



Summer 2015 Issue

Permanent Deacon Assigned as Tribunal Judge

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In Memorial of
Our Departed in 2012-4

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Raymond A. Shea Ernesto Abad
Thomas Gilheaney Thomas J. Barrett
Thomas J. Bulgia

A complete list of all deceased deacons and deceased
spouses is listed on this newsletter's website under
http://www.sjanj.net/rcan_deacon/necrology.pdf



Archbishop John J
Myers recently
assigned Deacon
James P. Tobin as a
judge on the
Metropolitan
Tribunal. It is the
first time that a
permanent deacon
has been made a
judge in the

Archdiocese of Newark. Deacon Tobin
will hear annulment cases and report to the
Judicial Vicar, Father Robert McBride
JCL. Deacon Tobin has already handled
four cases and they have all been ratified in
second instance courts, the automatic
appeal process for all annulment cases. In
the future Deacon Tobin will review cases
in conjunction with other judges as a
second instance judge himself. Deacon
Tobin has worked at the Tribunal for
approximately six years. Most of the time
was spent as a procurator/advocate.
Eventually, he became an auditor and an
instructor. Auditors may take sworn
testimony from petitioners and witnesses
when assigned by a judge. The judge can
then use that testimony in lieu of taking it
himself. An instructor is a person who
helps guide other Tribunal workers, usually
procurator/advocates, compile their cases.
It is like being a supervisor and a mentor.

During his time at the Tribunal Deacon
Tobin attended the Tribunal Institute
School on Annulments at Catholic
University in Washington D.C. This is a
two week resident course taught by some
of the top Canon Lawyers in the country.

“When I came home from the school at
CUA I was assigned to give a class to our
tribunal on what I learned, especially on
different grounds that were not often used.
This was a little intimidating as I was
addressing not only the
Procurator/Advocates but our own judges,
many of whom are veteran canon lawyers.”

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Office of the Permanent Diaconate

DeaconNews

Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey



Director's Column Deacon John McKenna

With the summer winding down and the parishes coming back to life, I hope you all had an opportunity to get away and relax. We have a busy year coming up with the Ordinations of the Deacon Candidates this spring. We are planning to roll out another Mentoring Program for the Newly Ordained, so I ask you to please consider volunteering for this important task when the time comes. An orientation for first time mentors will be provided by the Office of Deacon Personnel in conjunction with the Deacon Council.

I want to thank Deacon Ken DiPaola for setting up a second retreat for deacons this spring 2016. The retreat will take place at **Linwood Spiritual Center, Rhinebeck, NY** by **Father Mariusz Koch**. Please keep in mind the retreat scheduled this fall at **St. Alfonso Retreat House on October 23-25, 2015**. **Father Ashley Harrington** will be the moderator.

We have some very timely topics for continuing education this fall. We will have two sessions on "hot-button" issues. The first will be **October 15, 2015, End of Life Issues** and the second will be **November 12, 2015, The Common Good & Family as the Basic Building Block of a Healthy**

Society. Thanks to Andy Saunders for all of the hard work and dedication he brings to providing us with a top quality program! For those of you who do not know, Andy is our new Regional III representative to the National Association of Deacon Directors.

Our summer edition of Deacon News features Deacon Jim Tobin, newly appointed Judge in the Tribunal. More Deacons are volunteering their time and talent to the departments that make up the Chancery. Most recently, Deacon Jim Detura was appointed by Archbishop Myers as Director of Family Life Ministries. He and his wife, Patricia, will represent the Archdiocese at the World Meeting of Families later this month in Philadelphia.

Please pray for Jim Detura, Jim Tobin and Andy Saunders as they embark on their new ministries and responsibilities. Also, please keep the men in formation and their families in your prayers along with our brother deacons who died this summer, Tom Barrett and Tom Bulgia.

Permanent Deacon assigned as Tribunal Judge

(Continued from page 1)

Eventually Deacon Tobin's presentation morphed into part of the basic training given to all new procurator/advocates.

Deacon Tobin said, "I spent twenty-six years in Law Enforcement and retired as a Captain of Investigators of the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office. Nine of those years were spent in the Homicide Squad. I believe my investigative and legal background has made me well suited for the Tribunal which after all is the court of the church. That is not to say that you need such a background but in my case it has helped me."

When asked how he felt about being the first Deacon Judge, Deacon Tobin replied, "I like the work very much and I approach it very seriously. I am glad that I have broken the ice for the diaconate community. I hope it will encourage other deacons to consider working here. The only requirement is that the deacon commit to working one day per week at the tribunal. This usually limits it to deacons who are retired from their secular jobs, but it is worth considering. The deacon needs knowledge that he will get in training. He needs good reasoning powers and a good dose of compassion for the people involved. The tribunal needs procurator/advocates. I hope some deacons will step up. It's a great way to serve God's people."

Deacon Tobin was ordained in 2002 by Archbishop John J Myers. Deacon Tobin is a Vietnam veteran. He and his wife, Elizabeth run the Baptism Ministry at St. Mary's Closter. He has three grown children, Thomas, Joseph and Kathryn. Deacon Tobin has three grandsons, Michael, James and Dennis. He smiles when he talks about them and is very happy to tell you that he baptized all three of them.

Class of 2016 Candidacy

The men in formation will be enrolled as Candidates for the Permanent Diaconate on Monday, October 12, 2015 at Holy Spirit Church, Union at 7:30 p.m. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they enter their last year leading to Ordination.

Diaconate 50th Anniversary

The Congress heralding the 50th anniversary of the Permanent Diaconate in the United States will take place July 22-26, 2018 in New Orleans. The theme for the congress is: "Christ the Servant: Yesterday, Today, Forever." More

information will follow as it becomes available.

Deacons and Wives Continuing Education

7:30 to 9pm at Archdiocesan Center

Thursday, October 15, 2015 End of Life Issues Euthanasia, Death Penalty Heaven & Happiness, Authentic Freedom Thursday, November 12, 2015 Gay Marriage The Common Good & Family as the Basic Building Block of a Health Society Please RSVP: hongfran@rcan.org or call 973-497-4135.

October Deacons Weekend Retreat

October 23 through October 25, 2015 Deacons Retreat to be held at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, NJ. Rev. Ashley Harrington O. Carm will facilitate the retreat. Cost is \$100 (\$75 if early). Make checks to Archdiocese of Newark and mailed to Deacon John McKenna by October 15 or call Deacon Ken DiPaola 908-665-1345 to register.

Class of 2005 10th Anniversary Celebration



By Deacon Michael York— Contributing Editor
The Class of 2005 celebrated their 10th Anniversary of Ordination on June 11th. The milestone was recognized at a Mass of Thanksgiving on June 14th with the Most Rev. Bernard Hebda as the presiding celebrant at Holy Spirit Church in

Union. Rev. Armand Mantia, Pastor of Holy Spirit concelebrated and was a most gracious host to the deacons and deacon wives in attendance.

Archbishop Hebda in his homily spoke of Pope Francis' direction to seek out and bring Jesus Christ to the poor in our midst – and how the deacon plays an integral role in this mission. As I listened to Archbishop Hebda, I couldn't but help remember the words of Archbishop John J. Myers at our Mass of Ordination, ten years ago : "Serve the people of God as you find them." These words have guided my diaconate journey, and I am sure for my classmate brother deacons as well.

The celebration continued after Mass with a delicious dinner. I can't describe the joy in seeing so many of my classmates and deacon wives again! We exchanged our journeys in diaconal ministry, wondering how ten years went by so fast!

Deacon Thomas J. Barrett

Mayor Brian P. Stack
& Board of Commissioners
and Saints Joseph & Michael Church
cordially invite you to the



*Memorial Mass for
Deacon Thomas J. Barrett
&
Dedication of
"Deacon Thomas J. Barrett Way"*

Friday, August 14, 2015
7:00 PM

*Saints Joseph & Michael Church
1314 Central Avenue
Union City, NJ*

Ordained deacon and beloved leader at Sts. Joseph and Michael Parish in Union City, 50-year Veronica's Veil member Deacon Thomas J. Barrett, 93, of Union City, N.J., passed away on Saturday, June 27, 2015. He was born in Jersey City, N.J., and lived in the area his whole life. The Mass of

Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, July 3, at 10:30 a.m. at Sts. Joseph and Michael R.C. Church, Union City. The visitation will also be in Sts. Joseph and Michael Church on Thursday, July 2, 2015, from 1 to 9 p.m. Deacon Barrett was a retired plant manager for A.S.P. Alloy Stainless Products of Totowa, N.J. Tom's service to his church and community was legendary. He was an ordained deacon of the Archdiocese of Newark, serving Sts. Joseph and Michael parish for over 30 years. He was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars McNamara Post, Jersey City, N.J., and a life member of the Knights of Columbus Carroll Council No. 1378 and the St. Joseph Catholic Club. He was also past president of the St. Joseph Holy Name Society and chairman of the St. Joseph Social Concerns Committee, as well as serving as director of Sts. Joseph and Michael Food Pantry and Bargain Basement. For over 50 years, he was a member of the Veronica's Veil Guild of St. Joseph Parish, in which he portrayed "Christus" for 29 years. Tom is survived by his loving wife, Margaret "Peggy" (nee Henehan), and many cousins. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the parish of Sts. Joseph and Michael. The interment will be at Holy Name Cemetery, Jersey City. Published in Star-Ledger on July 1, 2015.

Deacon Thomas J. Bulgia

Deacon Thomas J. Bulgia East Orange police officer, Marine in Vietnam and ordained deacon in Newark Archdiocese Deacon Thomas J.



Bulgia, 70, of East Orange, N.J., passed away on Sunday, Aug. 9, 2015, at

Mountainside Hospital in Glen

Ridge, N.J. Relatives and friends are invited to attend the Funeral Mass at St. Andrew Kim Church, 280 Parker

Ave., Maplewood, N.J., on Friday at 10 a.m. Entombment is in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in East Hanover, N.J. Visitation will be on Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at St. Andrew Kim Church. Please express condolences at www.oboylefuneralhome.com. Born in Orange, N.J., Thomas had lived in East Orange for the past 48 years. He was a graduate of Our Lady of the Valley High School in Orange, N.J., and a Marine Corps veteran of the Vietnam War before becoming an East Orange police officer. Thomas was ordained a deacon by the Archdiocese of Newark on June 5, 1999, before serving at Holy Name Church in East Orange for five years and past 11 years at St. Andrew Kim Church in Maplewood. He was also the police chaplain for the Glen Ridge Police Department. Thomas was a member of the Friendly Sons of the Shillelagh, West Orange, N.J., chapter, the Army National Guard, Glen Ridge Volunteer Ambulance Squad, and the Marine Corps League. Thomas was the husband of Mary Ann (Fillion) Bulgia for 48 years; father of Michael and his wife, Sandy; Thomas and his wife, Luz; Kevin and his wife, Mary and Steven; grandfather of Carly, Michael, Illyanna, Violet, Thomas, Nathan and Kiera. For those who wish, in lieu of flowers, donations to St. Andrew Kim Church, 280 Parker Ave., Maplewood; the Glen Ridge Ambulance Squad, 3 Herman St., Glen Ridge, or the St. Lawrence Fund through the Archdiocese of Newark would be appreciated. Published in Star-Ledger on August 12, 2015

Did You Know?

The "St Lawrence Deacon's Fund" is a donation supported fund instituted to assist Deacons who are seriously challenged financially.

Please Note

If you are in need of a new ID card please call Deacon John McKenna 973-497-4125

Deacons Wives & Widows Memorial



On July 2, 2015 our Peggy O'Neill entered eternal rest. Please keep her husband Deacon Dan O'Neill and family in your prayers. Peggy was instrumental, with Mary Stark, coordinating events for deacons wives and widows.

On August 5, 2015 Edna (Angela) Stanecki, widow of Deacon Walter J. Stanecki (ordained 12/14/75, deceased 5/20/04), entered eternal rest. Edna was very supportive of the Diaconate's formation program in concert with Deacon Walter.

On August 24, 2015 Marguerite (Peggy) Ross, widow of Deacon George Ross (ordained 6/4/88, deceased 4/27/05), entered eternal rest. Peg was active participant in the wives retreats and very active in the Center for Hope Hospice in Scotch Plains NJ and in Bereavement Support at St John the Apostle in Clark/Linden.

On August 27, 2015 Susan Kleber, devoted wife of the late Deacon Martin J Kleber (deceased 6/25/1986), entered eternal life.

Region 3 Assembly of Deacons

December 5-6 2014

By Deacon Herb Gimbel – Contributing Editor

Despite the cloudy and rainy day it was an easy ride to the Best Western Eden Hotel in Lancaster, PA where the Deacons Region III Assembly conference was held. The theme was "Holy Orders, Family and the New

Evangelization". The Keynote speaker was the Most Reverend Ronald W. Gainer, D.D. J.C.L

There were two other speakers who also kept the theme in perspective. They were, Carmina Chapp, Ph.D. and Deacon Bill Urbine, D.Min. LMFT.

The Region III Assembly is a bi-annual meeting of deacons, candidates and wives from dioceses of New Jersey and Pennsylvania under the auspices of the National Association of Diaconate Directors. As in past years, Deacon Sill was present with a wide selection of vestments, liturgy aids, religious books and other items for sale.

The conference got underway at 3:00 pm on Friday with registration. The exhibit area was open with many religious items on display for purchase.

The reception started at 6:00 pm with hospitality and refreshments. It was good to get acquainted with one another and renew old friendships. There were about 75 attendees at the conference which included seven from the Archdiocese of Newark: Deacon Herb Gimbel, Deacon & Mrs. Willy Malarcher, Deacon & Mrs. Jim Mueller, Deacon & Mrs. Andrew Saunders.

The Welcome and Dinner, was at 7:00 pm, I had the honor of sitting with Bishop Gainer and with Rev. Paul CB Schenck, MA, EdD, who came through the Episcopal Ordinate and became a married Catholic Priest with eight children. He also like me was born to Jewish parents. All in all it was a great dinner and great conversation around the table.

After dinner, his Excellency Bishop Gainer gave the Key note address, He started out by saying that he wants to continue classes for permanent deacons in his diocese of Harrisburg. Bishop Gainer spoke about the beginnings of the restoration of the Permanent Diaconate from Vatican II and how the debates finally led to an inclusion of Holy Orders, and an

answer to the complex issue of married clerics. For the Permanent Deacon, there is a call to holiness and a catholic family life. In this universal call to holiness, there must be trust in the Lord.

Bishop Gainer went on to say that there are four marks of the church; (1) we are united in one faith through Christ on the cross which unites us all. (2) We can only be holy through Christ, God is God and we are not. (3) Catholic meaning universal for which all humans have access to the faith. (4) Being apostolic, meaning going out into the world to share the good news. Bishop Gainer was very eloquent in explaining that the family household is the domestic church. The parents have the responsibility to teach their children the faith. The parents are the first teachers and set forth an example for their children to pray, go to church and to be educated well in the moral teachings of the catholic faith.

Our next speaker was Carmina Chapp, Ph.D. She is currently Associate Director, theology Programs at St Joseph's College Online, and is developing on-line formation programs for permanent deacons. She spoke about how Christ is our hope and is the answer that leads to holiness. Prayer, along with teaching our children how to pray, leads us to God so that we may be deserving of his grace.

Our day concluded with Deacon William F. Urbine D. Min. LMFT, from the Diocese of Allentown, PA. His theme was Love becomes Service. Deacon Urbine spoke about the integration of matrimony and holy orders in the ministry and life of the married permanent deacon. He also spoke about how the families of married deacons, as with all Christian families, are called to participate actively and responsibly in the church's mission in the contemporary world.

The time spent in Lancaster PA at the Region III meeting of deacons and

wives was very useful and supportive of what we as deacons of the earth do for God, for the church community, for each other and especially for Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. (Mt. 5:1-11)

Wakes and Committals

By Deacon Herb Gimbel – Contributing Editor

As clerics we must speak for the sick, the suffering and the dying. We must offer pastoral care to not only our parishioners but to everyone we encounter.

I am sure most of us in our duty as deacons have received a phone call from the church secretary or the pastor to do a wake or a committal.

As we know, death and dying are not easy subjects to deal with. I think it is necessary to discuss this subject because it is an important part of our ministry.

We clergy are sought after for words of comfort and grace. That doesn't mean words of wisdom or cliché. I think we should avoid phrases like "Oh he is in a better place now".

It is better to be silent and present rather than overbearing in our attempt to be comforting.

For some of us, presiding at a wake or being at the cemetery can be a cold experience. It can be a little disheartening especially when we do not know the deceased or the family. In rote way we say the prayers from the book for funerals and step aside, out of the way.

When we do know the person and family we have to be pious and stoic. When the deceased is a child it is especially hard to keep our emotions in check.

The coldness I speak about comes when we may have a desire to comfort someone, even hug them. We cannot always do that because it can sometimes be awkward.

What I think can be more comforting is the ministry of presence. Use kind

words when spoken to. Most families are grateful for your presence but some can be cold themselves. Can you make it quick? One family member asked me once!

When death touches a family we as ministers of the Church should have the ability to maintain dignity for all concerned.

Resource Review

If you have resources that you use and feel would be beneficial for the community to be aware of, please let us know so we can highlight them in this new column of the DeacoNews.

Send submissions for this column to edcampy@comcast.net

Divorce and Separation Support - For those overwhelmed by the pain of grief and loss through separation or divorce and for those in this support ministry see this Christ-centered website. It is designed to assist with the journey that those grieving a loss through separation or divorce travel through. "There is truly light at the end of the dark tunnel" see: <http://www.catholicsdivorce.com/>

Bereavement Ministry Training

The Office of Family Life Ministries will offer the **Fall 2015** session of its **Bereavement Ministry Training Course**. This eight-week program is designed for those who wish to become facilitators for parish bereavement support groups, expand an existing bereavement ministry, or simply begin one.

Sessions are offered on Saturday mornings at the Archdiocesan Center. Classes will begin in late September. For more information or to register, please contact Janet McCormack, Associate Director, Family Life Ministries, at 973-497-4327 or at mccormja@rcan.org