

# THE BEACON

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE PERMANENT DIACONATE  
OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ATLANTA

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Vol 7 #2 March 2010

“...Your light must shine before men so that they may see the goodness in your acts...” Matthew 5:16

## *From the Chancellor's Chair*

My Dear Brothers,



“March Madness” typically refers to the college basketball championship series but maybe this year it could be the theme for our weather! Listening to the news last week I heard that we are now the snow capital of the south with over five inches this winter. I don't know about you but I am ready for Spring!

As we are approaching the middle of our Lenten journey we are reminded that this is meant to be a season of introspection, repentance, forgiveness, and sacrifice. In the past three weeks I have learned that two very dear friends and my own mother have been diagnosed with cancers that have evidently spread. Lamenting this news and questioning, as I often do, I was reminded that perhaps this is a sign telling us to be aware of the precious and fragile gift of life.

Our Gospels throughout the season share messages of those who missed the signs and directions that they were given. They failed to see the signs that would lead them to change their lives, their priorities, their focus and concentrate on what is most important.

As we journey toward Holy Week and the Passion of our Lord, let our readings, reflection, and prayer be a constant reminder of what is truly important in our lives. Let's also be conscious of the hope and promise that we have in the Resurrection.

We all know that this is a very busy time for all the clergy, deacons and priests. Be sure to take some time for yourself. And be sure to keep each other in prayer during this precious season.

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*

[ddorner@archatl.com](mailto:ddorner@archatl.com) 404-885-7407

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Our **Committee on Wives and Families** is trying to communicate with your wives. If you would please send their e mail to: [PCurry@archatl.com](mailto:PCurry@archatl.com)

## *FROM THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR'S DESK*



Dear Brothers in Christ:

We again find ourselves in the great season of Lent; a time for reflection, repentance and renewal. I am sure that you like me have many friends that are not Catholic and they cannot understand the purpose of Lent and the growth that it spawns. Just recently a good friend of mine asked me, "Why do you Catholics give up stuff, fast and sacrifice during Lent? You go to pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday and focus on all those devotions. How is God benefitted by you doing that?" Well, we know that Lent (like the Sabbath) was made for man, not man for Lent. I told my friend that the sacrifices of Lent, like so much else we do is for us and our brothers and sisters here, not for God. We can hardly think that our Lenten observance will in some way "make God better."

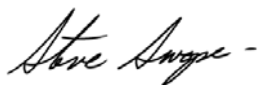
But my friend did make me reflect on the matter of sacrifice. Why do we do the things we do? Why do men and their families commit and sacrifice in order that the man can expend five years or more to forming himself so that he can sacrifice even more in the service to others? Looking through the lens of our secular, somewhat narcissistic society, it makes no sense whatsoever. Yet we have 54 men in formation today and about 30 men from across the Archdiocese who will pick up formation applications this Thursday because they hear that same call to serve others as a Permanent Deacon. These men clearly look at things from a radically different perspective, a perspective that is from God, of Christ and of service. It is amazing when you consider it - so many men, asking, praying and sacrificing for the opportunity to serve.

In addition to sacrifice and self denial, we also think of renewal during Lent, we focus on change and growth. We will have change and growth in the formation program during the spring. First, as I mentioned, we will be accepting applications from men who have been attending the Information Inquiry sessions. I ask that you keep these men in your prayers as they ponder whether to take this "next" step of applying to Aspirancy.

Also, we will be revising the entire "deacon mentor" program. Some of you may have heard bits and pieces from the candidates that you assist already. The revision is taking place so that we can provide the men with more frequent and "hands-on" mentoring. The proposed changes must be approved by the Archbishop before they go in place and we will submit them for his consideration in April. With his approval, we will begin implementing the new program in May or June. A few key elements of the plan are requirements that all mentors are trained (qualifying for continuing education credit), candidates and mentors meet at least every other month and that the candidate must be actively involved in some meaningful way in your ministry. If you would like, you can meet more frequently and get the candidate involved in your ministry now! There will be more information available in late April or early May. Importantly, for right now there is no need for candidates to change mentors.

Thank you for the sacrifices that you make on behalf of the candidates. Please know that you are deeply appreciated and remain always in our prayers. May you be renewed during Lent and come to a joyous Easter.

In Christ's Service,



Associate Director of Formation

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## THE AQUINAS CENTER *of Theology*

**New Aquinas Center Website:** [www.aquinas.emory.edu](http://www.aquinas.emory.edu) New URL and almost everything is new. See videos by prominent speakers like Archbishop Wilton Gregory and informational videos and interviews on the Catholic Studies Minor and the Atlanta Catholic Business Conference. There is also a lot of new information about our programs, our Dominican heritage, and a new parish education initiative. See how you can bring Emory scholars to your parish.

For the latest programs at Emory: [Catholic Studies Program](#)

### **Latino Immigration to Atlanta:**

#### **Connecting Faith Communities and Addressing Critical Issues**

**When:** Friday-Saturday, March 19-20, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** The Ethics Center Conference Room, Candler School of Theology

This conference presents the findings of a three-year long study of Latino immigrants to Atlanta and brings together community leaders, activists, policy makers, students, and scholars. For directions go to [www.candler.emory.edu/admissions/driving.cfm](http://www.candler.emory.edu/admissions/driving.cfm)

**For more information** contact Hector Galvez at [etchone@ufl.edu](mailto:etchone@ufl.edu).

### **Parish Education Speakers**

Want a world-class speaker for your parish for free?

It is easy and we will advertise the program in the *Georgia Bulletin*. Go to:

[http://aquinas.emory.edu/programs\\_parish.html](http://aquinas.emory.edu/programs_parish.html)

This program is supported by a grant from The Catholic Foundation of North Georgia

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## *Homily Help*

<http://homilies.net>

<http://www.deacbench.blogspot.com/>

<http://www.frtommylane.com/homilies.htm>

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## *DISTANCE LEARNING FOR THE DIACONATE PROGRAM*

Distance Learning Program for the Diaconate, The Pontifical College Josephinum

7625 North High Street Columbus, Ohio, 43235 **1-877-9DEACON** (toll free) **1-877-933-2266**  
<http://www.pcj.edu/distance/index.html>

**STEP**, **S**atellite **T**heological **E**ducation **P**rogram, University of Notre Dame, Website: <http://step.nd.edu> or

Call toll free at **1-866-425-7837** for more information.

University of Dayton <http://www.udayton.edu/>

Felician College <http://www.felician.edu/online/>

Catholic Distance University <http://www.cdu.edu/>

Master of Pastoral Studies-St. Leo Online Programs <http://www.saintleo.edu>

***NEW*** [The Catholic Deacon by Deacon James F. Papillo](#)

This website is intended to provide a useful resource for obtaining information about the Roman Catholic faith, the Roman Catholic Church and the Permanent Diaconate.

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7625 North High Street Columbus, Ohio, 43235 **1-877-9DEACON** (toll free) **1-877-933-2266**  
<http://www.pcj.edu/distance/index.html>

*Institute for the Formation and Ministry of the Diaconate at  
The Pontifical College Josephinum*

**In Association With:**

*The National Association of Diaconate Directors*

*You've Asked and We've Listened!*

*Special "Pre-Summer Term*

*(April 12 through June 28th)*

*Our Most Popular Courses*

*Fixed Price: \$395.00 each*

*Plus*

*Free Subscription to the Newly Created Diaconate News Service*

*(A \$49.95 Value)*

*Access to selected articles and news of interest to Deacons*

*Selected from over 400 Secular and Religious  
Publications*

*(Deacon Directors - Call for Diocesan group-enrollments discounts)*

**PA951DE: Good Practices in Parish Administration:** Developed exclusive for the Josephinum by a cadre of experienced pastors, attorneys and accountants; this course provides a comprehensive overview of civil, legal and financial issues which may be encountered in a parish setting. It also provides a structured overview of various scenarios likely to present themselves in a parochial setting, and does so in both the context of civil and canon law. Topics include: overview of civil law, contracts, negligence and premise liability; land use and zoning, employment law, worker's compensation and unemployment compensation; civil law regarding marriages and families, festivals, Bingo and games of chance; casinos, game-nights and liquor liability, tax exempt status, confidentiality and privileged communication; protection of children, and financial management.

**SP611DE: Spirituality of the Deacon:** In your role as a deacon, you have duties toward God, yourself and others. As you become more spiritually "in tune" you are able to serve all groups more fully and derive increased joy from your service. This course correlates the sources, principles and practices of sound spirituality with the fundamental truths of Catholic faith, with the reality of human nature as redeemed and graced, and with practical aspects of spirituality in diaconal ministry. It highlights development of sound spirituality in the context of the Church and emphasizes the need for, and spiritual benefits of, ongoing integration of spiritual reading, personal prayer, private devotion, liturgical worship, and pastoral practice throughout a deacon's ministry to the faithful.

**PA 868 DE Pastoral Counseling for the Diaconate:** Pastoral care is part of the daily life of the deacon. Pastoral counseling incorporates additional theories into the equation. Deacons will be able to feel more comfortable as they offer pastoral care to their parishioners when they have these additional theories at hand. Indeed, Pastoral counseling has been defined as a form of counseling that integrates religious recourses with behavioral sciences. It is a type of counseling that uses insights and principles derived from theology and psychology to work with groups, families, couples, and individuals achieving emotional well being.

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**PA 931 DE Hospital Ministry:** This course introduces participants to the role of the hospital chaplain. Basic responsibilities and day-to-day tasks are discussed in detail. Participants will be required to frequently visit hospital, work with a chaplain as a mentor, complete assigned tasks relating to clinical visits, read assignments, and complete reflection papers. A vision for pastoral care of the ill and frail will be developed by focusing on Church teaching, the dignity of human life, the power of prayer, and the need for thorough and prayerful preparation by the deacon.

**For More Details Or To Register, Please Contact Us At:**

**1-877-9DEACON (1-877-933 2266)**

**E-mail us at: [deacons@pcj.edu](mailto:deacons@pcj.edu)**

**or visit us on the web at**

**[www.pcj.edu](http://www.pcj.edu)**



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## JUST a bit

**JUST a bit** is a monthly justice sampler from Parish & Social Justice Ministries with information about justice and advocacy issues and events. **Parish & Social Justice Ministries** is a program of Catholic Charities Atlanta, Inc. providing resources for awareness and action, emphasizing the “concrete practice of Love.”

If you have received this email from a friend and would like us to send “**JUST a bit**” directly to your email then please email Augusto Michael Trujillo at [amtrujillo@archatl.com](mailto:amtrujillo@archatl.com) with your name, email and a request to receive this justice sampler. Also, please feel free to send any feedback to [amtrujillo@archatl.com](mailto:amtrujillo@archatl.com).

In response to the massive earthquake in Haiti, Catholic Relief Services has set up 3 ways to donate to the relief efforts:

1. Via check to **Catholic Relief Services - P.O. Box 17090 - Baltimore, MD 21203**. The memo portion of check should clearly state Haiti Earthquake.
2. Via cell phone by texting **RELIEF** to **30644** and follow the prompts to chose the dollar amount.
3. Via internet by visiting [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org)

**Justice for Immigrants:** The national Catholic campaign for comprehensive immigration reform, has launched a campaign that calls for comprehensive immigration reform legislation. To take action, please visit [http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/issues/alert/?alertid=14503781&queueid=\[capwiz:queue\\_id](http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/issues/alert/?alertid=14503781&queueid=[capwiz:queue_id)

### **Catholic Charities Atlanta seeks a full-time Community Liaison & Resource Specialist.**

Requirements include a Bachelor’s degree in relevant field, demonstrated excellent English verbal and written communication skills, experience working independently and as part of a team, Microsoft Office and internet skills, and reliable transportation. Knowledge of Catholic social teaching, parishes of the Archdiocese of Atlanta and Spanish language skills desired. Please submit cover letter and resume via email to [cc.archatl@yahoo.com](mailto:cc.archatl@yahoo.com) with subject line “Community Liaison and Resource Specialist.” No calls please.

Catholic Charities Atlanta seeks an intern for the 2010-11 Academic Year (September-April). Intern will work on the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and is required to attend an orientation in June. Intern will work 12-15 hours per week and is paid at a rate of \$10.00/hour. Requirements include demonstrated excellent English verbal and written communication skills, experience working independently and as part of a team, Microsoft Office and internet skills, and reliable transportation. Intern should have an interest in solidarity building, Catholic social teaching and participation of low income and marginalized people. Please submit cover letter and resume via email to [cc.archatl@yahoo.com](mailto:cc.archatl@yahoo.com) with subject line “CCHD Intern.” No calls please.

Susan Stevenot Sullivan, MTS  
Director of Parish and Social Justice Ministries  
Catholic Charities Atlanta  
[ssullivan@archatl.com](mailto:ssullivan@archatl.com)

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**2009  
PRECANA WORKSHOP  
INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION**



This workshop is designed for engaged couples preparing to marry in the Catholic Church. It is a one-day workshop beginning at 8:45 A.M. and ending at 4:05 P.M. The cost is \$110 per couple (non-refundable).

The following topics are covered during the workshop: communication, marriage sacrament, married sexuality, reconciliation and forgiveness, and married finances.

Couples should register several months before the desired workshop date. All workshops are held at the Catholic Center, 680 West Peachtree St. NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30308. For additional information, please call 404-888-7819, or visit the Family Life Office webpage [here](#)

It is important that couples should speak with a priest or deacon at their parish before registering for this workshop.

To register, please complete the registration form from the web site and attach a check or money order made out to the Family Life Office.

**Mail the registration form with the check or money order to:**

Family Life Office/PreCana  
680 West Peachtree Street, NW,  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308-1984

Forms and dates available by clicking this link or at: <http://archatl.com/offices/familylife/>

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***Dates for the 2010 African American Marriage Preparation Programs***

**Saturday, May 1, 2010**

**Saturday, August 7, 2010**

**Saturday, November 13, 2010**

All programs are held at the Lyke House Catholic Student Center at the Atlanta University Center Complex, 809 Beckwith Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30314, 9:00am until 5:00p.m. The fee for the program is \$110.00 per couple. Registration for the program is handled by the Office of Formation and Discipleship. Please contact Lynn Crutchfield at **404/885-7450**.

The program is for engaged couples and couples contemplating marriage.

The programs are presented by Deacon Fred Sambrone and Mrs. Connie Sambrone.

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*+ Please Pray for Us +*

Deacon Mike Landaiache as he continues his recovery



Some of you may know that my wife, Mary, had cancer ten years ago. In response to quite a bit of pain recently in her hip, Mary has been diagnosed with metastatic bone cancer in several sites in her body. Mary had surgery on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Please pray for a speedy recovery for Mary and for our family.

Your Brother Deacon in Christ, Jerry Korte, Sacred Heart, Hartwell



Please add Deacon Al Weber to your prayer intentions.



Please, please pray for the Gorczyca and Kaszycki family that the Holy Spirit may fortify us as we continue to struggle through a personal problem.



Please pray for Barry Phillips' father, Don Phillips who passed away. Please keep him, Barry and his family in your prayers. It has been a difficult year for our brother and he needs our support and prayers.

*And those whom we promised to pray for ... Lord hear our prayers*

If you have some one in need of our prayers contact Mark Sholander at [msholand@bellsouth.net](mailto:msholand@bellsouth.net)

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## Cleric Comedy

### GREAT TRUTHS THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mom is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap

God doesn't call the qualified,  
He qualifies the called.

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God grades on the cross, not the curve.

Submitted by L. Welsh

If you have a favorite anecdote, please pass it along to Deacon Dennis at [ddorner@archatl.com](mailto:ddorner@archatl.com)

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## Essential Dates

### DEACON CONFERENCES WITH ARCHBISHOP GREGORY

Do you have something you would like to discuss with the Archbishop?

These meetings require no appointment. The Archbishop will meet with deacons on a first come, first serve basis on the following dates at the Chancery:

3/22/10 10:00 – 12:00 PM

6/24/10 11:00 – 1:00 PM

9/13/10 12:00 – 2:00 PM

12/6/10 12:00 – 2:00 PM

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## **FOCCUS Facilitator Training**

Greetings from the Office of Formation and Discipleship.

**F.O.C.C.U.S.** Facilitator Training will be held on **April 10, 2010** from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at St Thomas More Church, Decatur, GA. **F.O.C.C.U.S.** stands for Facilitating Open Couple Communication, Understanding and Study. Deacon Whitney Robichaux will be the trainer. The cost will be \$90 per person, inclusive of the complete manual, inventory sheets, and scoring packet. For those who wish to use F.O.C.C.U.S. with engaged couples in a parish setting, pastor approval is required. The registration form for the F.O.C.C.U.S. training seminar is attached.

F.O.C.C.U.S. has been used in the Archdiocese of Atlanta since 1990. It can be used as the first step to an overall marriage preparation program. F.O.C.C.U.S. serves as a premarital inventory and provides a clear picture of where the couple's challenges and strengths are as they begin their preparation. Many priests, deacons, and lay ministers have been certified as F.O.C.C.U.S. facilitators over the years. The Office of Formation and Discipleship has received many positive comments from facilitators and engaged couples regarding the results. They say that it is very helpful.

Thank you for your continued support. I welcome your ideas and suggestions regarding ways that we can support you in your work with families. Please do not hesitate to call if you have questions or comments.

God bless you,  
Lynn Crutchfield  
(404) 885-7450

To register, please complete the registration form, enclose a check, and mail to the Office of Formation and Discipleship at the address provided below.

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### **FOCCUS Facilitator Training Seminar**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Parish:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Pastor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check for **\$90.00** made to the **Office of Formation and Discipleship**.

**Send it to:** **Office of Formation and Discipleship**  
**680 West Peachtree Street, N.W.**  
**Atlanta, Georgia 30308-1984**

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