

APRIL 2003

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS PRIORITY ONE.

Tuesday, June 17, 2003: Jubilee Celebration for Deacons George Angelich, Walt Bedard, Dick Narey and John Shoemaker at Holy Cross Church, 3175 Hathaway Court, N. E., Atlanta. The Mass will begin at 7:00 p.m. Please mark this important date on your calendar and come out as we honor these men who have served the Church so well for twenty-five years.

The Georgia Bulletin will profile each of these men.

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Saturday, June 21 2003: Seventh Annual Eucharistic Congress

CONTINUING EDUCATION

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. One of the degrees offered is a Bachelor of Arts in Adult Religious Education. The institute is fully accredited.

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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.

May 12-15: National Workshop on Christian Unity in Savannah, GA. For more information contact Fr. Michael J. Kavanaugh at 912-964-0219 or e-mail at MJKavanaugh@aol.com.

May 25-28, 2003: International Death, Grief and Bereavement Conference at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse. Title of the conference is "Honoring the Past – Living in the Present – Anticipating the Future." For more information telephone 608-785-6504 or on-line: www.uwlax.edu/conted

**Priests, Deacons and Seminarians Conference
June 9-13, 2003 at Franciscan University of Steubenville.**

May Your Hope Overflow is the theme for this year's conference at which Bishop Stanislaw Rylko of the Pontifical Council on the Laity will be joined by the Most Rev. R. Daniel Conlon, Rev. Michael Scanlon, T.O.R., Rev. Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R., Rev. Francis Martin, Rev. Timothy Graff and Deacon Loris Sinanian as speakers and conference leaders.

The Deacons' Track will consist of the following:

- Part 1 – Sacramental Life: Living Out Baptism in Marriage and Holy Orders.
Rev. Benedict Groeschel and Deacon Loris Sinanian
- Part 2 – Scriptural Life: Living Out the Life Called for in Sacred Scripture.
Rev. Francis Martin and Deacon Loris Sinanian
- Part 3 – Secular Life: Bringing Two Worlds Together.
Deacon Loris Sinanian

For additional information, full conference schedule and arranging group travel to Steubenville, please contact Deacon Loris at peglor@alltel.net.

IMMERSION IN SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE sponsored by the Southeastern Pastoral Institute, June 22-July 10. Cost of the three-week course is \$1310. This includes room and board. For more information call 305-279-2333.

FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN DIVORCE MINISTRY: The North American Conference on Separated and Divorced Catholics is holding its Leadership Seminars and International conference at the University of Notre Dame on June 23-29. For more information online visit www.nacsdc.org; e-mail at krista@nacsdc.org or telephone at 541-893-6089.

ALL COME BEARING GIFTS: National Migration Conference 2003. Sponsored by Migration and Refugee Services and Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. For more information or to register: Visit www.usccb.org/mrs or call 202-541-3352. The Conference is July 6-10 in Washington, D. C.

NATIONAL DIACONATE INSTITUTE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION (NDICE) is holding its annual conference at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend on July 7-30. This year's conference is entitled *Our Call as Wife, Deacon and Servant to Justice and Peace*; a fitting theme for these troubled times. Speakers include Bishop Howard Hubbard of Albany and Deacon Bill Ditewig, Executive Director of the Bishops' Committee on the Diaconate.

SATELLITE THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM (STEP) offered by The Institute for Church Life, University of Notre Dame. STEP provides quality theological education to pastoral ministers and other adult Catholics across the country. Courses are conducted via the Internet. For more information visit STEP at <http://step.nd.edu>; E-mail at icl@nd.edu or call toll free at 1-866-425-7837.

FORMATION MATTERS

October 7 7:30 p.m.: Institution as Reader and Acolyte for the Class of 2006. Site to be announced.

OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST

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

The tour schedule is as follows:

April 25-27	Jamaica	September 5-7	Haiti
May 16-18	Haiti	September 26-28	Jamaica
June 26-29	Haiti	October 10-12	Jamaica
July 8-11	Haiti	November 7-9	Haiti
July 25-27	Jamaica	December 12-14	Haiti

If you are interested in any of these tours please contact Deacon Jack Pierce, Diaconate Coordinator at 954-427-2222, ext. 6130 or via e-mail at jackp@foodforthe poor.com

NEWS FROM THE TRIBUNAL

The Tribunal has revised two of its forms: *Lack of Canonical Form Questionnaire (October 2002)* and *Preliminary Questionnaire (January 2003)*. Users of these forms must have the latest revisions. All other copies should be destroyed since they will not be accepted.

"Preaching Difficult Texts" by Dr. Max Bonilla, assistant professor of Sacred Scripture at University of St. Thomas School of Theology in Houston, TX. This article appears in the Spring issue of **Church Magazine**. Specifically the article deals with the passage from Ephesians 5:22: *"Wives be subject to your husbands..."* In general, it lays out a method for dealing with difficult texts in your preaching. **Church's** website is www.nplc.org.

The SOLT/Hoste Community is hosting a one-day family retreat at its center in Covington on Saturday, April 26. For more information contact John Spink at 770-784-7421 or e-mail him at jspink@mindspring.com.

ASSIGNMENTS, TRANSFERS, RETIREMENTS

Rafael Cintron from St. John Neumann, Lilburn to St. Oliver Plunkett in Snellville.

David Higgins from St. Theresa in Douglasville to Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Carrollton.

Dick Tolcher returning to active ministry and is assigned to St. Philip Benizi in Jonesboro.

James L. (Larry) West from the Diocese of Charleston to St. Peter in LaGrange.

ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA COUNCIL OF DEACONS

Episcopal Delegate: Msgr. Paul Reynolds
Director of Deacon Personnel: Alfred Mitchell
Director of Formation: Loris Sinanian

Chairman: Whitney Robichaux **Vice-Chairman:** John McManus **Secretary:** Lloyd Sutter

<u>YEAR REP.</u>	<u>REGION REP.</u>	<u>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON</u>	
1-5 Bill Speed	1. Lloyd Sutter	Servant Ministry	Ray Egan
5-12 Mike Mobley	2. Bruce Publicover	Spirituality & Growth	Sam Mure
12 + Whitney Robichaux	3. John McManus	Women's Activities	
	4. Bill Jindrich	Social Activities	Dick&Penny Conti
	5. Vic Huynh	Public Rel.&Archives	Mike Balfour
	6. Pat O'Connor	Calling	Gary Womack & Lloyd Sutter
		Nominating	Gary Womack
		Diaconate Works	Ray Egan
		Outreach	Bill Heinsch

MINUTES for Council Meeting of March 3, 2003, at Cathedral of Christ the King.

PRESENT: All, except Deacons Womack, Jindrich, Balfour, Egan, Conti, and Mure.

Meeting was opened with a prayer by Deacon Sutter.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Deacon Huynh briefed the Council on his February 19 evening meeting & dinner for deacons and wives in Region 5. Msgr. Phong substituted for Fr. Peek as representative of the South Metro deanery. After dinner, deacons & wives separated for meetings. His region has decided on quarterly meetings with the focus primarily on spirituality, continuing education, and fellowship. Meetings will rotate among Region parishes: next at St. Gabriel, Holy Trinity, and St. Pius X.
2. Deacon Egan reported through Deacon Robichaux that he was beginning to do the following for the Servant Committee: bereavement committee information through a monthly letter; family needs to know that deacon may be buried vested in dalmatic; need two deacons for altar for all deacon funerals; need a volunteer list of deacons willing to serve as an honor guard for deacon's wake & funeral. Deacon Mitchell mentioned that his office has available for families of a deceased deacon guidelines for burial. Deacon Mobley mentioned that, during his formation program, instructions were reviewed whereby Office of the Vicar of Deacons, the parish, and the family of the deceased deacon would work together to plan wake & funeral. Deacon Egan also mentioned that his committee was developing an e-mail address that could be accessed by any deacon that would reflect by Region all deacons who were ill so that Region and Council committees could visit them.
3. Deacon Sinanian indicated that he had provided Deacons O'Connor & Womack with information on individuals in formation for the class of 2004. (There is no class of 2005).
4. Deacon Heinsch reported on his investigation of possible diaconate-wide activity options: Braves game, Fox Theatre, and Alliance Theatre group programs. Ticket prices ranged from \$11 - \$25 at Braves, \$25 - 165 at Fox,

and \$20 - \$33 at Alliance. Braves also rent Patio area for two hours before games for \$200 and Alliance rents a room for up to six hours before theatre events for \$150. Consensus was simply to schedule an event and see what develops in terms of interest from diaconate-as-a-whole. Three other possibilities for diaconate-wide fellowship were discussed: a possible function concurrent with the Mass of Recommitment (largest number of deacons attend this) and the annual Serra function at the St. Stephen Center (a substantial number of deacons join those in training for an afternoon social with lunch).

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Deacon Robichaux reported that Msgr. Reynolds had obtained an agenda slot for him (along with the other two Council officers) at the March 19 Priests' Council meeting, at which time he would let the priests know about the six diaconal regions and parish distribution among them; that the diaconate community was at the service of the Archdiocese and Pastors, would ask how the Priests' Council representatives thought deacons might be of better service to Pastors and priests, what opportunities they saw for possible priest-deacon fellowship, and whether the deacon council region representatives might be invited to corresponding deanery meetings.
2. Deacon Robichaux will send a letter of congratulations to all of the newly ordained deacons, along with a gift for their wife, a roster of deacons, faculties information, and the Deacons' Council by-laws.
3. Region 1 has a meeting scheduled for Saturday, March 15, at 10 a.m. at St. Andrew; Region 3, for May 3; and Region 6, for May 31.
4. Deacons Mitchell, O'Connor, and Womack agreed to undertake a deacon demographics analysis to determine age and parish distribution of current deacons and candidates in training, which is still underway.
5. Deacon Mitchell stated that he would mail to all deacons known to be employed by the Archdiocese or a Parish a copy of the income tax preparation manual his office has. (Anyone who is employed by the Church, but does not receive a copy, should contact him).
6. After discussion between Council members and the Vicar for Diaconal Formation, it was decided that all individuals in diaconal formation *after their admission to candidacy* would be eligible to be invited by the respective Regions to those meetings that were to be social in nature. (Aspirants and those in first year prior to candidacy would continue to be invited to the Serra function and the Archbishop's Christmas reception for deacons.
7. After discussion, it was decided that the Continuing Education effort would be handled in the following manner: archdiocesan-wide, using outside speakers, while the Regions would Archdiocesan deacons. Continuing Education opportunities would be scheduled, to the extent possible, on published fixed dates so they could be calendared ahead of time. Deacons Mobley and Mure will oversee this effort for the Council.
8. The Council was informed that, while no official written policy would be issued, the question whether Archdiocese of Atlanta deacons should wear a standard clerical collar with or without a "notch" in it should be taken up by individual deacons with their respective Pastors. Henceforth, either would be permissible for a deacon to wear.

Next two meetings will be held on Mondays, April 7 & May 5, 2003, at 7:00 p.m., at the Cathedral in Conference Room 2. (The September meeting will be held on second Monday, September 8, to avoid Labor Day conflict). Motion to Adjourn having been made and seconded, the Chairman concluded the meeting after Msgr. Reynolds offered the closing prayer.