Summer 2004
Diaconate Celebrates 30th Anniversary

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 21st Century

Vishno Brennan Tom Noone
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30th Anniversary Celebration

August 2004 marks the 30th year for the Permanent Diaconate in the Archdiocese of Newark. This anniversary will be marked by a Mass of Thanksgiving concelebrated a St John the Baptist, Hillsdale, NJ on Sunday October 3, 2004. Bishop John Walter Flessey, S.T.D., D.D. will be the principle celebrant assisted by Deacon Edward W. Porter and Deacon Jack Gray. During the Mass all deacons will reaffirm the Prayer of Consecration from the Ordination Rite. Offertory gifts will include Bread and Wine, a Deacon’s Stole, and the Book of Gospels. The monetary offering will go toward enriching the St. Lawrence Fund – a reserve for financially challenged Deacons. A reception will be held after the Mass of Thanksgiving in St. John’s Gathering Center. All arrangements for this celebration are being carried out by a committee chaired by Deacon Al McLaughlin. Contact Deacon Al to confirm your attendance at 201-784-9294 or e-mail: mclaugh05@aol.com
Deacon Ed Porter

The summer has flown by as our diaconate activities continue to grow.

We are witnessing more and more deacons and men in formation assuming positions of authority in both the Archdiocese and in local parishes. Many priests have called my office requesting the assistance of a deacon. While we are unable to meet the requirements of many of our churches, it’s indeed encouraging to know that the bishops and priests of our Archdiocese understand and appreciate the skills and talents that so many of us can offer.

In years past, it was unheard of to singley ordain one man to the Permanent Diaconate, rather than as a part of an entire class on completion of their preparation program.

This year on July 11, we had the most fortunate experience of witnessing the ordination of Leo Aponte at St. Patrick Pro-Cathedral. Leo completed his preparation with the Class of 1998, but because of personal circumstances was unable to proceed with ordination at that time.

This is the first single ordination of a Permanent Deacon since 1981 and we are most pleased to extend our welcome and sincere best wishes to Leo.

Leo Aponte Ordained

Leo Aponte was ordained as a Permanent Deacon on July 11, 2004 at St. Patrick Pro-Cathedral by Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V. Along with Deacon Leo’s Family many Priests and Deacons witnessed the joy connected with this celebration. A reception at the Newark Museum followed the Mass.

By Elizabeth Tobin

There is a ministry in the Archdiocese of Newark called Magnificat which was started by six women (l. to r. Pat Patterman, Cheryl Sarno, Elizabeth Tobin, Joanne Gurske and Tony Uzzalino – Peg O’Neill not pictured) who met while their husbands were in formation for the permanent diaconate (class of 2002). Archbishop Myers gave the organization a Decree of Recognition naming it A Private Association of the Faithful in the Archdiocese of Newark. Magnificat is an international ministry which encourages Catholic women to grow in personal holiness. The main function of the ministry is to host the Magnificat Prayer Meal. After three years in formation the local group, Handmaid of the Lord Chapter, hosted its first meal in October 2003 and recently held a prayer breakfast on May 1, 2004. After sharing a meal and fellowship, there is a period of prayer and praise, then one woman witnesses to the transforming power of Jesus Christ in her life. The witness is followed by a time for individual prayer with team members and Reconciliation. Magnificat is open all Catholic women. Interested? Call: Elizabeth Tobin, Coordinator 201-265-2738, or write Grand174@aol.com

National Deacon Conference in Baltimore

The National Catholic Diaconate Conference, July 1-4, 2004, was held this year in Baltimore, Maryland at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront. Bishop Robert Morlino, (chairman of the Bishop’s Committee on the Diaconate) presided at the opening Evening Prayer. Bishop Robert Morlino’s homily discussed “Deacon: His Relationship Through Christ.” After an opening reception with the bishops, followed by morning prayer, Cardinal Francis Stafford, Major Penitentiary of the Apostolic Penitentiary, talked about: “Deacon His Relationships with the Bishops.” Dr. Dennis McManus, Office of Liturgy, USCCB, presented: “Deacon: His Relationships with the World.” followed by a panel discussion: Mass was celebrated at the historic Basilica of the Assumption and Cardinal William Keeler, Archbishop of Baltimore presided. On the last day Bishop Wilton Gregory, President of the USCCB, presented: “Deacon: His Relationship In Service of Christ’s Church.” Workshops were available on diaconal service in Charity, Liturgy & Word. Fireworks in the Harbor concluded the conference. Five-hundred-forty Deacons and Wives were registered. The talks were inspiring and thought provoking; the
workshops were very supportive, and the panel discussions probed the many questions on the minds of the attendees. The comradely “networking” and interaction among attendees, presenters, staff, and exhibitors was electric. The meals, breaks and receptions, many subsidized by different groups including: The Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, Baltimore & Washington Archdioceses, Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities, Diocesan Regions 14, & 7, and many local Baltimore parishes, were excellent.

Attending from Newark were: (pictured) Carmen & Deacon Martin Macaluso, MaryAnn & Deacon Ed Campanella, Joan & Deacon Leo Mintini (not pictured) Rita & Deacon Keith McKnight, and Deacon Patrick Quaglina.

05ers Attend Retreat
By Stanley W. Kwiatek, Jr.

When Deacon Ed Porter notified the Formation Class of 2005, that the third year “Husband/Wife Retreat Weekend” will be held at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, Pa., I was delighted. The Shrine is set in the beautiful hills of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvanians are noted for their kindness, graciousness and hospitality. I had high expectation for this retreat weekend and I can tell you no one was disappointed!

My wife, Barbara and I, being of Polish heritage, have visited the shrine on many occasions since our marriage in 1969. We have seen the shrine expand from a simple, plain unfinished concrete, empty square box like church to a beautiful, incredible, massive place of worship for the Polish people and those “wishing to be Polish”.

Since our last visit almost five years ago, there has been an obvious and astonishing difference. As we were turning into the driveway of the Shrine, all I could say was “Matka Boska,” “Mother of God.” An enormous, original and beautiful statue of Our Blessed Lady holding the Child Jesus now welcomes all visitors, pilgrims and retreatants into her presence. The statue is set upon a pedestal approximately 30 feet high. Mother Mary and the Child Jesus are clothed in golden capes and crowns, with one hand extended, as to say, welcome my children, and come to your Heavenly Mother. The peaceful, serene smiling face of Mother Mary validates your entrance upon peaceful, restful and holy ground. I can assure you this is a certainty from personal experience.

Our Retreat Master, Msgr. McCarthy must have been touched by the Holy Spirit, because of his ability of taking on a serious subject, which could have been dry. He planted the seed of Christ’s wisdom into a presentation that was filled with humor, funny moments, yet it had the seriousness needed to turn the moment into a spiritual enlightened and knowledgeable presentation. Monsignor focused all his talks on the Sacraments in regards to the Deacon.

The Retreat, because of the spiritual guidance of Monsignor McCarthy, was a great means of revitalizing our “spirituality.” Taking a break from the world around us and absorbing God’s Divine love and mercy was a great means of re-charging our spirituality.

The Class of 2005 wishes to thank Monsignor McCarthy for the insight and knowledge he passed onto us. We would also like to thank those responsible for preparing and coordinating this retreat. Kevin Regan and James Looby created a prayerful, peaceful, well-organized retreat, which was an enjoyable time for all. We also thank our Director, Deacon Ed Porter, the Class Moderator, Deacon Joe Lubas and Class Advisor, Deacon Bob Baker for their support and encouragement they have shown this class. Finally, we thank Father Simon of the Pauline Fathers, for his assistance at the retreat house, meals and touring the grounds.

Union County Support Group Resumes
by Mike York

After a brief interlude, the Union County Diocesan Support Group resumed meeting on the 15th of June, with St. John the Apostle, as the hosting parish. The group has been expanded to include the Deacon Candidates (Class of 2005) from Union County. Attending were Deacons Ed Campanella, Luis Lorza, Martin Macaluso and Deacon Candidates, Joe Carlo, Stan Kwiatek, Geroge Puolo and Mike York. The meeting opened with Evening Prayer. The discussion centered on
Redemptionis Sacramentum and how each of our parishes was implementing/addressing the necessary changes. Specific major topics included the partitioning of the wine in the chalices prior to the Consecration (removal of all glassware, which eliminates the Precious Blood from accidentally being spilled when the glassware is left on the altar during and after the Consecration), Deacons kneeling during the Consecration, wearing of Dalmatics by Deacons and elimination of the Deacons singing the Proclamation of Faith. It is always beneficial to learn how fellow Deacons/Deacon Candidates are serving in their parish and we all found it enlightening to go through Redemptionis Sacramentum in detail...each one of us learned something new. The group plans to meet again this summer at St. Mary of the Assumption in Elizabeth

Note: you can find a link to Redemptionis Sacramentum on the DeacoNews Web Site (see header).

Retreat Notes
Deacon Earle S. Connelly Jr. (201) 863-4840 X28, our Diaconate Retreat Coordinator reports that for 2004 the Couple’s Retreat will be at the Carmel Retreat House in Mahwah from June 25-27 and the Deacon Retreat will be at san Alfonzo on Oct 22-24. Call Deacon Earle to reserve your place.

Did You Know?
Holy See Officially Recognizes Cursillo - VATICAN CITY, JUNE 11, 2004 (Zenit.org). The Cursillo movement, a Christian renewal effort that started in 1949 in Spain was recognized officially by the Holy See.

This movement received the decree of recognition today during the course of a Liturgy of the Word, at the headquarters of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, presided over by Archbishop Stanislaw Rylko. Among those attending were leaders of the movement’s four international groups, as well as bishops from several countries. The Cursillo movement is present in 60 countries, with a following of some 5 million. The basic idea of the Cursillo, or “little course,” is a three-day retreat for those seeking God, and to whom the fundamental truths of the Christian faith are proclaimed. The first Cursillo was held from Jan. 7-10, 1949, on the island of Majorca, the fruit of the commitment of Catholic Action youth who had made a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in the Marian year of 1948.

The Cursillo spread rapidly. Within five years, Cursillos were held in all the continents. At a May 2002 meeting with Cursillo representatives, John Paul II encouraged the process of discernment that led to today's decree.

Here are More Interesting Items:
(collected from anonymous e-mails)
1. “I am” is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.
2. Men can read smaller print than women; women can hear better.
3. Coca-Cola was originally green.
4. The State with the highest % of people who walk to work: Alaska
5. The percentage of Africa that is wilderness is 28%. The percentage of North America that is wilderness is actually 38%.
6. The world's youngest parents were 8 and 9 and lived in China in 1910.
7. The first novel ever written on a typewriter: Tom Sawyer.
8. San Francisco Cable cars are the only mobile National Monuments.
9. Each king in a deck of cards represents a great king from history: Spades: King David, Hearts: Charlemagne, Clubs: Alexander, the Great Diamonds: Julius Caesar.
10. If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. One front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle. All four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

On the Liter Side
An Anonymous E-Mail Collection
It was Palm Sunday and, because of a sore throat, five-year-old Johnnie stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm branches. The boy asked what they were for. "people held them over Jesus' head as he went by. "Wouldn't you know it," the boy fumed, "the one Sunday I don't go, he shows up!"

A prospective father-in-law asked, "Young man, can you support a family?" The surprised groom-to-be replied, "Well, no. I was just planning to support your daughter. The rest of you will have to fend for yourselves."

A little boy in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed around the offering baskets. When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, "don't pay for me daddy. I'm under five."

The Sunday school teacher asked, "Now, Johnnie, tell me, do you say prayers before eating?"
"No sir," he replied, "we don't have to. My mom is a good cook!"

"Oh, I sure am happy to see you," the little boy said to his grandmother on his mother's side. "Now maybe daddy will do the trick he has been promising us." The grandmother was curious. "What trick is that?" she asked. "I heard him tell mommy that he would climb the walls if you came to visit."

A Deacon’s very young son, burying his deceased pet bird, dug a hole, put it in a box and prayed, like his dad, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and in the hole he goes!"

Input-To-Output
Have an article or comment! Send to: edcampy@comcast.net or mail to Deacon Ed Campanella, 1801 North Wood Ave, Linden, NJ, 07036 or Fax 908-925-8718.