An organizational meeting was held on January 30th to inform pastors, deacons and men interested that a new class of candidates to study for the permanent diaconate in the Archdiocese of Newark will begin the discernment year now, which will lead to the formation of a new class by January, 2021.

An overview of the program was provided by Fr. James V. Teti, Director of Selection and Formation, Deacon Andrew E. Saunders, Director of the Center for Diaconal Formation at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology and Deacon John McKenna, Director of Deacon Personnel. Candidates must be accepted by both the Archdiocese and the Immaculate Conception Seminary. Classes will be available in both English and Spanish at the Seminary. 2020 is the preparatory year and 2021 through 2024 will be the years of study and formation. An excellent overview and timeline of key milestones for the discernment and formation years were provided.

Men interested in the permanent diaconate need to complete, as soon as possible, an application and provide a letter of recommendation form their pastor. Both documents are available to pastors in the First Class manuals folder.

Men interested also must email Fr. Teti, james@annunciationchurch.org to advise him of their interest.
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Working in conjunction with your pastor, please invite interested men to the discernment (propaedeutic) year. Please contact Fr. Teti, Deacon McKenna, Deacon Saunders or Deacon York for any questions or further information.

We pray that the Holy Spirit will enable men to respond to the call to serve the people of God in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Deacon Spotlight
Michael Missaggia

Ordained on June 11, 2005 by Archbishop John Joseph Myers with 35 other men, Michael serves at St. Vincent de Paul church in Bayonne.

Born in Jersey City, N.J. Michael attended Marist High School and the University of Iowa. In 1973, Michael got a job at American Express in New York City.

At that time he was very much involved in the charismatic renewal and met John Coffee at American Express. John, was a permanent deacon in the Brooklyn, NY diocese. Michael would often talk with John about his work as a deacon and what it entailed.

Michael met his future wife, Joanne, at a prayer meeting our Our Lady Star of the Sea catholic church in Bayone.

They married and became parishioners at Joanne’s parish St. Vincent de Paul in Bayonne. Michael and Joanne have one daughter Michelle and three grandchildren.

At that time, St. Vincents had Fr. Peter Galdon as pastor and a permanent deacon, Ralph Savo.

Fr. Peter often encouraged Michael to think about becoming a permanent deacon. Michael would often talk to Deacon Ralph about what a deacon does and how it affects one’s life. He applied to become a deacon and formation started on Sept. 10, 2001 with a mass. One day, before September 11, 2001, and he met vocations director, Rev. Thomas Nydegger, who said the mass.

Michael has also been a member of a local Toastmasters club and this activity has helped Michael as a public speaker. Since ordination Michael has entered retirement. He became involved in ecumenical activities and hospital ministry in Bayonne as well as jail ministry in Union County in Elizabeth.

Deacon Michael now works in prison ministry with Deacon Michael DeRoberts who has helped him a lot in this ministry.

Michael serves with his pastor Fr. Sergio Nadres and Rev. Hermes Diaz, associate pastor at St. Vincent de Paul.

With his wife Joanne Deacon Michael looks forward to many more years serving as a deacon in the Archdiocese of Newark.

Deacon Wilfrid Leconte

Deacon Wilfrid Leconte entered eternal life on Monday, November 25, 2019. Deacon Wilfrid was ordained on December 17, 1978. Deacon Wilfrid’s funeral mass was on December 6, 2019 at St. Leo’s Church in Irvington.

Deacon John Inguaggiato

Deacon John Inguaggiato entered eternal life on January 31, 2020. He was ordained in 1995 and served at Our Lady of Sorrows in South Orange. The wake was held at Our Lady of Sorrows Church on February 4, 2020, 2-4pm & 7-9pm.

The Funeral Mass was also at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 217 Prospect St., South Orange, N.J., on Wednesday, Feb 5 at 10:30 a.m. Interment was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, East Hanover, N.J. In lieu of flowers, donations to Our Lady of Sorrows Church Food Pantry would be appreciated. For more information or to send condolences, please visit jacobhollefuneralhome.com.

John was born in Newark, N.J., and lived in Maplewood for the past 72 years. He received his BA degree in education from Seton Hall University and his master's degree in education from Kean University. John was a teacher for the Montville, N.J., school system for close to 40 years. First he was a third grade teacher and then for his last 20 years as a librarian for both Hillsdale and Mountain View schools.

Deacon John served as permanent deacon for just under 25 years at Our Lady of Sorrows Church. He was predeceased by his parents, Mario and Mary (Miserendino) Inguaggiato. John is survived by his brother, Robert Inguaggiato.

Deacons Wives & Widows Memorial

The annual Memorial Mass for deceased deacons and deacons’ wives will be celebrated on Saturday, April 25, at 11:00 am in the Archdiocesan Center Chapel.

http://sjanj.net/rcan_deacon