



Office of the Permanent Diaconate

# DeaconNews

Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey

Spring 2010

## Class of 2011 Acolyte Installation

### The Executive Committee, Council of Permanent Deacons

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Deacons John J. McKenna, Director  
of Deacon Personnel

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**Publicity** Ed Campanella

**DeaconNews Editors**

Ed Campanella SFO

Michael York Thomas Smith

### *In Memorial of Our Departed This Year*

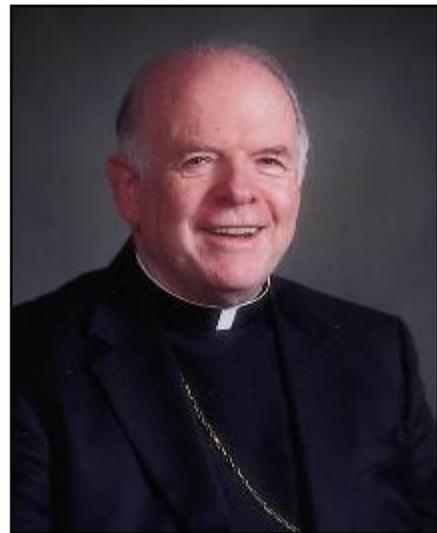
Norma Zapata Vincent Serzan  
Martin R. Hemberger Louis C. Restivo  
Janette H. Cunningham

A complete list of all deceased deacons  
and deceased spouses is listed on this  
newsletter's website:

[http://www.sjanj.net/rcan\\_deacon/](http://www.sjanj.net/rcan_deacon/)

Please also remember in your prayers all  
the ill and convalescing members of our  
Diaconate family.

### Class of 2011 Acolyte Installation



On March 1, 2010 Most Reverend John W. Flesey, S.T.D., D.D., Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, presided at the Installation of Acolytes at 7:30 PM for the Diaconate Class of 2011 which consists of 35 men. The installation took place at Annunciation Church, Paramus. Those installed were: Simplicie Ahoua, Wilbert Alexandre, Justo Aliaga, Manuel Almeida, Emeruwa Anyanwu, Charles Boucher, Paul Carris, Joseph Castoro, Arnulfo Cuesta, James Detura, Dominick DiBernardo, Ken DiPaola, John Florio, Angel Hernandez, Pedro Herrera, Donald Hessemer, Jose Homem, John Karal, Timothy Kennedy, Thomas Lagatol, Anthony Liguori, Francis Matera, Robert Millea, Jorge Montalvo, Brian Murphy, Francis Noh, Jorge Ochoa, Anthony Porcaro, Joseph Romano, Todd Rushing, Louis Rusignuolo, Andrew Saunders, Craig Stewart, David Strader, John Sylvester  
See inside for more on the installation.

## Director's Column



### Deacon John McKenna

Happy Easter! The Lord is Risen!  
He has truly Risen!

The Holy Spirit is very active in the Church and this Easter season is a particularly blessed time. The front cover describes the most recent Acolyte installation of the formation class of 2010. 35 men were installed as acolytes by Bishop Flesey on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at Annunciation Church, Paramus. It was a wonderful event and a good number of deacons attended the ceremony as a sign and encouragement to the candidates. Please keep these men and their families in your prayers.

We have a number of initiatives planned for 2010-2011. The Deacon Council in conjunction with the Office of Deacon Personnel will develop a mentoring program in anticipation of the class of 2011's ordination next spring. The mentoring program will be designed to assist the newly ordained deacon as he begins his new ministry. I will provide you with more information as the program evolves.

Your Deacon Council representatives will be holding county meetings this year. These meetings are an opportunity to reconnect with each other, develop local support groups, and hear about upcoming projects

and events. I encourage you to take this time to speak to your local representative about how the council and diaconate office can continue to assist you in your ministry. One of the topics I have asked the council members to discuss with you is the formation of county "Lazarus Groups". These groups would consist of deacons willing to volunteer to attend and serve at wakes and funerals for deceased deacons and their wives.

The Deacon Council and the Office of Deacon personnel are in the process of planning two social events. One is a reception with the deacon candidate class. This will be an opportunity to meet the men in formation and their wives prior to ordination. The other event will be the Second Annual Deacon and Wives Convocation. The convocation will take place in the fall of 2011.

Please keep all deacons and their families, living and deceased, in your prayers.

### *Teachable Moments*

by Deacon Ed Campanella

Some things are obvious and many times the obvious is not discussed and ultimately overlooked. This is an article about one of those obvious elements of our ministry that I wanted to talk about since I find that I need to remind myself about it and maybe others may need the same reminding and will find it practical.

How many times have we presided at wakes, baptisms and weddings? Sometimes we need to slow down and not rush into a liturgy we have done so often that we can almost become mechanical in its presentation – (perhaps as St. Paul would tell us) something to be scoffed at. I know I have to be very careful about this and I know we have all struggled with this aspect of our ministry from time to time –

hopefully fewer than more; it's part of the danger in our vocation, which goes along with not taking ourselves too seriously, a subject for another discussion.

Each time we find ourselves in front of a congregation such as these – more so than when we assist at Mass – we are presented with not only a wonderful opportunity to be inviting and welcoming those who perhaps have not been near a religious observance for some time but we also have the responsibility not to drive people away with an "official" or repetitious tone.

We need to make use of our welcoming manner to reach people who would otherwise not be touched.

It is helpful to remind folks that it is at times like these, when we unpredictably find ourselves in a baptism, or wedding – that perhaps it is that we are there by the urging of the Holy Spirit; that we are there to offer condolences, love, or congratulations, out of the wonderful drive that is instilled in all of us - to show love and concern for one another.

Building on this thought I try to encourage people that this is a good time for us all to take stock of our relationship with God and those around us.

Not surprisingly, whether we use a diverse approach to the prayers of the liturgy or a straight "A" approach we will find that the beauty of the words that the Church provides for us strike a special place in hearers hearts – which is why we need to deliver the words with the same vitality that we present a homily – with intensity, sincerity and animation.

We are many times surprised when folk tell us that the service was "moving" or "very special", but we shouldn't be because of the difference of perspective, the impact can be quite poignant.

At the end of a wake, after “Go in the peace of Christ,” I try to remember to thank everyone for their caring attention to the vigil service for their loving participation. I think this helps to return everyone to the “visiting” environment in a soft and gentle manner, as opposed to an abrupt end.

Do we truly reach people who need to be reached at these teachable times – I don’t know – I’d like to think we do – one thing for sure - if we don’t try we will never reach anyone.

### *Did You Know*

#### **DEACON & WIVES NECROLOGY**

For a complete listing of all deceased Deacons and Wives in the Archdiocese of Newark go to: [www.sjanj.net/rcan\\_deacon](http://www.sjanj.net/rcan_deacon) and select “Deacon & Wives Memorial Page”

A special thanks to Mary Stark who has been meticulous in researching and helping to keep the listing accurate and current.

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 We have all observed families struggling when dealing with and suffering through the loss of a loved one. Living through the day’s events let alone preparing for a funeral and the various liturgy details of readings and hymns is barely attainable.

This too includes our families and in consideration of their trials at our own entrance into eternal life, it is up to us to have preparations at hand. Having the funeral preparations available for them will go a long way in lessening at least some of the suffering accompanied with this difficult episode in their lives. The level of detail we put together can simply be having a copy of the “Deacon’s Funeral Procedures” easily available with the diaconate’s office phone number to specifics about casket, vesture, readings, hymn, homilist, etc.

Here are our suggestions (found at <http://www.rcan.org/images/deacons/funeral.pdf>)

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

Note: All of these procedures are optional. None are canonically required for a Christian Burial of a Permanent Deacon. The family should review these and choose those which are consistent with their own wishes, as well as 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, if not please post or e-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, e-mail and the mail will be used to get the word out quickly, especially when viewing is only one day.
4. Procedures for Wake:
  - a. The prayer card should contain the date of diaconate ordination prominently displayed along with date of birth/death and other vital statistics.
  - b. 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.
  - c. Viewing in church is recommended for at least one evening.
5. Procedures for Mass:
  - a. Symbols: gospel book on casket. A crucifix and a stole may also be used
  - b. 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.

- c. An evening mass is preferred to make it easy for attendance.
- d. 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.

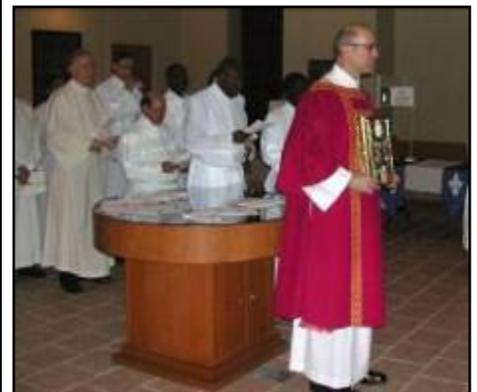
Note: Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark have special allowances for Deacons and their qualified family members for: crypts, plots, and entombment/interment call: Ellen Heath 973-497-7978

### *Very Important*

If you change your e-mail address mails, send your new e-mail address to [edcampy@comcast.net](mailto:edcampy@comcast.net).

### *Acolyte Installation*

*By Deacon Herb Gimbel*



Thirty-five men of the current diaconate class of 2011 were



installed as Acolytes of the Church on March 1, 2010. Bishop John W.



Flesey presided at a Mass at the Church of the Annunciation in Paramus. These men will journey on spiritually toward ordination in 2011 under the direction of Reverend James V. Teti, the Director of Deacon Formation.

The new Acolytes will be vested now with an alb and cincture giving them more visibility to the congregations in their parishes. Some of their duties will now include assisting the priest and deacon at the mass, setting the altar, distributing Holy Communion and purifying vessels. They may be assigned other functions as directed by the priest such as exposing and reposing the holy Eucharist for the adoration of the faithful.

From the very beginning of the Mass to the closing prayer, one could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit and the spirituality coming forth from these men. We pray that the Lord

will continue to bless them in their walk to the Diaconate



**Bishop Flesey & Fr. Teti with the newly installed Acolytes, Diaconate Class of 2011 at Annunciation in Paramus**