

AUGUST 2002

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS PRIORITY ONE.

October 4-6: Annual retreat for deacons and wives at Simpsonwood Retreat and Conference Center. Father Linus de Santis, O.F.M. is this year's retreat master.

If you haven't already sent in your registration, you should do it now.
Don't Wait!!

October 19: ANNUAL DEACONS AND WIVES ASSEMBLY: We will gather at Immaculate Heart of Mary at 8:30 a.m. IHM is located at 2855 Briarcliff Road, N. E., Atlanta. Please try to avoid scheduling baptisms, weddings and other events during this time. The archbishop expects all deacons to be present.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study)

TRAINING: If you are engaged in marriage preparation and have not had FOCCUS training, this is for you. If you anticipate being involved in marriage preparation, this is for you too.

The Office of Family Concerns is planning FOCCUS sessions for those involved in marriage preparation. It now has three persons who are trained to administer the training. One of these is Deacon Whitney Robichaux. We'd like to offer the training for deacons and others who may be interested.

Cost of the training ranges from \$56.00 to \$76.00 for a single attendee and \$86.00 to \$126.00 for a couple sharing a single textbook. The variance in cost depends upon the number of people attending.

If there is sufficient interest we will set up a time and place for the training. It would probably be on a Saturday and will take most of the day from about 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Please send me an e-mail or a telephone call indicating your interest in this training.

September 15-18, 2002: The Catholic Coalition on Preaching presents *Catholic Preaching in Today's American Culture*. The conference is being held at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel in Philadelphia.

For more information go to www.preachingcoalition.org or call 202-687-4420.

October 10-12, 2002: The North American Forum on the Catechumenate co-sponsors with the Archdiocese of Atlanta--Focus on Initiation: MYSTAGOGY. St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church, Alpharetta.

For more information contact The Office of Religious Education at 404-888-7835. You may also contact the North American Forum on the Catechumenate directly by visiting its web site at www.naforum.org; via e-mail at info@naforum.org or by calling 202-529-9493.

November 7, 8, & 9, 2002: The National Pastoral Life Center (publishers of Church Magazine) presents its Annual Parish Leadership Conference. Title of this year's conference is *America: Still a Missionary Field. Parish: A Missionary Community*.

For more information: [E-mail—conference@nplc.org](mailto:conference@nplc.org) or telephone—212-431-7825.

The Institute for Pastoral Studies, St. Joseph's College of Maine is offering courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels that may fit the needs of deacons. The institute is fully accredited.

For more information contact Rita LaBruzzo, D. Min, Director. The web site is www.sjcme.edu/gps, e-mail at rlabruzzo@sjcme.edu or telephone at 1-800-343-5498, ext. 7990.

Saturday, June 21, 2003: Seventh Annual Eucharistic Congress. This is a correction. In the June issue the date was stated as June 23.

CONTINUING EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE ARCHDIOCESE

FOOD FOR THE POOR, INC is sponsoring pilgrimages for permanent deacons to Jamaica, Haiti, El Salvador and Nicaragua. There is no charge to the deacon. These are not vacation tours.

The 2002 Pilgrimage schedule is as follows:

Sept. 10 – 13	Haiti	November 4 – 8	Nicaragua
Sept. 17 – 20	Jamaica	November 5 – 8	Haiti
Sept. 23 – 27	Nicaragua	Nov. 12 – 15	Jamaica

*Preferred pilgrimages for priests and deacons. Other dates are available.

Deacons who go on the pilgrimage are **required to commit to share their** experiences by preaching in their parishes about what they saw and heard. They are also strongly encouraged to sponsor a project in their parishes.

For more information contact the office of the Diaconate.

OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST:

As of this writing I don't have any priests to assist us in celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the retreat on Saturday evening, October 5. **Please make a personal request of the priests at your parish. We've reached the critical stage.**

CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE: This is the bishops' statement on the sexual abuse crisis. The entire statement is available at <http://www.usccb.org/bishops/charter.htm>.

All clergy should know what the bishops are saying about this crisis. It will help you to respond appropriately to questions you may receive on this issue.

If you don't have Internet access and would like a copy of the statement, please let me know and I'll send you a copy.

December 15–Archbishop's Reception for deacons, wives and candidates: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. –HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH. Please note the site change.

COUNCIL OF DEACONS ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA

YEAR REP.

1-5 Bill Speed
5-12 Mike Mobley
12 + Whitney Robichaux

Chairman:

Pat O'Connor

Vice-Chairman:

Whitney Robichaux

Secretary:

Mike Mobley

REGION REP.

1. John Stroop
2. Bruce Publicover
3. Lou Hettel
4. Bill Jindrich
5. Al McHugh
6. Pat O'Connor

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Servant Ministry	Tony Cuomo
Spirituality & Growth	Sam Mure
Women's Activities	Bill&KathyHampton
Social Activities	Ed&Carol Grabowy
Public Rel.&Archives	Tom McGrane
Calling	Mike Mobley
Nominating	Gary Womack
Diaconate Works	Ray Egan
Outreach	John McManus

COUNCIL OF DEACONS MEETING

MINUTES OF 08/05/02

Deacon Pat called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Deacon John McManus led the opening prayer

Those in attendance:

Council members and Episcopal Delegate

Deacons:

Al McHugh, Pat O'Connor, Mike Mobley, Alfred Mitchell, Whitney Robichaux, Bill Jindrich, Bruce Publicover,

Committee Chairperson's:

Tony Cuomo, Gary Womack, Tom McGrane, John McManus,

Those excused: John Stroop, Lou Hettel, Loris Sinanian,

Monsignor Paul Reynolds, Episcopal Delegate

Absent; Loris Sinanian, Sam Mure, Ray Egan, Bill & Kathy Hampton, Ed & Carol Grabowy

Presenting Visitor; none

A quorum was met

Region Reports

Region Representative's

1. John Stroop	No Report
2. Bruce Publicover	No Report
3. Lou Hettel	Had a meeting on July 27, see attached report
4. Bill Jindrich	No Report
5. Al McHugh	Will have a meeting Aug. 12, letters have been sent to all in region
6. Pat O'Connor	Will have a meeting Aug. 17, letters have been sent to all in region

Nothing new to report from Regions

Committee Reports

Committee's: _____ Chairperson: _____

A. Servant Ministry (Deacon Tony Cuomo) Tony said he hasn't received any notice of any needs for the Diaconate Community. Deacon Tom asked about insurance and other help for Deacons in need. A long discussion ensued and it was decided that a committee would be set up to look at different options.

B. Spirituality & Growth (Deacon Sam Mure) no report

C. Women's Activities (Deacon Bill & Kathy Hampton) no report

D. Social Activities (Deacon Ed & Carole Grabowy) no report, Deacon Pat informed the Council that Ed & Carole had resigned and we need to find a new chairperson for this committee.

E Public Relations & Archives (Deacon Tom McGrane) Talked about the web page and the process to get it up and running.

F Calling (Deacon Mike Mobley) no report

G. Nominating (Deacon Gary Womack) handed out or e-mailed copies of the latest list of Deacons by region and asked for any updates to please be passed on to him. He also reminded us that regions, 1, 3, & 5 will be electing new reps. in Dec.

H. Diaconate Works (Deacon Ray Egan) no report

I Outreach (Deacon John McManus) gave us a report on different ministry opportunities we could get involved in, i.e. SVDP, Missionary's of the Poor among others

Under Old Business;

- NADO. Deacon Mike gave an overview of the meeting which took place in Milwaukee on July 26, 27, & 28th. Friday Night President Deacon Bill Brown led an unstructured session and passed on information he obtained from his attendance at the Bishops Committee on the Diaconate in Dallas and from the NADD meeting. Saturday we began with the Keynote address by Deacon Dean J. Collins, (Theological Foundations for a Deacon Organization).

Deacon Ralph Kornburger talked about the Milwaukee experience, policies, personal boards, retreats and continuing education. The presentations were very good based on the numerous questions and comments that they evoked.

Deacon Ron Lesjak gave a brief presentation on the resources available to board members and Councils.

Deacon Fred Hendricks gave a handout and report on the Spiritual Growth Committee, Council of Omaha.

Deacon Michael Hickey Rep. from Boston gave a report on "Responding to the Crisis" arising from recent scandals in the Church. He reported on; the evaluation of the official church response, some conclusions from the press and from the faithful about Cardinal Law's Performance, the "zero" number of candidates for the priesthood this coming year in that Archdiocese (compared to 20 for the Diaconate), the burden on deacons to represent stability in the church at this important time by our presence, to help people refocus, reconnect through our spirituality and our lived behavior and example, and to restore the harmony, faith, and trust that is missing in our church today. His shared experience was very insightful.

After lunch we held the Senate meeting and election of new officers, President; Jerry Ziemkiewicz, (Cleveland) Vice President; Michael Hickey (Boston), Secretary; Joe Cleves (Covington, KY.) Treasurer; Ralph Hueser, (Omaha), Women's Rep.; Sandra Ziemkiewicz (Cleveland), and Editor of NADO News; Maureen Hickey, (Boston).

- Deacon Assembly Oct. 19 2002; Deacon Pat asked what do we need to do about food at IHM? Deacon Alfred said he would fix up a post card to send out for rsvp, so we would have an idea of how many were coming. Deacon Pat said he would get an agenda put together for the assembly.
- Deacon Pat asked about the Archbishop's letter? There were no comments.

- Deacon Manual; Deacon Alfred said he hadn't done anything on it since receiving comments back as he had been out of town, and he was also in the process of reviewing all the personal files of all Deacon's past and present for the Archbishop.

New Business;

- Deacon's Assembly Oct. 18th 2003, No discussion on this at this time
- Deacon Al asked if he could read one statement from the NDICE meeting he attended at Notre Dame.
- Deacon Alfred asked that we ask our priest about hearing confession at the Deacon's retreat.
- Deacon Alfred asked if everyone got their letter from the Serra Clubs of Atlanta about the golf outing. Most Deacon's laughed, they are being asked to pay \$ 140.00 to play, while Priest and Sister's will be playing at no charge.
- Meeting closed with Prayer lead by Deacon Alfred at 8:55pm.

Recorded & Submitted:

Secretary Deacon Michael Mobley

Next meeting;

Sept. 9th, 2002

Oct. 14, 2002