



Winter 2022 Issue

Retreats Expanded This Year

Council of Deacons Executive Committee

Director of Selection & Formation

Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Chapel

Director of Deacon Personnel

John J. McKenna,

President Michael York

Vice-President Walter Wiggins

Associate Directors

Deacons Joseph Yandoli & James Tobin

Education: Deacon Andrew Saunders

Retreats: Deacon Andy Golden

Essex Emy Anyanwu

Walter Wiggins

Bergen Andy Golden

Andy Zucaro

Hudson Steve Lipski

Michael Missaggia

Union Michael York

David Farrell

Hispanic Community

Jorge Montalvo

Pedro Herrera

Publicity, DeacoNews Editor

Deacon Ed Campanella OFS, Ret

In Memorial of Our 2018-22 Departed

Edward McFadden

Jose Rodriguez

Frank McQuade

Richard Searls

Keith McKnight

Daniel Ravelo

Robert C. Millea

James Stumbar

John Baltus

Nicholas Fargo

John Inguaggiato

Albert Tizano

Michael Cechony

Charles L. Boucher II

Frank Andrew Gisoldi

Julio Roig

Clodualdo Leonida

Joseph Francione

Robert Puglisi

Pasquale Vuolo

Ramon Villeda

Richard G. Hodges

Willie Malarcher

Anthony Scalzo

Louis Acocella

Wilifrid Leconte

Modesto Reyes

Daniel O'Neil

Michael Lydon

Joseph Vrindten

Vincent Accardi

Paul Kliagua

Stanley Fedison

Mary Stark

Erma Ventola

Barbara Pluta

Isabelle Romano

Kathy Pontillo

Carmen Macaluso

Elise Huff

Judith Joyce

Joyce Bowen

Diane Aponte

Dorothy McFadden

Doreen McGarry

Joan Lydon

Rosary Gilhean

Judith Ann Somma

Deacon Andy Golden Reports that the Council of Deacons has decided to offer two separate retreat opportunities for 2022 at San Alfonso's Retreat House in Long Branch, NJ.

The retreat dates are:

- June 10th through June 12th, 2022.
- October 21st through October 23, 2022

Space is limited so it is a "first sign-up, first registered" routine.

There is a new registration form for the RCAN deacons, see last page of this newsletter. All that is required is for the deacons to fill out the form and mail it with a \$100.00 check to :

San Alfonso Retreat House
755 Ocean Avenue
Long Branch, NJ 07740

The Archdiocese of Newark will pay the balance of the retreat stipend. However only one retreat opportunity per year per deacon will be paid for.

Deacons from other dioceses around New Jersey and other states will be at the June retreat.

If you have any questions please contact Deacon Andrew Golden at Agolden@saint-peter.org

Office of the Permanent Diaconate

DeacoNews

Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey

Spotlite Deacon Paul Zeller



Deacon Paul Zeller grew up an active parishioner of St. Pius X, where he received his Sacraments of Initiation. As an altar boy, he met the late

Deacon Dick Hodges and first learned about the Diaconate. Deacon Dick was a gentle man, who helped Paul grow in faith. After one particular encounter with Deacon Dick, Paul remembers saying, “I know I want to get married and have a family, but I could be a Deacon like Deacon Dick one day.”

After Confirmation, Paul briefly stepped away from the Church, and to this day will tell you those were the darkest times of his life.

That all changed when he met Chrissy. Soon after they started dating, he began attending Immaculate Conception in Norwood with her and was introduced to Deacon James (Jim) Pulliate. When they decided to get married, they approached Deacon Jim to officiate, and after their first meeting, Paul said to Chrissy, “I think I may be a Deacon one day.”

Deacon Jim married them in 1998 and they settled in Westwood. Paul worked in NYC, in the Information Technology field, as he and Chrissy started their family. Chrissy left her career in technical writing to raise their sons Zach and Jason.

Fast forward to 2012, and the Zeller family were parishioners at St. Andrew’s in Westwood. One day after Mass, Deacon Robert (Bob) Pontillo approached Paul and asked him, “Have you ever considered becoming a Deacon?” Paul answered, “Most of my life, but I never knew what to do about it.” It was then that Deacon Bob took

Paul under his wing, and led him to the formation program.

Deacon Paul was ordained July 11, 2020. Because of the pandemic, ministry looked nothing like what he expected, but under the guidance of Deacon Bob, his good friend Deacon Andy Zucaro, and Monsignor Joseph Chapel his Pastor, he is finding his stride. Deacon Paul feels called to help with formation, bringing people closer to God however he can. He currently helps lead the Liturgy ministry, assists with RCIA, leads adult formation sessions for the parish’s Family Based Religious Education program, and assists Monsignor Chapel with formation of the current Deacon class. Deacon Paul starts every morning with the following prayer, “Thank you for my life, thank you for my wife, and thank for my two beautiful sons. God, please give me the strength, wisdom, patience, and love to do your Will today.”

Bishop Saporito visits St Peter’s in River Edge

By Deacon Paul Kazanecki



On Saturday, January 22, 2022, St. Peter the Apostle Church,

River Edge was blessed to have a pastoral visitation from Bishop Michael A. Saporito, who serves as the auxiliary bishop of Bergen County. The Bishop plans to visit each of the parishes in Bergen over a period of time.

Although Bishop Saporito has been back to St. Peter’s several times since his installation in 2020, the recent pastoral visitation was a special homecoming as his second assignment during his holy priesthood was at St. Peter’s from 1994 to 1999.

The bishop’s visitation began with a luncheon with the parish’s pastoral staff and members of the Pastoral and Finance Councils. The luncheon was followed by individual substantive sessions with the Pastoral and Finance Councils, pastoral staff, and the principal of St. Peter’s Academy. Included on the schedule was a separate meeting with the deacons of the parish: Deacon Edward Bowen, Deacon Andy Golden, and Deacon Paul Kazanecki.

The Bishop’s visitation and dialogue focused on the strengths and challenges of each of our ministries and concluded with the celebration of the 5:00 pm Mass.

Deacon Retreat News



By Deacon Andy Golden
Archdiocesan Retreat Coordinator

On October 24, 2021 at San Alfonso’s retreat house in Long Branch, N.J, our Deacon Rereats resumed.

Warm early fall breezes greeted the Deacons on our annual retreat at San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch, NJ.

It was a wonderful time of the year to get a way and be with God and each other.

Father John Collins, who is the rector and director of the retreat house, led the Newark deacons in the talks and prayers over the weekend. He was assisted by Father John McGowan and Father Tom McCluskey of the Redemptorists.

All the talks were centered on Pope Francis’s encyclical “Fratelli Tutti” (On Fraternity and Social Friendship). This encyclical is a pre-cursor to the worldwide Synod on Synodality that was recently initiated in the

Archdiocese of Newark and its parishes.

The Covid Pandemic did influence our retreat. San Alfonso's Covid protocols are strict as Long Branch is considered a "covid hot zone".

The number of deacons that could attend was limited to 18 as each retreatant could only use one bathroom thus reducing the number of available rooms.

We celebrated mass with the Knights of Columbus in the large conference since



the chapels were too small to maintain a six foot distance from each other. Finally, the seating in the dining room could only permit two persons per table.

There were many first timers at the retreat. We were able to gather and talk in small groups.

It was difficult to pull this retreat off with all the restrictions, but I'm glad we did and I believe it was very fruitful for all those who attended.

As noted on page one, the Deacon Council has decided to offer two separate retreat opportunities. In addition to the late October retreat. See last page for a special sign-up form for the RCAN deacons.

Deacons from other dioceses around New Jersey and other states will be at the June retreat. San Alfonso will have a special registration form for the Newark Deacons. A \$100 deposit per deacon will be required by San Alfonso.

The Archdiocese of Newark will pay the balance of the retreat stipend. However only one retreat opportunity per year per deacon will be paid for.

Wives & Widows of Deacons News



by Misty Mantineo

The yearly "Diaconate Wives' Day of Renewal" took place on October 30, 2021 at Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer. We had a lovely day of renewal



at the House of Prayer in Watchung in October. Although the group was small in number, it was a richly rewarding day.

Our ladies renewed friendships and made new ones, and felt particularly blessed to be ministered to once again by Sister Judy Schiavo. Monsignor Ed Bradley provided us with Reconciliation and Mass, assisted by Deacon Joe Mantineo. The hospitality provided by the Sisters was, as always, exceptional. All precautions were in place so that those present would be protected from Covid transmission. The diaconate wives once again are most grateful to Deacon John McKenna for making this day possible and invite

all to join them in showing this appreciation by making a donation to The Saint Lawrence Fund.

The Day of Renewal for 2022 is scheduled for Saturday, October 29, 2022. We invite all diaconate wives to mark the date on your calendar and look for the letter which will be mailed out early in September 2022 so that you can reserve a place at that day.

Please take note that will not be hosting the Memorial Mass for Deceased Deacons and Deacons' Wives of the Archdiocese of Newark this year due to Archdiocesan covid safety precautions. Normally, that is celebrated the last Saturday in April or the first Saturday in May.

Last year, Ron and Annemarie Ronacher and Joe and I arranged for Masses to be offered for that intention. We plan to do the same this year and invite any member of the diaconate community to arrange for a Mass to be offered during 2022 for that intention as well.

Hav a Blessed 2022

Deacon Stanley Fedison



Stanley F. Fedison, 84, of Woodcliff Lake, NJ, passed away on Sunday, January 9, 2022.

Beloved

husband of Jean Fedison (Cursi) for 53 years. Devoted father of Chris Fedison of Woodcliff Lake NJ, and Diana Bohane and her husband David of Canton, MA. Loving grandfather of Ava and Ellie Bohane. Dear brother of Robert Fedison and his wife Bernadette, and his sister, the late Maryanne Gallagher, and her late husband, Robert Gallagher.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Stan served as Altar Boy for 7 years at the Most Holy

Redeemer Parish, NYC. From 1951-55 he attended Saint Mary's College, Minor Seminary for the Redemptorist Fathers.

From 1956-1957 he attended Saint Clements Mission House in Ephrata PA in preparation for the Redemptorist Brotherhood, and took temporary vows for three years. He was professed as Brother Bernard and assigned to Saint Mary's College in Ilchester, MD from 1957-1960. In 1960 his temporary vows expired, and he joined the United States Air Force.

In 1961 he was trained as an air to ground radio operator in Mississippi, and served as Chaplains assistant to all three religious denominations at South

Ruislip AFB, London from 1961-1964. From 1966 until 1992 he worked for IBM. In 1969 he married the love of his life Jean Cursi of Avenel, NJ.

In 2002 Stan was ordained a Deacon of the Catholic Church, devoting himself to working at local nursing homes and hospitals to assist elderly and sick people in need of comfort, laughter, and the Gospel of Christ. Nothing gave him more enjoyment than dressing up like Santa, Saint Nicholas, and a Cruise Captain in order to entertain people throughout the year.

Nursing home residents knew him as the Deacon who loved to dance, sing, tell jokes, and spend quality time with them when most needed.

He loved spending time with his family and his two grandchildren. He was a lifelong fan of the Baltimore Orioles, enjoyed bowling at the Montvale Lanes, was meticulously devoted to recycling, and loved a good television Mystery. He will be missed by all who loved him. The family received their relatives and friends on Thursday, January 13 from 10AM-11AM, followed by the Funeral Mass celebrating Stan's life, faith and ministry at Our Lady Mother of the Church, 209 Woodcliff Avenue, Woodcliff Lake, NJ. Interment will be private.

www.sanalfonsoretreats.org
FACEBOOK.COM/ALFONSORETREATS
San Alfonso Retreat House
755 Ocean Avenue
Long Branch, NJ 07740

Phone: 732-222-2731, x140 Fax 848-800-8717

E-mail: info@sanalfonsoretreats.org

2022 RETREATS FOR DEACONS

REGISTRATION FORM FOR ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK DEACONS

June 10 - 12, 2022 October 21 -23, 2022

I would like to register for the Retreat for Deacons on (date): _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Prefix: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ *Cell Phone: _____

*REQUIRED

(Arch) Diocese of: _____ Parish: _____

Payment Information – Retreat Stipend \$260

To reserve a space, please enclose a \$100 non-refundable deposit. Stipend balance for Deacons from Archdiocese of Newark is being paid by the diocese. Please make checks payable to: San Alfonso Retreat House.

Credit card payments are also accepted on our website.

Deposit: _____ Balance Due: _____

Special Needs: If you have any special needs that we should be aware of, please note them here.

Covid-19 Health and Safety Guidelines

(Available on our website at www.sanalfonsoretreats.org/64)

I have read the pandemic health and safety guidance provided by San Alfonso and I have discerned that it is safe for me to attend the retreat.

Signature: _____ Date: _____