

CLERGY NEWS

July/August 2009

From the Director

Now that bicycle season has returned it is interesting to note on my morning ride how the neighborhood has withstood the storms of winter and the economy. I note the uncut lawns, some of the homes that were occupied last fall now show signs of abandonment, and the asking price on those row houses along "the avenue" have been painted over twice and the number is lower each time. Indications are that we are in for a long hot summer.

In parish life, we are all busy trying to put the final touches on coverage for our summer vacation and having those difficult conversations with staff members as we explain to them that we just cannot afford them in next year's budget. We keep our fingers crossed that the numbers we put down on a budget page 60 days ago hold true 60 days from now! Indications are that we are in for a long hot budget year.

Benedict XVI has announced 2009-2010 as the Year of the Priests, commemorating the 150th anniversary of St. John Vianney's death; the Holy Father has also named St. John the patron of priests. Some highlights to date:

- The USCCB has developed a web site tracking the events surrounding this year's celebrations and I have asked the IT folks from the Archdiocese of Detroit to place an icon for the site on our Archdiocesan web page.
- Archbishop Vigneron announced to the Presbyteral Council back in May that he is working on a pastoral letter on priests due out later this year.

* Why not do your part and make plans to celebrate your priesthood in a unique way with your parishioners and staff during the coming year?

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Diaconate Notes

To The Diaconate Community,

Since the previous *Clergy News* I have had the opportunity to sit down with Archbishop Vigneron to discuss the Permanent Diaconate. We discussed many things and out of them all he has placed priority on two items to be completed as soon as possible: the first is the establishment of the Deacon Community Board and the second to begin to recruit new vocations to the Permanent Diaconate.

The National Directory paragraph 290, issued by the USCCB in 2005, states:

The bishop may constitute a deacon community board to represent the deacons and their spouses. Member of such an organization would include a suitable number of deacons and wives elected by the diacodal community and others appointed by the bishop, in accordance with the organization's statutes, as approved by the ordinary...

I have currently put together a draft of statutes for such an organization based on the statutes of the Presbyteral Council (an existing advisory board) and the Deacon Council. These are currently being

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by Monsignor Robert Humitz

The power was out at my residence from severe weather the day before. There were warnings about a pandemic of swine flu spreading from Mexico City. In spite of it all I managed to make my way to San Antonio, Texas for the 41st National Federation of Priests' Councils national annual meeting from April 26 – May 1, 2009. I was the only attendee from Detroit. Priest delegates from Presbyteral Councils across the country comprised the bulk of those attending. Although it is open to any priest, most are sent as delegates by their Councils. Although I was not an official delegate I have found the meetings a great vehicle to meet some of the 250 priests who attended from other dioceses. I personally found the meeting very insightful and welcome this opportunity to share the highlights with you.

Thinking “outside the box”, imagining new paradigms, letting mission drive the church, embracing diversity as a source of unity, transparency, faithful stewardship to future generations, multiple models in a universal church, nurturing lay ecclesial ministry - were just some of the terms and concepts shared and developed at the convention. The meetings focused on imagining and planning for the future of parish ministry under the theme “The Parish of Tomorrow—Today.”

Fr. Richard Vega, priest of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and President of the NFPC, encouraged the Convention participants to remember that we do not minister alone, but alongside each other. Flanked by banners denoting the role of priests as Reconciler, Shepherd, Mediator, Comforter, Preacher and Teacher, Fr. Vega reminded the clergy that “We are priests best when we are priests together!”

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Diaconate Notes, cont'd.

reviewed by the Deacon Council and will soon go to the Chancellor prior to being sent to the Archbishop for his approval. The Archbishop indicated that he intends to actively use this Board for counsel in governing the diaconate community here in Detroit.

Regarding recruitment, the Permanent Diaconate has not actively sought new vocations during the last several years but has merely accommodated those who made inquires on their own. Part of this was due to our need to revamp the program to meet the requirements of the National Directory and part was to get ourselves organized to meet those requirements. Ken Fry and Anne have done a remarkable job in instituting the program for Formation and we intend to complete the changes required for post ordination this year. It is now time to seek those latent vocations that God has placed in our paths and to give them a little nudge to help them recognize and accept God's call. Please pray to the Holy Spirit and then seek out two or three qualified men and their spouses and talk to them about the diaconate. Give them my phone number (313-319-1853) to answer any questions you might be unsure of (things have changed over the last several years).

Also please pray for the 4 men and their spouses who have been accepted into Aspirancy for next year that the Holy Spirit will continue to work in them to help them discern their call.

Have a blessed summer!

- Deacon Michael McKale

PRESBYTERAL JUBILARIANS

25th Anniversary - Class of 1984

Rev. Kenneth M. Chase
Rev. John J. Kiselica
Rev. Peter Petroske
Rev. Matthew Roehrig, S.S.P.
Rev. Victor S. Roman
Rev. Daniel J. Trapp

40th Anniversary - Class of 1969

Rev. Ronald J. Alder
Rev. Jerome A. Brzezinski
Rev. James F. Cronk
Rev. Dennis T. Dillon, S.J.
Rev. Stanislaw Drzal, S.J.
Rev. Charles S. Fontana
Rev. Daniel J. Homan, O.S.B.
Rev. Gordon Judd, C.S.B.
Rev. Thomas P. Kirwan
Rev. Robert J. Kotlarz
Rev. Alexander A. Kuras
Rev. Norbert F. Maciejewski
Rev. Robert A. Ruedisueli
Rev. Howard L. Vogan
Rev. Jerome T. Walsh

50th Anniversary - Class of 1959

Rev. Joseph H. Boel, S.J.
Rev. John F. Child
Rev. Arnold V. D'Achille
Rev. Eugene F. Dwyer, S.J.
Rev. John L. Phalen
Rev. Ernest M. Porcari
Rev. Richard S. Rakoczy
Rev. John E. Reilly, S.J.

60th Anniversary - Class of 1949

Rev. Francis X. Budovic, S.J.
Rev. Edmund D. Muir

Over 60 Years

Rev. Erwin J. Bauer
Rev. Walter E. Burke
Rev. Francis Claerr, C.M.M.
Rev. John Devany, C.P.
Rev. Joseph F. Downey, S.J.
Rev. Walter L. Farrell, S.J.
Rev. Andrew J. Forish
Rev. Jerome A. Herman
Rev. C. Paul Higdon

Over 60 Years, cont'd.

Rev. Joseph A. Janiga
Rev. Edward F. Konopka
Rev. Henry S. Kreft
Rev. Donald B. Kuntz
Rev. Albert U. Lombardi
Rev. William J. McGoldrick
Rev. Stephen A. Meder, S.J.
Rev. Lothar Nurnberger, S.J.
Rev. James P. O'Hagan
Rev. Leonard J. Partensky
Rev. Francis D. Rabaut, S.J.
Rev. Joseph F. Ryder
Rev. Fabian B. Slominski
Rev. J. Walter Stanievich
Rev. Konrad Urbanowski, S.Ch.
Rev. Henry E. Villerot
Rev. Msgr. Thomas H. Villerot
Rev. Paul D. Xuereb

70th Anniversary - Class of 1939

Rev. Msgr. Ferdinand J. DeCneudt

Over 70 Years

Rev. James L. Hayes

PERMANENT DIACONATE JUBILARIANS

5th Anniversary - Class of 2004

Deacon Kevin Breen
Deacon Frederick Burrell
Deacon Stephen Bussa
Deacon Henry Kibit
Deacon Paul Lippard
Deacon Lawrence Ruehlen
Deacon Vincent Small
Deacon Kenneth Weiss

10th Anniversary - Class of 1999

Deacon Richard Damaske
Deacon Raul Feliciano
Deacon Joseph Hulway
Deacon Marion Jurewicz
Deacon Gary Meerschaert
Deacon Michael O'Keefe

10th Anniversary, cont'd.

Deacon Donald Quigley
Deacon Lee Smith
Deacon Timothy Sullivan
Deacon John Szwarc

15th Anniversary - Class of 1994

Deacon Gerald DeShaw
Deacon Charles Fosmire
Deacon Donald Leach
Deacon Donald Sandstrom
Deacon Richard Smith

20th Anniversary - Class of 1989

Deacon John Henry Ball
Deacon Alexander Jablonowski
Deacon Eugene Tombler

25th Anniversary - Class of 1984

Deacon Robert Modes

30th Anniversary - Class of 1979

Deacon Brian Carroll
Deacon Donald Cox
Deacon Michael Fleming
Deacon Alfons Hogrebe
Deacon Rudolph Piro

35th Anniversary - Class of 1974

Deacon Robert Herta
Deacon Rafael Jimenez
Deacon Gary Krueger

Chaplains Needed!

* **“For I was...in prison and you visited me...” Mt. 25:35-36**

There is an **urgent need for priests to say Mass and hear confessions in prisons**. For more information, or to volunteer for this critical ministry, please contact Tony Latarski at (313) 237-5765.

* Henry Ford Macomb Hospital is looking for a **part-time priest chaplain** (ideal for an active senior priest). If interested, and for additional information contact AOD Health and Life Services Coordinator, Mike Harning (313-319-5180).

* Oakwood Hospital is looking for a **part-time priest chaplain** (less than 15 hours a week, ideal for active senior priest). If interested, and for additional information contact AOD Health and Life Services Coordinator, Mike Harning (313-319-5180).

* There is a great need for a traditional Guardsmen Catholic Chaplain to meet the needs and minister to the Catholic Community at Selfridge Air Force Base on a part-time basis.

They currently have 491 airmen who are Catholic on this base. They are looking for a chaplain who would receive this as a **part-time assignment**. There would **not be any overseas deployment**. Candidates for this position must be **at least 40**; older candidates are also welcome. A military retirement pension will be given when they retire, as well as other benefits. Please call Msgr. McClory if you are interested in being considered for this assignment.

From the Director, cont'd.

* Make a concerted effort to attend one of the two clergy retreats scheduled for this next year. Fr. George Aschenbrenner SJ is scheduled to present the November 9 – 13th retreat out at St. Paul of the Cross retreat house. Even if you normally don't attend the biennial convocation up at Boyne, change your disposition and join us this September 20 – 24th.

* The Diocesan Liturgical Commissions from around the country are holding their meeting October - 9th out at St. John's Retreat Center. The focus of the conference is "Liturgical Formation with Zeal and Patience". Why not plan to spend a few days in formation on how we can better celebrate the Eucharist with our people.

Use this long hot summer to chart out for yourself the current state of your own ministry. I have a couple of different assessment tools in the office that different presbyterates use to help men gauge the quality of their ministry. Don't sweat the details; enjoy the ride.

- Mike LeFevre

The Clergy Newsletter is published by the Office for Clergy Life and Ministry, Archdiocese of Detroit. If you would like an additional copy of this or any past issue of the *Clergy News*, or would like to submit information for a future issue, contact:

Cathedral Place
9844 Woodward
Detroit, MI 48202-1309

Katie Tremblay, Editor
Office for Clergy Life and Ministry
Tremblay.Katie@aod.org
313-865-6300 x226
FAX: 313-867-4613

From the Editor

You may have noticed that your Clergy News looks a little different this time. Given the state of the economy and the ever-greater need for Church assistance in metro Detroit and beyond, we are trying to stretch our office budget by running as many publications and flyers as possible in black and white. Color looks great, but it isn't cheap!

Our next issue will be September/October 2009. **The deadline for submissions for that issue is August 14**—anything submitted after 5 p.m. that day has no assurance of making it into the issue.

Katie Fremblay

National Meeting of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions

The National Meeting of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions will be holding its annual retreat, *Liturgical Formation with Zeal and Patience*, on October 6—10, 2009 at St. John's Retreat Center and the Inn at St. John's, Plymouth. Further information from the FDLC National Office: 415 Michigan Ave. NE, Ste. 70, Washington, DC, 20017. (202) 635-6990 or nationaloffice@fdlc.org.

Senior Clergy Village

For many years now the Archdiocese of Detroit has enjoyed the benefits of the Senior Clergy Village. This facility, built on the campus of the Felician Sisters of Livonia, has provided independent living for a number of our senior priests.

Periodically we have sponsored an Open House out at the village so that priests of the Archdiocese of Detroit could visit the facility and tour one of the condominiums. If you are already on senior status, or if you are considering moving to senior status, I invite you to consider coming out to the Village for dinner and a tour.

Dinner is shared in common each evening at the Village, but based on past experience, a Tuesday or Thursday evening might be the best night for a visit. To facilitate things I would ask you to call me at the office and let me know which night you would like to be a guest for dinner at the Village. I will make the necessary arrangements with the Village so that you will be expected and someone will be available to offer you a tour.

- Msgr. Mike LeFevre

Quarterly Meeting for Polish Priests & Deacons

The Archdiocese of Detroit Priests' Conference for Polish Affairs will conduct their next meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2009 at 3:30pm at St. Barbara Parish in Dearborn. All priests and deacons of Polish descent are invited to attend the meeting. Dinner will be served afterward so please RSVP by calling 313-582-8383 by September 3.

Internship in Spiritual Direction

The Dominican Center for Religious Development is offering a two-year Internship in Spiritual Direction, September 2009—2011. The program is open to clergy, religious, and laity alike. Application is requested prior to July 1, 2009, but applications will still be accepted after that date.

For more information, please contact the Center:

Dominican Center for Religious Development
23333 Schoolcraft Road
Detroit, MI 48223-2405
(313) 387-9574

www.dominicancenter.org or info@dominicancenter.org

In his keynote speech on Tuesday, Cardinal Roger Mahony, Archbishop of Los Angeles, reflected on the pastoral document “As I Have Done for You”. The document was the result of a unique joint consultation of the archbishop and his priests in setting a 5-10 year vision for the archdiocese.

In elaborating on his theme, he emphasized that priests in a parish must serve not only as sacramental ministers, but as “fathers within the Catholic community—holding a community together, calling forth the gifts, negotiating the tensions.” Priests are most effective, Cardinal Mahony said, “when they see themselves as part of the Christian family, not set apart from or above others.”

In an insightful presentation titled “Setting Our Ecclesial Gauges to Reflect a True Catholicism - Living and Ministering in Today’s Parish,” Rev. Ron Rolheiser, OMI, author of many best-selling books on spiritual reflection, began his discussion of the future by reminding the participants what it means—and doesn’t mean—to be Catholic. “Catholic is a mark of our faith—universality, wide, radiating God’s universal salvific will.” He used a number of descriptors to capture both the gift and tension of being Catholic: it is inclusivity and compassion, beyond liberal and conservative, beyond the selective inclusivity and compassion of both the right and the left. Fr. Rolheiser quoted Jim Wallis: “Don’t go to the right; don’t go to the left; go deeper!”

Fr. Rolheiser also cited tensions: conservative vs. liberal; theological/academic vs. devotional; liturgical vs. pastoral; Eucharist in tension with the Word; private morality vs. social justice; prophetic vs. diocesan structures; compassion vs. programmatic; missionary vs. maintenance; elite vs. ‘the street’; and, the kenotic in tension with the triumphant Christ, i.e., the Christ who is very much active, but melts in, disappears, and the Christ of alleluias and processions. He noted that these are tensions that the Church is expansive enough to hold. “We are large enough and inclusive enough to hold all of these and allow them to coexist, but never to diminish the dignity and respect due to the other.”

In a talk titled “The Call to be Paul: Lay Ecclesial Ministry Today and the Pastor of Tomorrow,” Dr. Ed Hahnenberg, associate professor of Theology at Xavier University, Cincinnati, highlighted the extreme importance of bishops and pastors to promote lay ecclesial ministry. Dr. Hahnenberg, a consultant in the preparation of the USCCB document *Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord* (2005), noted that lay ecclesial ministry may well be likened to the historical development of religious orders which were formed over a period of time, addressing the particular needs of the laity. Like lay ecclesial ministers, they were often welcomed with suspicion at first. “The continued growth of lay ecclesial ministry,” he says, “is incumbent on clergy embracing this new and growing form of ministry, and not seeing it as a temporary solution until the priest shortage ends.”

Rev. Allan Figueroa Deck S.J. then shared his insights on “Awakening Our Pastoral Imaginations: Evangelizing Parishes”. Fr. Deck, the Executive Director of the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, said that “Everything must be grounded in church identity and our mission to evangelize.” He noted that we are at an exciting moment as we continue to welcome immigrants, embrace new cultures, draw more diversity into parish leadership, and invite every Catholic to become involved in evangelization. For Fr. Deck, evangelization has a robust meaning: “To lead people to a living encounter with God in Jesus Christ; To inculcate the Gospel message respective of the richness of all cultures; To engage in transformative action on behalf of justice and peace; and, To expand ecumenical and inter-religious dialogue and common action for social justice.” The laity share a great responsibility in this area. “We need to fight

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a lingering and, in some places, growing clericalism that limits the call of lay people to share their gifts, not in competition, but in complementarity to the charism of the priest.” He also said; ” The need for proper training of priests in collaborative ministry and cultural competency, as well as leadership training, cannot be overemphasized. “Future parishes will require generous and visionary pastors who embrace a broad sense of priesthood that stretches them and their people.”

Finally, he said that he could not overemphasize the great need to engage our youth in parish life and ministry, and the overwhelming necessity for more trained youth ministers.

In a faith-filled presentation, Ms. Kerry Robinson, executive director of the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management, offered an inspiring talk titled “Living in the World of Possibility—Right Now!” The purpose of the Leadership Roundtable is to bring the gifts and talents of strong business and religious leaders to support the temporal needs of the church, to promote best practices and proper stewardship. Ms. Robinson emphasized, “Money follows mission. She believes very strongly that fund raising is ministry, that donors are looking for something they can do to be life-giving, something that expresses a joy and confidence in the future. She also emphasized the importance of donors to see the joy in clergy and in their congregations.

In the tradition of the NFPC, awards were presented at its Thursday evening closing service. Fr. Eugene Hemrick received the NFPC Touchstone Award for his exemplary service over many years to priests and dioceses. Sr. Katarina Schuth, OSF received the newly created Mandatum Award acknowledging her leadership in enhancing the ministry of presbyteral councils, seeking to expound on the issues and concerns of priests, and contributing to the work and championing NFPC’s mission and goals in the public square.

At the business meeting it was mentioned to us that Touchstone, the NFPC Newsletter, will no longer be printed and mailed out. As a cost saving measure it will now be available on-line on the NFPC web site.

Lastly, I would like to share with you some valuable website that were brought to our attention at the meeting.

National Federation of Priests’ Councils – www.nfpc.org

Florian Audio Visual – www.florianaudiovisual.com (CD’s of all Convention Talks)

Vatican II Institute Menlo Park, California (Sabbaticals) – www.stpatrickssseminary.org

My Catholic Voice Internet Stuff – www.mycatholicvoice.com

National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management – www.nlrcm.org

National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry – www.nfcym.org

Sick Bay

We hope to list the priests and deacons within the Archdiocese of Detroit who are currently in need of our prayer, a note, or a phone call. To add a name to the listing please contact the person first to make certain they want such information published and then send the name through to our office.

Priests:

- * Fr. Joseph Janiga
- * Fr. John Nowlan
- * Fr. Dale Redwanski
- * Fr. Francis Skalski
- * Fr. Kevin Thomas
- * Fr. Jerome F. Treacy, SJ
- * Fr. Richard Ugolik

Diaconate Community:

- * Dcn. Frank Alex
- * Micki Bovitz, wife of Dcn. Bob Bovitz
- * Dcn. Gerald DeShaw
- * Debbie Gajda, wife of Dcn. Bob Gajda

Sick Bay, cont'd.

- * Bonnie Krauskoff, widow of Dcn. William Krauskoff
- * Dcn. Al Morad
- * Diana Shubik, wife of Dcn. Rich Shubik
- * Mary Lou Swartz, wife of Dcn. Ed Swartz
- * Leonor Valdez, widow of Dcn. Fernando Valdez

In Memory

Happy are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them.

Rev. A. William Immel
Rev. Msgr. Herman Kucyk
Br. Joseph LaMielle, SJ
Rev. Ernie Porcari
Rev. George Tolbert, SJ



On the Agenda

- **July 29:** Clergy Day of Reflection, Capuchin Retreat Center
- **Aug. 3—5:** F. Gerald Martin series featuring Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Madonna University
- **Aug. 20:** Pastor Prep, BSC
- **Aug. 24:** Clergy Golf Outing, SJC
- **Sep. 20—24:** Presbyteral Convocation, Boyne Highlands
- **Sep. 24—27:** Diaconate Convocation, Boyne Highlands
- **Oct. 3:** Permanent Diaconate Ordination, BSC
- **Oct. 6—10:** FDLC Convention
- **Nov. 9—13:** Clergy Fall Retreat with Fr. George Aschenbrenner SJ, SPC
- **Nov. 30:** Presbyteral Advent Reconciliation Service, SHMS
- **Feb. 9—10, 2010:** Fr. Paul Turner, presentation on the new missal
- **Mar. 11, 2010:** Fr. Timothy Radcliffe, OP

CP= Cathedral Place (office bldg behind the Cathedral)

BSC = Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

SJC = St. John's Retreat Center

SPC = St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Ctr.

SHMS = Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Papal Blessings Procurement Update

For many years, the Archdiocese has recommended two sources for Papal blessings: Monastero "Regina Carmeli" and Lelli Garey. Unfortunately, after more than 50 years in business, Lelli Garey has closed its doors.

Monastero "Regina Carmeli" is still accepting orders, and has been considered a very reliable resource for Papal blessings.

National Association of Hispanic Priests Convention

The National Association of Hispanic Priests is holding its annual convention from September 28—October 1, 2009 at the Wyndham O'Hare Hotel and Resort in Chicago, Ill. Keynote speakers will be Bp. Gerald R. Barnes of the Diocese of San Bernardino and Rev. Daniel G. Groody, C.S.C. The topic for the convention will be *Our Identity in Christ: Celebrating the Year of the Priest*.

Registration fees depend on membership status and whether registration is received before August 24. More information is available at the Association's web site: www.ansh.org or by phone. For membership/program questions: Rev. Msgr. Heberto Diaz, Jr. (956) 542-2501. Registration questions: Rev. Manuel La Rosa-Lopez (281) 723-3589.