



Spring Issue 2004

# Class of 2005 to be Admitted to Candidacy

## The Council of Permanent Deacons Executive Committee

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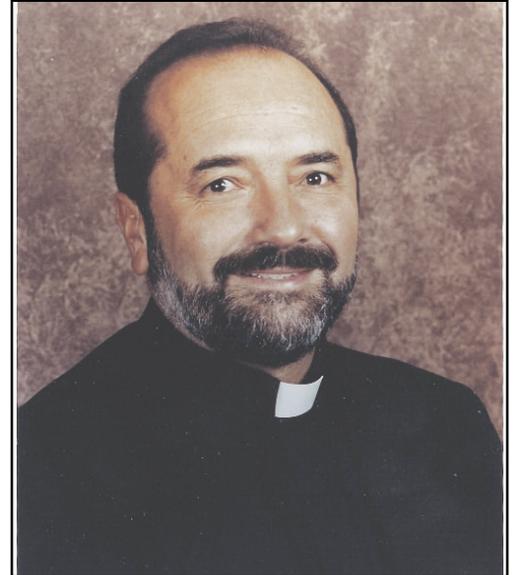


### In Memorial

Pray for the our sisters & brothers who have left us during this 21<sup>st</sup> Century

<b>Vishno Brennan</b>	<b>Tom Noone</b>
<b>Joe Cunningham</b>	<b>Tom White</b>
<b>Al Mistretta</b>	<b>Charles Kiley</b>
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<b>Angela Petrozelli</b>	<b>James P. McNulty</b>
<b>Richard Mohr</b>	<b>Samuel Ventola</b>
<b>MaryLou Hogan</b>	<b>Angela Rosa Reyes</b>
	<b>Walter Stanecki</b>

**Another Milestone for the '05ers**  
On May 17, 2004 at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Union, Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., in a solemn ceremony,



will admit thirty eight men of the Class of 2005 as Candidates for the Order of Deacon, their final step before ordination in May of 2005. Our new candidates are: Raj Srinivasa, John Sarnas, Michael York, Michael Missaggia, George Puolo, Theodore Kotz, Travis Martin, Al Ganter, Jerry Rossi, Michael Keary, David Hughes, James Looby, Nicholas Valdez, Pierre Merceus, Victor Puzio, Gregory Quinn, Andrew Golden, Peter Emr, Keith Gibbons, Walter Maher, Reynaldo Trinidad, Caesar Sarmiento, Guy Mier, James Guida, John Holoduek, Joseph Carlo, Stanley Kwiatek, Thomas Walsh, Louis Loffredo, John Wedemeyer, John Bejgrowicz, Kevin Regan, Vincent DeFedele, Dennis LaScala, Anthony LaTerza, Alejandro Estremera, Orlando Perez, & Clod Leonida. As our brothers move into their final year of formation, the entire diaconate community looks forward to their ordination to the Order of Deacon in 2005. Praise & thanks be to Almighty God!

Office of the Permanent Diaconate of

# DeacoNews

The Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey

## Our Director Speaks



### Deacon Ed Porter

We are now moving into the good times. The snow is over and the wind and rain are beginning to subside. The sun is shining and the Deacons and men in formation doing well in their ministerial assignments. April 20-24 was the week of the Annual Convention for the National Association of Deacon Directors (NADD) held in Cherry Hill, New Jersey under the chairmanship of yours-truly. Two hundred & ten persons attended from as far away as Honolulu, Hawaii and Calgary, Canada. A marvelous interchange of diaconate information came from men of all walks of life and cultures. I'm most pleased to report that most of my assistance came from Deacons, Men in Formation and their wives from the Camden, Trenton, and Metuchen Dioceses and from our own Archdiocese of Newark. Saying thanks for all their help doesn't begin to express how much everyone contributed toward making the convention such an outstanding success. And now on to the completion of our third year of preparation for the men of the class of 2005 who will be received as candidates to the Permanent Diaconate at the installation ceremony to be conducted at Holy Spirit Church, Union, on Monday May 17 at 7:30 PM. Have a prayerful and joy filled summer.

## Deacon Spotlight



### Frank Gonzalez

MSW,LSW,ACSW

Deacon Frank was born on January 08, 1961 to Felix & Gloria Gonzalez in Jersey City. Frank is the middle child of six brothers and six sisters. Frank's Dad was a Pentecostal Minister in New York City and Puerto Rico. Frank's early childhood included attending PS # 9 in Jersey City and attending James J. Ferris High School. Frank struggled to help his family make ends meet as a shoe shine boy at the age of twelve and then worked in a Spanish restaurant while attending Grammar School, High School and College. Frank met his wife, Evelyn, at the age of 17 in High School and they have a son Frank, Jr. who is 23yrs. old.

Frank attended Rutgers University-Livingston College and received a Bachelor's of Science degree in Criminal Justice, from Rutgers University College. In 1986, Frank obtained a Masters Degree in Social Work from Rutgers University Graduate School of Social Work. He is a licensed Social Worker and a member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers.

Frank began working for the Division of Youth and Family Services in February, 1983. He worked 11 years investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect, 5 years as a supervisor, 2 ½ years supervising supervisors and 3

years as a Resource Development Specialist in Passaic County. He was recently promoted to County Service Specialist in Passaic County. His career has been decorated with many awards and accolades from City, County & State officials.

At the age of 27, Frank attended St. Paul's the Apostle Church and felt the gentle tug of the Lord. He kept on attending Mass and along with Evelyn was encouraged by Mrs. Catherine Miller to become a "full fledged" Roman Catholics thru RCIA. After RCIA, Frank & Evelyn became involved with Cursillo. With Msgr. Slinger and Fr. Frank Rose's encouragement, Frank became involved in Parish life at St. Paul's as Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Parish Council President, RCIA Coordinator and many other parish activities. Initially, Frank was not interested in the Diaconate and his Dad was not too happy.

He finally decided to respond to his call by applying to the Spanish diaconate, thinking it might be more difficult to be accepted since he spoke and read very little Spanish. Attending the Spanish Diaconate was a humbling experience since he could no longer rely on the confidence of his English speaking and writing skills and learned most importantly, dependence and a willing obedience to follow the will of Jesus Christ even in the midst human barriers. Frank's obedience resulted in an immersion into the Spanish language which proved to be a marvelous witness to those who spoke Spanish. Over the years, many were able to see Frank's growth in presenting different religious subjects and group exercises in Spanish. Soon after being ordained, Deacon Frank expanded RCIA to include a separate class in Spanish and participates in bilingual services at St. Paul's. Frank also serves on The Executive Committee, Council of Permanent Deacons with Jose Rodriguez representing Hispanic Permanent Deacons.

This year, Deacon Frank is the recipient of the 2004 statewide Child Assault Prevention (CAP) Award. The winner is chosen by a 13 member panel on the basis of his/her contribution to the field of Child Abuse Prevention. Nominations are reflective of the entire State and represent well known child advocates as well as what one nominator called, "the unsung, common people". Among his peers, he is seen as an aggressive advocate for children and families, is respected and admired for his compassion, advocacy skills and personal commitment. Frank doesn't just expect good work, but instead models the expected behavior. He places emphasis on individual responsibility and how one can make positive contributions and changes in order to protect our children. Frank will receive this award April 2nd in Trenton.

### ***Deceased Deacons & Wives Memorial Mass April 24, 2004***

A Memorial Mass for all Deceased Deacons and Wives, of the Archdiocese, organized by Jean Andrews, was celebrated on April 24, 2004, by Fr. Mirch Walters, at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel of the Archdiocesan Center. A luncheon and a "time for sharing" followed the Mass. Hopefully this will become a regular opportunity to pray for, and with, our fore bearers.

### ***Procedures for the Christian Burial of Permanent Deacons***

**Note: All of these procedures are optional. None are canonically required for a Permanent Deacon's Christian Burial. The family should review these and choose those which are consistent with their own wishes, and those of the deceased Deacon.**

1. Upon a Deacon's death the family or the funeral director should call the Diaconate Director's office (973-497-4223 or 973-484-4600) as soon as possible and provide details so the Clergy of the Archdiocese can be informed.

2. A biography sheet should be on file for all Deacons. Please prepare one and mail it to the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, 171 Clinton Ave, PO Box 9500, Newark, NJ 07104-9500. Please include phone numbers and email address.

3. Phone calls will be made to get the word out quickly, especially when viewing is only one day.

4. Procedures for Wake:

The prayer card should contain the date of Diaconate Ordination prominently displayed along with date of birth/death and other vital statistics. The deceased Deacon may be vested in alb, stole and dalmatic.

It is recommended that a knowledgeable person assist the family and funeral director to insure correct vesture.

Viewing in church is recommended for at least one evening.

5. Procedures for Mass:

Symbols: gospel book on casket. A crucifix and a stole may also be used.

The casket is to be brought into church feet first, and then turned around at the foot of the altar so as to have the deceased Deacon's head toward the altar. An evening mass is preferred to make it easy for attendance. A procession of vested Deacons entering and leaving the church is also recommended. At the recessional, the deacons will process out first, and form an "honor guard" for the family and the casket to the funeral car.

### ***Retreat Notes***

Deacon Earle S. Connelly Jr. (201) 863-4840 X28, our Diaconate Retreat Coordinator reports that for 2004 the Wives Retreat was held at San

Alfonso's from March 12-14<sup>th</sup>. Couple's Retreat will be at the Carmel Retreat House in Mahwah from June 25-27 and the Deacon Retreat will be at San Alfonso on Oct 22-24. Call Deacon Earle to reserve your place.

### ***Did You Know?***

**Liturgy Training Publications** is offering a new book "*From the Diakonia of Christ to the Diakonia of the Apostles*" by the International Theological Commission. This historico-theological research document traces the history of the diaconate from the time of Christ through the post-Vatican II period. This is a book for all deacons to own. Its chapters include *The Diaconate in the New Testament* and in the Writings of the Fathers, *The Reality of the Permanent Diaconate Today*, and a *Theological Approach to the Diaconate in the Wake of Vatican II*. Hillenbrand Order Code: HDIAK \$14.00 orders@ltp.org or call 1-800-933-1800

**Required Permanent Deacon Ongoing Formation** consists of at least attendance at one retreat and 20 hours of qualified training per year.

**For Diaconate Prayer Requests:** Send concise prayer request, for e-mail distribution, to [edcampy@sanjanj.org](mailto:edcampy@sanjanj.org).



On February 12, 2004 the Human Concerns Archdiocesan Office invited Priests, Deacons & Lay Leaders to attend an inspiring presentation on "Faithful Citizenship" delivered by Joan Rosenhauer of the USCCB. The underlying philosophy points to seven principles: 1. Life & Dignity of the Human Person. 2. Call to Family Community & Participation; 3. Rights & Responsibilities; 4. Options for the Poor & Vulnerable, 5. Dignity of Work & the Rights of

Workers; 6. Solidarity; and 7. Caring for God's Creation. See more at [uscbb.org](http://uscbb.org) and click on "Faithful Citizenship"

## *Water Into Wine*

### *By George Poulo*

Often at weddings we hear of Christ's first miracle at the feast at Cana. The wedding has taken place and the party is in progress, but lo and behold, to the dismay of Mary, the wine has run out. With faith in her son, she tells the waiter to "do whatever He tells you", and as a result, Jesus turns water into wine.

I would like to share with you on this special day an analogy of what takes place in Matrimony. We begin with water. Water is natural. It is life-sustaining. It quenches the thirst. It is clear and refreshing. I would like to suggest that up to this time in your relationship, the love you have for each other is a great deal like water, satisfying but not wholly fulfilling. You wanted something more. Secondly, water represents commitment. Your love has proved true for a long time now. Faithfulness and provision has yielded the fruit of Matrimony. Your fidelity to each other has given each of you a desire to live together all the days of your life. And thirdly, water represents pleasure. Your desire for each other is singular and graphic. Each of you quenches the thirst of passion in the other. Yet when Christ appears at the wedding and touches the water, it turns into wine.

In marriage, the natural gives way to the supernatural. Nature is transfigured. The two of you become one flesh. Each becomes a mirror of the other. The water which hides a multitude of life beneath its surface, in wine, rises to the surface. Marriage transforms water, singularity, into wine, intimacy. You are no longer separate observers of life, but intertwined. The heights and depths

that one experiences in nature as solitary, now is joined together... one the lamp; one the light. Each reflected in the other. Secondly, commitment gives way to covenant. Natural love which is exhilarating becomes sacrificial. Where water is light and clear, wine is deep and full-bodied. Where water is free, wine is costly. One dies to self to fulfill the other. Finally, where water represents pleasure, wine represents joy. The mystery of your union brings with it now a history to every passing moment. You experience life as one, no longer as two. Wine has the power to inebriate, water does not.

So my prayer for you is that Christ may touch your lives as he touched the water, elevating your relationship from what is known to mystery, lifting the heart to soar to the heavens while your feet remain planted on the earth.

Ask and you will receive and so your joy will be complete. (John 16)

Water into wine, a rich, full-bodied wine to enjoy for all eternity, ageless and timeless, made better with the passing of each day. Amen

## *On the Litter Side*

### *An Anonymous e-mail collection*

A man was taking it easy, lying on the grass and looking up at the clouds. He was identifying shapes when he decided to talk to God. "God," he said, "how long is a million years?" God answered, "In my frame of reference, it's about a minute." The man asked, "God, how much is a million dollars?" God answered, "To me, it's a penny." The man then asked, "God, can I have a penny?" God answered, "In a minute."

### **Here are some homiletic one-liners:**

Don't let your worries get the best of you, remember, Moses started out as a basket case

Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.

It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.

When you get to your wit's end, you'll find God lives there.

People are funny, they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation leans on the bell.

Quit griping about your church; if it was perfect, you couldn't belong.

If the church wants a better pastor, it only needs to pray for the one it has.

A lot of church members who are singing "Standing on the Promises" are just sitting on the premises.

Be fishers of men. You catch them - He'll clean them.

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

He who angers you, controls you!

If God is your Copilot - swap seats!

The Will of God will never take you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.

We don't change the message, the message changes us.

The best mathematical equation I have ever seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given

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## *Input-To-Output*

Have an article or comment! Send to: [edcampy@comcast.net](mailto:edcampy@comcast.net) or mail to Deacon Ed Campanella

1801 North Wood Ave, Linden, NJ, 07036 or Fax 908-925-8718.