michael Cechony	Michael Lydon
Charles L. Boucher II	Joseph Vrindten
Frank Andrew Gisoldi	Vincent Accardi
Julio Roig	Paul Kliagua
Stanley Fedison	Anthony Balestrieri
Guillermo "Bill" Valladares	David Loman
William Myers	Dennis Besida
Harold Bates	Richard Bianchi
Leo Montini	Willim Myers
Justo Rodriques	Craig Stewart
John "Fred" Smith	

Mary Stark	Judith Joyce
Erma Ventola	Joyce Bowen
Barbara Pluta	Diane Aponte
Isabelle Romano	Dorothy McFadden
Kathy Pontillo	Doreen McGarry
Carmen Macaluso	Joan Lydon
Elease Huff	Rosary Gilhean
Judith Ann Somma	Nancy O'Hara

Evening Prayer with Cardinal Tobin



Cardinal Joseph Tobin and Deacons (l to r) Michael York, Andy Golden, Raj Srinivasa, Kevin Reagan, and David Hughes from the class of 2005 along with 90+ Deacons and Deacon's wives prayed evening prayer together on October 11, 2022 at St Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield New Jersey. Refreshments with convivial conversations followed.

Deacon's Advent Morning Reflection

Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR was the director of the Advent Morning of Reflection for Permanent Deacons on Saturday, December 17, 2022. A special thanks to the Church of Assumption in Roselle Park, Rev. Paul Prevosto (pastor), Deacon David Farrell for hosting the morning. Bishop Elias Lorenzo, OSB gathered the deacons of Union County together for prayer and reflection and opened the morning to all deacons throughout the Archdiocese to come and listen to Fr. Glenn.

The title of Fr. Glenn's talk was: "Deepening our Faith in Distressing Times". Fr. Glenn asked the question: "What can we do in these distressing days?" Quoting the 15th chapter of St. John's gospel, "Remain in me..." "you will bear abundant fruit." We must be rooted in the Church, i.e. the doctrines of the Catholic Church. We are not to complain, but "do what you can do!" We are to stay centered in Christ and live in hope... Let God rule our hearts and minds.

(Continued on page 2)

(continued from page one)



Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR

Quoting St. John Chrysostom: “The waters have risen and severe storms are upon us, but we do not fear of drowning, for we stand firmly upon a rock. Let the sea rage, it cannot break the rock. Let the waves rise, they cannot sink the boat of Jesus.” Fr. Glenn’s reflection inspired all the deacons present with a renewed sense of hope to create an “oasis” of Christian life for the people of God whom we serve.

Continuing Education



On **Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 7 PM** in the auditorium of the Archdiocesan Center on Clifton Ave in Newark,

Deacon Michael A. Giuliano, M.D. will be the keynote speaker for the continuing education session on “The Deacon as Minister of Charity Across the “Life” Spectrum.”

The presentstion will also be on-line.

THE SPOUSAL SPOTLITE

This new Diaconews feature is in addition to our Deacon Spotlight column. We will additionally feature couples working together in Diaconal ministry....typical for most Deacons and their wives but rarely recognized and proclaimed, as many wives work incognito with their Deacon husband. Here is our first attempt.

Deacon Ron & Annemarie Ronacher



Deacon Ron was born in 1947 in Astoria NY and attended St. Joseph’s Elementary School and

William Cullen Bryant High School. Ron then completed the Deaconate Program in 1984 while obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at Empire State University (SUNY). After ordination Ron attended the Pastoral Institute for Professional Development to stay current with all the Diocesan policies and practices.

Following ordination in March of 1984 at St. James Cathedral, Brooklyn, NY. Deacon Ron served at St. Rita’s, Brooklyn, Our Lady of Montserrat/St. Lucy, Brooklyn, and again at St. Rita’s before coming to St. Mary’s in Nutley, NJ, in July 2017.

Annemarie was born in Manhattan NY. Her family moved to Queens NY when she was four years old. She attended St. Catherine of Siena & SS. Joachim and Anne Elementary Schools and St. Michael and Andrew Jackson High Schools.

Annemarie was the first wife in NY to attend all the classes in the Diaconate formation program and receive full college credits. She earned a degree in

Religious Studies and a Bachelor of Science in Education from Empire State University (SUNY)

Annemarie and Ron met in the A&P in 1967. She was then working part time in the Deli Dept. while Ron worked the floor on his way to becoming an assistant manager. Three years later they were married on October 10, 1970 at SS, Joachim & Anne in Queens Village by Rev. Martin Kirby (Deceased).

Looking back, they said they had a great life, having two wonderful children, son Ron was graduated from Polytech University in Brooklyn and is a Mechanical Engineer, married Amy High who attended the same University and is an Electrical Engineer and they have two wonderful children Aidan and Eve. Daughter Mary was graduated from St. Joseph’s College in Brooklyn and is a teacher at St. Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield. Mary married Nick Costantino, an Electrician at the Javits Center in NYC and they have 3 wonderful children Samantha, Luke, and Matthew.

Annemarie and Ron now work together in all phases of the Religious Education Programs at St Mary’s in Nutley They both teach Children’s Catechesis, Sacramental Preparation, and RCIA. On Sundays they lead the children’s liturgy. They both both sit on the Finance Committee and the Pastoral Advisory Council of the St. Mary’s Parish. Additionally, on October 29, 2022 Annemarie will work with Misty Mantineo coordinating the Deacon Wives Retreat at St. Mary’s House of Prayer in Watchung.

Unfortunately, when Ron and Annmarie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary it was in 2020 in the middle of COVID. Consequently, they were not able to have their family come together because someone in their daughter’s class at St Thomas tested positive for Covid. However, St. Mary’s parish family came together to

celebrate the renewal of our vows at Mass. Father Tom Nicaastro streamed the Mass so their family in Ohio, Florida and Upstate New York could share this moment with them.

Now, they are looking forward to another milestone in our lives. On March 31, 2024, Ron will be incredibly celebrating his 40th Diaconate Ordination Anniversary and they are hopeful that their family will be able to enjoy this very special moment with them. Congratulations to Ron & Annemarie Ronacher for their marvelous Diaconal journey.

Deacon Retreats 2022



By: Deacon Andy Golden – Retreat Coordinator for RCAN Deacons

Twenty-five deacons attended the annual retreat at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, New Jersey. The weather was beautiful and so was spending time with each other.



The retreat was directed by the Redemptorists. This year's theme is "Real Presence: Gift of God and Blessing to One Another". Father Kevin O'Neil, C.Ss.R. was the director for our weekend. He gave many insightful talks on what the real presence is such as "The Gift of the Real Presence", "Jesus Christ: The Real Presence of God" and "Sharing the Gift: Being the Real Presence". He also spoke powerfully about the Spirituality of St. Alphonsus and the incarnation, the Cross and of course the

Eucharist. So, hold the dates for the next retreat opportunities at San Alfonso's. The retreat weekend for



Deacons in Tri-State is June 9-11, 2023 and for the Deacons of the Archdiocese of Newark, the weekend is October 20-22, 2023.

Deacons Wives & Widows News



The annual Day of Renewal for the Diaconate Wives was held at Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer on Saturday, October 29. A very small group of wives attended this year and was supported and renewed by the presentations of Sister Judy Shiavo and each others' experiences. Father Bob McBride provided the opportunity for Confession and celebrated Mass, assisted by Deacon Joe Mantineo.



As some of you know, the address lists for the deacons' wives was lost. As a

result, many did not receive any notice for this Day of Renewal.

In an attempt to re-create these lists and have them in place before next year's Day of Renewal, we are asking each deacon to send his wife's contact information to Misty Mantineo at mistymant@aol.com. If you are in touch with anyone who does not have email, the information can be sent to me at the address below. Annemarie Ronacher and I hope to create a database of each wife's first and last name, house address, telephone number(s) - landline and cell, and email address (if she has one.)

If you or your wife has the original contact list for your class, or an updated one, I would appreciate receiving a copy of that. It can be sent to me via snail mail at:

Misty Mantineo
71 Cambridge Avenue
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663

I have heard from a number of wives who have heard about our making this list and who are very enthusiastic about it. Some have sent me information already. I thank them all sincerely and hope to hear from many more.

We wish you all possible blessings and good things during the New Year!

Deacon John "Fred" Smith



John "Fred" Smith, 79, passed away peacefully surrounded by this family on Sunday, November 6, 2022 in Morristown, NJ.

Born in Newark, Fred was a lifelong resident of Livingston. He was a proud veteran of the US Army, having served during the Vietnam War. After his honorable discharge, Fred became an electrician, and eventually opened

Abba Electric, Inc., which he owned and operated until the time of his passing.

One of Fred's proudest accomplishments was being ordained as a Deacon in the Catholic Church. He was happiest when he was performing baptisms and weddings, and was blessed to be able to baptize his 5 grandchildren.

Fred was an avid New York Yankees fan, and loved music, especially 50's and 60's rock including Elvis and Buddy Holly. You could always find him enthralled in one of his many books on the subjects of American Presidential History. He also loved his trips to Vermont with his wife and friends. He could often be heard saying, "It doesn't get better than this" while enjoying family gatherings and vacations on Cape Cod with his cherished family.

Fred is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Susan. He also leaves behind his beloved children and their spouses, Carolyn Allen (Mark), Katy Courter, and Patrick Smith (Shannon), as well as his adored grandchildren, Riley, Chatham, Jamie, Hudson, and Dillon. He is also survived by his sister, Margie Smith, and numerous nieces, nephews, and extended family members. Fred was predeceased by his parents and his siblings.

The family welcomes donations in Fred's, as an expression of sympathy instead of flowers, to St. Joseph's Dwelling Place 141 Wright Road Ludlow, VT 05149.

Live streaming of Fred's mass can be accessed on the link below:

<https://boxcast.tv/view/funeral-mass-for-deacon-fred-smith-t3yj2mlbjvdxkshf4s4n>

Deacon Justo Rodriguez



Justo Rodriguez-Berrios born February 1st, 1935 in Cidra, Puerto Rico to the late Justo Rodriguez, and Julia

Berrios passed away peacefully on September 28th, 2022 surrounded by loved ones at his residence in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Beloved brother to predeceased siblings Jenaro, Higinia, Paula, Juana, Eustacio, Ana Julia, and surviving siblings Juan, Julio, Victor Rafael, Miguel Angel, Olga Iris, and Carmen. Beloved father to sons and daughters Justo Jr, Lisa, Angelina, Carlos, Maria (deceased), Richard, Yvette, Evelyn, and Elizabeth. Grandfather to Manuel Jr, Jessica, Delilah, Laura, Vanessa, Jose, Kenneth, Robert, Rebecca, Elizabeth, Alanii, Richard Jr, and great grandfather to over 23 children. He also leaves behind nieces and nephews as well as his beloved friends from the church. Beloved husband to predeceased wife Isabel Castro Rodriguez married in July of 1975. Justo has dedicated more than 30+ years to The Catholic Church serving the Newark community as a Deacon at St. Rose of Lima, St Rocco's and his latest parish St. Ann's church along side his good friend and pastor, Fr. Josephat.

Justo devoted his time and love to the church, volunteered at the local hospital and always had a positive attitude and a big smile. A devoted husband, father, uncle grandfather, and great grandfather, mentor and friend who will be forever missed by everyone who was blessed to meet him.

Deacon Craig Stewart



Deacon Craig A. Stewart, 70, of Wood-Ridge formerly of Kearny passed away on October 5, 2022. Devoted

husband of Roseanne Stewart (nee Carchidi). Beloved brother-in-law of Christine McShane and her husband Daniel, and John Carchidi and his wife Sharon Levchak. Loving uncle to 8 nieces and nephews & 7 grandnieces and grandnephews.

Before retiring Craig was a Nutley Police Sergeant and served the community for 25 years. In his spare time he was an EMT Instructor at the Bergen County EMS Training Center, Paramus as well as a charter member of the Kearny Volunteer Emergency Squad.

Deacon Craig was ordained on May 21, 2011 serving both in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark & Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Wallington. If you knew Craig, he had a great sense of humor, he always loved to make people laugh. He was an absolute classic car enthusiast. He will truly be missed by many loving family and friends.

Reception of the body took place at 4:00pm on Monday, October 10, in St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church, 676 Kearny Avenue, Kearny with visitation continuing until 8:00pm.

The Rosary was recited at 7:30pm. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Tuesday, October 11, 10:30am in St. Stephen's RCC. Entombment followed at Holy Cross Cemetery, North Arlington.