At 12 Noon on Sunday October 7, 2018 Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Cs.R. D.D., Archbishop of Newark, celebrated Holy Mass at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Newark, N.J. in the presence of the catholic laity, deacons and their wives, pastors, priests, brothers & sisters in consecrated life, and guests. Deacons Michael York was the Deacon of the Mass. Deacons Walter Wiggins and James Detura assisted. Ministers of the Precious Blood were: Deacons Dave Farrell, Steve Lipski and Andy Golden. The Lectors were: Maureen Srinivasa and Margaret O’Hara. Gift Bearers were: Mrs. Farrell, Mrs. Lipski, Mrs. Patricia Wiggins, Mrs. Imma Anyanwu, Mrs. Fannie Loughran and Mrs. Laurie Kanapky. A reception followed in the Archdiocesan Center.

A complete list of all deceased deacons and deceased spouses is listed on this newsletter’s website under https://www.rcan.org/sites/default/files/files/necrology.pdf
Rev. Edward Swierzbinski followed Msgr. McGuinness for about a year as director of the formation program. In 1979 the Program was under the supervision of Msgr. Edward J. Ciuba, Rector of Immaculate Conception Seminary and Secretary for Ministerial Formation (now at Presentation Church, Upper Saddle River).

I was appointed director of the formation program (then called the Permanent Diaconate Preparation Program) in December 1979, and was in that position until June, 1990. In 1982 I also became director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, taking over from Fr. Mader in guiding the services for deacons after their ordination. At some point in Fr. Mader’s tenure, the Deacon Council was established. The relationship between the Council and my responsibilities as director of the Office were not clearly defined, but we made it work.

In addition to Deacons Kiley and Stanecki, I was assisted by Deacons Robert Thomann, Gustave Grieder, Daniel Ravelo, John Culliane and Walter Kraus as Associate Directors of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate and by Father Harvey Ballance (now retired, living in Upper Montclair) who was Associate Director for the Hispanic Formation Program. Later, Deacon Joseph Marcom also assisted and Deacon Asterio Valesco. The wives of the Associate Directors also met regularly with us during those years.

In 1990, Deacon Michael Matthews succeeded me as director and Deacon Robert Thomann assisted with the Formation Program and Deacons Kiley and Stanecki remained involved. Also, at the time of Deacon Matthews’s appointment Archbishop McCarrick then named Msgr. Thomas O’Leary as Vicar for Deacons; I believe that, for a time, Msgr. Robert Harahan (now Headmaster of Seton Hall Prep) followed him in that position.
Deacon Spotlight
Andrew Golden

Deacon Andy has lived in River Edge NJ all of his life. He lives with his wife Joni and two daughters Andrea and Ally. He was a property tax consultant and real estate appraiser but is currently retired. He is a member of St. Peter’s parish since baptism.

Andy always worked in some kind of service or dianoia. For many years he was a councilman, tax assessor and served on several boards and commissions for his town. He was away from the church for several years but the call to “come home” and to church ministry was heard after his public service.

Andy has served St. Peter’s parish as a catechist, liturgical minister and other roles before hear “heard” the call to ordained ministry.

Andy was ordained on June 11, 2005 and was assigned to his home parish, St. Peter the Apostle by Archbishop Myers.

Deacon Andy leads the parish pre-Cana ministry, parish mission ministry and the New Evangelization Ministry. He was also the Spiritual Director of Cornerstone and co-director with the former pastor.

http://sjanj.net/rcan_deacon

It is the evangelization work which takes up most of his time in his parish. Andy’s ministries are centered on the purpose of Catholic Evangelization which is to bring the “Good News of Jesus into every human situation and seeking to convert individuals and society by the divine power of the Gospel itself.” This objective is found in “Go and Make Disciples:: A National Plan and Strategy for Catholic Evangelization in the United States” published by the USCCB.

As such, Andy and his committees led the parish celebration of Jubilee 2000 and the Jubilee of Mercy as major opportunities to evangelize each other, the parishioners and neighboring communities. Groups of parishioners were invited to specific parish celebrations and celebrated the jubilee themes centered on Jesus Christ at Mass. Members of our Evangelization team also visit the homes of new parishioners bringing them welcome bags with information about parish life.

Andy was also elected to the Deacon Council representing Bergen County and recently became the coordinator of Deacon Retreats.

The Medical Mission to Peru
by Deacon Vincent DeFedele

As a Pharmacist, I was asked to go on “The Medical Mission to Peru”, through the Peruvian American Medical Society.

It was a wonderful success! This is the third time I had the privilege of going and helping to bring and serve the people of Abancay, Peru with medical care they so desperately needed.

The mission team, from America, consisted of doctors, surgeons, a pharmacists (me), nurses, physical therapists, translators, a photographer and volunteers. We also had a few doctors from Lima who worked with us as well. The people of Abancay as amazing, they are so welcoming and appreciative of anything you do for them. The food is also wonderful!

The medical team performed many surgeries as well as seeing patients in our clinics. I organized and provided all of the medications to the operating rooms and also dispensed to patients.

The atmosphere was truly beautiful and sacred. Most of us were strangers when we met and by the time we left, we were one big family. Thank you for letting me share this with all of you.

My time with the people of Peru means the world to me.

To learn more about The Medical Mission to Peru see Facebook search for “PAMS/Jorge Arevalo, Iquitos Medical Mission”

County Meetings

UNION On September 20th, deacons serving in Union County parishes gathered with Deacon Mike York at the Church of the Assumption in Roselle Park. The deacons have been meeting each quarter, one week following the Deacon Council meeting. The meeting opened with evening prayer, followed by a discussion on the upcoming 50th Diaconate Anniversary Mass on October 7th. We then went through the topics that the Deacon Council discussed. There was an opportunity to learn more about what each deacon is doing at their parish and the “goings on” in each of our ministries, parishes and lives. Our next meeting will take place on November 15th at 7 PM at the Church of the Assumption in Roselle Park.
Deacon Keith McKnight

Keith McKnight of Jersey City entered eternal life September 10, 2018 at the age of 72. Keith was born March 28, 1946 in Kingstree, South Carolina to the late Laurie and Margaret McKnight. Keith moved to Jersey City at the age of six and attended P.S. #14 and Lincoln High School where he achieved many academic and athletic scholarships. Keith was awarded a Basketball scholarship to LSU and a Football scholarship to Holy Cross. Unfortunately, world events carried him to Southwest Asia to the Vietnam War.

Before Keith departed to serve his country, he met and married the love of his life, the late Rita McKnight (nee Townsend). From their loving union one child was born whom they named Kevin. Upon his return from service, Keith became employed by Western Electric (now AT&T), pursued an undergraduate degree from Jersey City State College (NJCU) and climbed up the corporate ladder; retiring as an executive with AT&T.

After retirement Keith was called to the cloth and completed his requirements in Formation and on June 6, 1999 he was ordained a Permanent Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church.

Deacon Keith and his late wife Rita traveled the world evangelizing and worked tirelessly in the religious community for years. Keith is survived by his son Kevin McKnight (Cheryl), three grandchildren, Kaitlyn, Kayla and Christopher; loving in-laws, nieces, nephews other loving relatives and dear friends. A Funeral Mass was celebrated at Christ the King Catholic Church, 768 Ocean Avenue, Jersey City. Funeral Mass, Saturday at 10:00AM in the church.

Deacons Wives & Widows Memorial

Mark your Calendars! The annual Diaconate Wives Day of Renewal is scheduled for Saturday, October 27, at the House of Prayer in Watchung. All deacons wives and widows (Archdiocese of Newark) will be receiving the letter and registration information early in September. Pre-registration is required and we have a limit of 25 women.

Our Memorial Mass will be celebrated in the Spring of 2019.

Resource Review

“Understanding the Diaconate” Historical, Theological and Sociological Foundations by W. Shean McKnight, Catholic University of America Press ISBN978-08132-3035-1

Pope Francis wrote two new books for deacons: “Serving with Joy: lessons from Pope Francis for deacons today” (available as a Kindle book for $4.99) and “Pope Francis Deacons, Servants of Charity.” Written through the eyes of a deacon. Available after August 17, 2018 from USCCB for $19.95. (code 7-583)

Grief Awareness & Counseling: A very helpful site for those grieving and those supporting the grieving, particularly in immediate loss: www.refugeingrief.com

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

2018 50th Anniversary Celebration in the Archdiocesan Center