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Diaconal Ordination 2013

Archdiocese Ordains 16 New Permanent Deacons



By Deacon Kevin Reid

Sixteen candidates for ordination each stood as their names were being called and answered, "Present, I have come to serve."

Each then approached the Altar at the Cathedral of Mary our Queen and knelt before the Archbishop, promising their obedience to him and his successors.

Archbishop Lori in his Homily spoke of the unique role that the deacons' presence brings to the Church and to the People of God.

The Class of 2013

The men ordained on May 19 come from many walks of life. Some are grandparents, some are parents of adult children, and a few have young families.

One of the new deacons, James Mason of Hancock, is single and professed the vow of celibacy.

They come from parishes in Baltimore, Howard, Anne Arundel, Frederick, and Carroll counties as well as Baltimore City.

Some were placed in very large parishes like St. Louis in Clarksville, most others in medium-sized

parishes, and one in a very small parish — St. Peter in Hancock.

Internships of Service and Liturgy

Each of the men explained to the Placement Committee that during their internships they experienced new ways of understanding God's presence in their ministries. Within these challenging assignments, they often found strengths and wisdom that came from within — truly the Holy Spirit was

See Ordination, page 2

**Believe what you read,
Teach what you believe,
Practice what you teach.**

CALLED TO SERVE

The Class of 2013

ORDAINED MAY 19, 2013

Dcn. Allen Greene

St. Agnes Hospital & Good Shepherd, Glen Burnie

Dcn. David Rolling

St. Andrew by the Bay & Disabilities Ministry

Dcn. Dave Ludwikoski

St. Casmir, Canton

Dcn. Jim Nuzzo

Sacred Heart, Glyndon & Stevenson University

Dcn. Patrick Woods

St. Pius X, Rodgers Forge & Prison Ministry

Dcn. Mark Loepker

Our Lady of the Fields, Millersville & UMD Hospital

Dcn. German Enrique

Holy Trinity, Glen Burnie & Super Max Prison

Dcn. José Gabin

Resurrection, Laurel

Dcn. Frank Sarro

Marriage Tribunal & St. Louis, Clarksville

Dcn. Bob Smith

Church of the Ascension & St. Augustine

Dcn. Vito Piazza

St. Joseph, Eldersburg & GBMC

Dcn. Kevin Kulesa

St. Katherine Drexel & Hagerstown Prison

Dcn. George Winderlich

Holy Family, Middletown

Dcn. James Mason

St. Peter, Hancock

Dcn. Sean Keller

Basilica & Campus Ministry, University of Baltimore

Dcn. George Krause

St. Paul, Ellicott City & Boy Scouts

2013 Diaconal Ordination ... cont'd.

with them in these assignments, giving them just what they needed to minister to God's people. They learned the valuable lesson that, in order to minister to someone, we must meet them where they are, not where we would like them to be.

Vast Diversity of Occupations

Two of the men own their own businesses, a few are retired military men, most are still employed, but a few have retired from their full-time jobs. They come forward to serve with a vast variety of talents and life experience. They include lawyers, an expert on Civil War history, and former government workers ranging from a plumber to a man who works for the Social Security Administration. One man was working already as a Pastoral Associate and has received a Masters in Theology from the Ecumenical Institute at Saint Mary's Seminary and University.

Assignments

Twelve of the men who were ordained were assigned to dual ministry sites that each included both a parish and an institution for pastoral service. Those various Pastoral Service sites included prisons, hospitals, campus ministries, disabilities ministry, Boy Scouts and youth min-

istries, and the Marriage Tribunal of the Archdiocese.

The Placement Process.

Before placement, each of the men was interviewed by the members of the Deacon Placement Committee and by Msgr. James Hannon, Director of Clergy Personnel for the Archdiocese. The interview process began with a visit to St. Mary's Seminary in January. The candidates for ordination were given a list that included a matrix of all of the parishes and service sites that are seeking deacons.

The actual interviews were held in February. The candidates were asked to look prayerfully at the matrix of parishes and institutions seeking the assistance of a deacon. Each came to the interview with three possible choices for assignment. The Placement Committee then made its recommendations to the Deacon Personnel Board, who voted to approve and confirm the placements. From there, the assignments were approved by the auxiliary bishops before being forwarded to the Archbishop for his final approval.

Archbishop Lori met with each of the candidates himself before their ordination at St. Mary's. He arrived early and personally delivered the letters of assignment to each of the candidates. ❖

The Deacon's Call

Newsletter of the Baltimore Deacon Community

April - June 2013

Issues are published quarterly, in March, May, August, and November. The deadline for articles is on the 15th of the month preceding publication.

Your comments and ideas for future newsletters are welcome. We need articles! Please consider writing a brief article on an aspect of your ministry or a review of a book you have read or a film you have seen. Please email comments to any member of the Communications Committee:

[Lee Benson, Chair](#)

[Angela Martin](#)

[Cliff Britton](#)

[Harbey Santiago](#)

[Carol Matheny](#)

Note from the Editorial Staff: Thanks to everyone who contributed an article to this issue. Your input is invaluable! The next issue will focus on Pope Francis' first encyclical. We are seeking several articles from different perspectives. Please consider writing an article for *The Deacon's Call*. Articles should be emailed to Lee Benson. We are in need of volunteers who can help produce *The Deacon's Call*. The newsletter is currently created in Pages on a Mac. Please contact us if you can help!

FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM

A Message from the Archbishop

Dear Friends in Christ,

Recently, you may have read in the news about a number of issues within our own Archdiocese that should raise concern for all us who are proud to call ourselves Catholic Americans.

Earlier this spring, Johns Hopkins University's Student Government Association was widely criticized for denying official club status to the anti-abortion student group, Voice for Life. It was only after much public outcry and scrutiny in the media that a panel of student judges reversed this decision.

Such selective stifling of our constitutional freedoms to speech and religion is eerily similar to the attempts by Baltimore City to enact an ordinance that seeks to compel pro-life crisis pregnancy centers to post signs referencing abortion. Two lower court decisions have agreed with the Archdiocese and representatives of these centers that such an ordinance targets these centers purely because they are pro-life.

And, in early May of this year it was announced that two residents of Carroll County are filing a lawsuit in federal court to prevent the County's Board of Commissioners from beginning its meetings with a prayer. They are being represented by a lawyer for a group whose goal is to promote "a progressive society where being good without a God is an accepted way to live life."

These are just three examples of the many ways in which God and all things of God are being marginal-

ized, and those who believe in God are asked to practice their faith solely behind the closed doors of a church. This is the heart of our argument against the proposed HHS Mandate which is scheduled to go into effect this August when many religious employers, businesses operated by people of faith, and individuals will be forced to violate their religious principles to comply with the new healthcare law.

For these reasons, the Catholic bishops of the United States have called for a Fortnight for Freedom in the days leading up to the Fourth of July. This is a time when we as Catholics—people who believe in the Constitution and the freedoms guaranteed by it—can come together to pray, study, and prayerfully act in support of those freedoms, most especially the freedom of religion.

This will begin with an opening Mass here in Baltimore, the Premier See, at our Basilica, a shrine to religious freedom erected under the guidance of Archbishop John Carroll, whose family was instrumental in the earliest days of both our Church and our Nation, and with the interest of our Nation's third president, Thomas Jefferson, who had direct influence over the designing of America's First Cathedral.

Note: The Mass took place on June 21. More information, including resources about religious freedom can be found at www.archbalt.org/fortnightforfreedom.

+ William E. Lori

DEACON RECEIVES M.A. DEGREE

Deacon Kevin Brown was awarded a Master of Arts in Church Ministry on May 16 by the Ecumenical Institute of St. Mary's Seminary and University.

Deacon Brown started at the EI in the fall of 2010. He received a Dean's Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Study and Practice of Ministry.

The EI has many programs for credit or audit, including some courses that are totally or partially online. Deacons are encouraged to deepen and broaden their ministerial horizons by making use of the EI study programs. ❖

SAVE THE DATE!

CONVOCATION 2013

❖ ❖ ❖

Oct. 4 —6, 2013

Bolger Center, Potomac, MD

Are you registered yet? Contact Cindy Orr at the Catholic Center if you need registration materials.

Can you help? Contact [Dave Page](#) or [Tom Cook](#).

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Maryland Catholic Women's Conference

❖ ❖ ❖

Oct. 11 — 12, 2013

Mount St. Mary's University

Emmitsburg, MD

(may attend Saturday only)

STANDING FIRM IN OUR FAITH

REFLECTION ON ARCHBISHOP LORI'S HOMILY AT THE FORTNIGHT FOR FREEDOM OPENING MASS

by Deacon Lee Benson



I was not able to attend the Mass, so I did the next best thing and watched it on EWTN. What an amazing gathering!

From our view, the Basilica looked packed. We later saw in the *Catholic Review* the overflow crowd watching on TV screens setup outside. The large turnout reminded us of the importance of religious freedom.

The Archbishop stressed the danger of losing this freedom without diverging into panic or worry. He made it clear that governmental authorities are attempting to “slice and dice our Church.” These authorities are attempting to limit religious freedom to freedom of worship only. The Church would enjoy freedom only when she prays, worships, or celebrates liturgy.

If the Church does anything else—such as educating, serving the poor, or providing charity, she no longer enjoys religious freedom. When the Church operates in these service areas, she must conform to all the rules for secular organizations and corporations. The Archbishop stated unequivocally that the “Church does not have two wings.”

Serving, educating, and healing “are part of our baptismal DNA as Catholic Christians.” The Church cannot be divided into two divisions,

The Archbishop stated unequivocally that the “Church does not have two wings.” ... Therefore, we do not have a choice between being members of the worship section or the service section.

just as the human person cannot be divided into a body and a soul. The Church always remains an organic whole whether she is celebrating liturgy or serving the poor. Therefore, we do not have a choice between being members of the worship section or the service section. As Catholic Christians, our worship empowers our service and our service inspires our worship. As James writes about the faith and works of Abraham: “You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by the works.” (Jas 2, 22).

Archbishop Lori gave a sobering list of ways the government is attempting to infringe on our Constitutional freedom. The government is forcing the Church to accept the redefinition of marriage and to supply sterilization and abortion-inducing drugs as part of a Church employee’s health coverage. As formidable as the challenges may seem, the Archbishop

asks us to stand firm and not give up.

The Archbishop reminded us that we “live in an age of martyrs.” These words may sound strange to us living in the peace and comfort of the United States, but they do address the reality of our world. I believe deacons to have a special role to play in this struggle for our total religious freedom. We are the servants who bring Christ to the community. We are called to demonstrate our faith by the way we live in our secular world. In our lives as deacons, we reveal the inner reality of the Church that is an inseparable unity of worship and service. St. Stephen provides for us an excellent role model for our current situation. He spoke the truth even when it was dangerous to do so. We cannot be cowed into silence. “It requires of us courage to bring our deepest beliefs and values together with a spirit of reasoned dialogue to our fractured public debates.” May we all accept the Archbishop’s challenge to be courageous.

Please see Dcn. Chuck Hicks’ article for a practical way to educate and inspire the people of your parish.

The full text the Archbishop’s homily can be found at: <http://www.archbalt.org/about-us/fortnightforfreedom/index.cfm>.

Movement Formed to Promote Morality in Public Policy

by Deacon Chuck Hicks

In 2009, a few Catholics in Harford County met to explore ways to motivate and equip the People of God to bring the truth of Faith to bear on moral issues in the public arena. As a result of these meetings, an LLC was incorporated in Maryland in August of 2010, called *Our One Nation Under God*. The vision of this Judeo-Christian movement is to structure a tool that churches and civic organizations could use to challenge any activity or public policy that is contrary to the "Eternal Moral Law."

Our premise statement (see www.ouronenationundergod.org) expresses the spirit and strategy of this movement: "There are factions in our society that are leading our nation away from the Constitutional principles that are rooted in Judeo-Christian morality. This trend has to be reversed.

"Grassroots movements are working to counter the erosion of our Constitution. Moral issues, however, must be addressed directly as moral issues. Religious organizations are the natural defenders of morality. Their members need to be motivated and equipped to communicate directly with every person/organization who should be outraged when a moral principle is violated. Church members and congregations need to become more proactive in this work. We all share the responsibility to remind our church and societal leaders, our local and national



politicians, etc., of their solemn obligation to defend every moral principle, no matter how insignificant it might seem to be. "Bringing the Truth of Faith to Life" is the sacred and civic duty of every individual who believes in God."

We work to fulfill this premise. Our most active presence is in the Parish of St. Mark, Fallston, with all of our initiatives in this parish open to our surrounding Catholic and Protestant parishes and civic groups. Father Jerry Francik, the pastor of St. Mark, utilizes our movement within the parish to counter the efforts in our secular society that are bent on corrupting the morality of our culture. We have sponsored such speakers as Rachael Tate, a local pro-family crusader; Representative Andy Harris; Mary Ellen Russell, executive director of the Maryland Catholic Conference; Fr. Michael DeAscanis, a strong spokesman for marriage, along with Derek Howell, a constitutional lawyer; and Fr Michael Buttner, a retired pastor of our Archdiocese, who is a strong and articulate advocate for truth and justice in our nation.

We also initiate and support other parish functions related to our mission. These have included voter registration drives, collection of signatures to bring same-

sex marriage legislation to referendum, and for two years we have sponsored the Patriotic Rosary in support of the USCCB *Fortnight for Freedom* initiative.

Our members research issues and prepare letters that state our moral objection to proposed plans, policies, activities, etc., that threaten the moral values of our national or local Judeo-Christian culture. Our most extensive effort was a 2010 letter to each bishop of the USCCB, pointing out the serious threats to religious liberty in the current Administration's *Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships* program.

Archbishop Edwin Cardinal O'Brien, Archbishop William Lori, and Bishop Dennis Madden have formally acknowledged our work and encourage our continued efforts, offering their prayers for our success. On April 26 of this year, Msgr. Hannon notified us that Archbishop Lori was happy to grant Fr. Michael Buttner permission to serve as Chaplain to our movement.

These few paragraphs only scratch the surface of what we have done during the past several years and what we are planning for the future. If your parish or organization wants to hear more about *Our One Nation Under God*, contact Mr. Ken Youngmann (410-877-3060) or Deacon Chuck Hicks (410-879-2496). ❖

BOOK REVIEW

THE CHURCH AND NEW MEDIA

By Harbey Santiago

“Today in particular, the pressing pastoral task of the New Evangelization calls for the involvement of the entire People of God and requires a new fervor, new methods, and a new expression for the announcing and witnessing of the Gospel.”

—Blessed John Paul II, Pastoral Exhortation *Pastores Dabo Vobis*

On the day of our diaconal ordination, each one of us was handed a copy of the *Book of the Gospels* while we listened to the bishop’s words: “Receive the book of the Gospels, whose herald you have become.” This short rite is unique to diaconal ordinations. It emphasizes the deacon’s exceptional character as communicators of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Throughout our ministries, every Sunday, we strive to fulfill this important office through the reading of the Gospel and our preaching at Mass. But, in a world of instant communications, 30-second news clips, and the ability to touch millions of lives by the pressing of a single key on our cell phones, is our Sunday service enough? How can we extend the reach of our ministry not only to the people who come to Mass on Sunday, but also to the ones that stay away? What about the millions out there who hunger for the Good News but have never been exposed to the Catholic truth?

These were the questions I found myself asking while browsing the book stacks at last March’s Mid-Atlantic Congress in Baltimore, when I came across this little book: *The Church and the New Media: Blogging Converts, Online Activists, and Bishops Who Tweet*, by Brandon Vogt (Amazon \$11.17)

This read is a great point of departure to find the answers to these questions. The book is divided into 11 chapters, each written by a New Media personality who

brings his or her unique perspective and particular experience of online pastoral and lay ministries. Some names will sound familiar—Fr. Robert Barron, Fr. Dwight Longenecker, Mark P. Shea—others might be less easy to recognize, but all engage you in a direct and simple manner. You do not need an Information Systems degree to understand what each writer is saying.

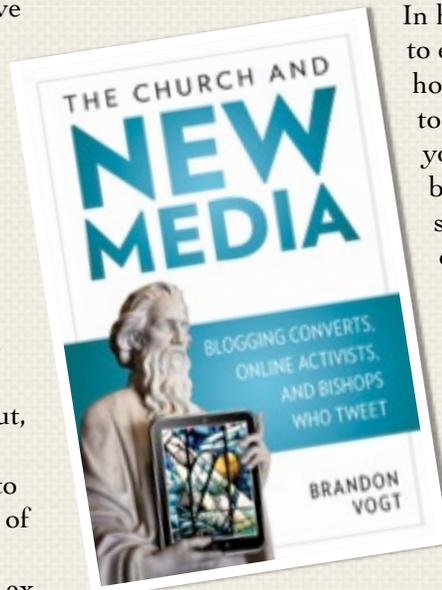
In here you will find advice ranging from how to engage people with online apologetics to how to use social media and collaboration tools to reach the people of your parish beyond their Sunday Mass experience. The beauty of this little book is that each chapter stands on its own, but each is part of the overall idea that “the church belongs where the people are, and in this day and age the people are online.”

The only critique I give to this work is this: If you are looking for help creating a blog for your homilies or a mailing list for your CCD class, you will be better served by consulting some other book.

The Church and the New Media assumes you either have the knowledge to do this or you can find someone who will help you; however once you are up and running, this is the definite source for making the greatest impact in the least amount of time.

On a personal note, the most helpful chapters to my ministry have been Scott Landry’s “Innovative Shepherding: New Media in the Diocese” and “High Tech Community: New Media in the Parish.” Both gave me great ideas for adding a “New Media dimension” into my own ministry by helping me with placing my homilies online and creating my own personal blog.

In short, I think every priest, deacon or bishop who is serious about expanding the reach of his ministry, should make reading this book a priority. ❖



Your “Annunciation” Day: What Does “Yes” Mean?

By Ellen Dumer

Welcome to my fellow wives of deacons! So happy to meet you here! I feel a connection to each of you, though we may never have met in person, because of our common role as the wife of a deacon. I'll tell a little about myself and hope to learn more about each of you in the future.

My husband Gary and I have been married for 26 years this coming September. We have four adult children and five grandchildren, with two more on the way early next year. If you ask about them, be prepared! I never bragged this much about my own kids! I am a Pastoral Counselor and Spiritual Life Mentor in private practice in Bel Air, where Gary and I have lived for almost 22 years. We started at St. Margaret Parish there and moved to St. Mary's in Pylesville when he was assigned there after his ordination in 2003.

I have felt called to be a part of the newsletter communication since Gary was ordained, but you know how you can let life intervene ... other stuff would just take priority whether it was more important or not. But lately, while there are not any more hours in a day, the call to connect us all together has become much stronger. I have watched the demographics of the diaconate and its families change drastically since 2003 and the Holy Spirit is certainly working to bring men in our Archdiocese forth! And that leads me to the topic of this article ...

Each of us had a moment when we chose to say “yes” to the call to be the wife of a Catholic deacon. Even if the discernment was long

and drawn out, there was one moment when we alone had to decide whether this was right for our marriage and our family. This was our personal “Annunciation,” saying “yes” to God's plan for not only our husbands' lives, but our own. Since middle school, when I became aware of the real life meaning of all that Blessed Mary's “yes” entailed, the Annunciation has been a spiritual guide for my own journey. What leadership she showed by her immediate response! She needed no time to discern or sleep on it! Her faith let her know what to do— to trust in God's divine choice.

Thank goodness, we are blessed with the gift of time and our own unique experience of discernment and formation before the final “yes” to ordination. Think back to this time with your own husband. What are some of your memories of that time? One of mine is being interviewed by Rev. Patrick Carrion and asked how I would feel sitting alone in the pews while Gary was on the altar. While I wanted to be truthful, I was also afraid that my answer would be not taken seriously when I told him that if I had to, I would give Gary up to allow him to serve God. Maybe it was one too many times watching Yvonne DeCarlo and Charlton Heston in *The Ten Commandments*, but I truly did and still do feel that way. Not that there were not many questions about the decision, but in the end this was what was in my heart.

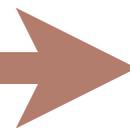
It is a true act of faith to invite God so palpably into your marriage. While we have always

known God is present in our sacramental covenant to each other, I will guess that for many of us, it was much easier to sit God in a comfortable, yet out of the way corner before our husbands made this decision. I don't know about any of you, but when Gary and I said our marriage vows, there was no thought in my mind that there would be yet another sacramental commitment to be made in the future! It was much later when I discovered that the first “yes” to Gary and God would be my original “yes” to his becoming an ordained member of the clergy.

There are many ways to carry out the “being” a wife of a deacon. As many ways as there are wives, I would suppose. While our husbands have a prescribed path of education and spiritual direction to guide them to their ordination, for wives there is no such prescription! It was uncharted territory for me, and from my conversations with wives around the country, I'm sure you would say the same.

At the time of his ordination at age 39, Gary was the youngest man to have been ordained in the Baltimore Archdiocese. Many of the men in his class were looking toward retirement and their children were grown. We had four children at home and I was working full time, as was he. Over the past decade, I have been thrilled to see more young men with families take on this challenge. There

See *Annunciation*, page 9



April Deacons' Retreat Focuses on Prayer

by Harbey Santiago

Spring, my favorite time of the year! The trees are blooming, the birds are returning to their nests and the crisp air announces the promise of a warm summer. For us deacons of the Baltimore Archdiocese, these signs of new life are also an indication that it is time to gather together at the Bon Secours Retreat Center for our yearly Deacon's Retreat.

This year, close to 40 deacons were in attendance, and we couldn't have asked for a better weekend; the weather was spectacular, which meant many of us enjoyed long walks through the more than 300 acres of wooded land this facility offers to all its visitors.



The presenter this year was the Very Rev. Lawrence B. Terrien, S.S., former superior general of the Society of St. Sulpice (the first American to ever be named to that position).

Fr. Terrien is an alumnus of Theological College and served as rector of the seminary from 1986 to 1992. His degrees include: A.B. from St. Mary's Seminary and University, S.T.B. from the Catholic University of America; S.T.L., Ph.D., S.T.D. from the Catholic

University Leuven. He has been Dean of the Ecclesiastical Faculty of Theology at Saint Mary's Seminary & University in Baltimore, and now is Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and its Director of Spiritual Formation.



The topic this year was "Jesus, Teach me to Pray." Specifically, we focused on what Jesus has to teach each one of us about praying. Also we discussed how not to pray and how to persevere in prayer. Fr. Terrien also provided practical advice about how to pray the Liturgy of the Hours. In addition he led us on a guided prayer meditating on the Our Father.

At the end of the day we had the opportunity to share among ourselves news about our ministries and parishes and just relax and enjoy the fraternity and camaraderie. All in all a great way of spending the weekend and I cannot wait until next year. I hope to see you there! ❖



ST. PETER THE APOSTLE PARISH IN LIBERTYTOWN RECENTLY DEDICATED A PLAQUE IN HONOR OF DEACON MIKE MISULIA, WHO SERVED AT THE PARISH FROM HIS ORDINATION IN 1978 UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 2011. ATTENDING THE APRIL 28 DEDICATION AND BLESSING OF THE PLAQUE WERE DEACON MIKE'S SON GEORGE MISULIA AND THREE OF HIS GRANDSONS, JOE, MIKE, AND GEORGE. ❖

Your “Annunciation” Day ... cont'd. from page 7

was a lot of schedule jostling during those years. My question of how do I fit into this plan was given an answer that I did not particularly like ... stay at home and take care of the family. I had wanted to be able to show up at the Saturday classes and learn all the exciting things that my husband was learning. I had to accept that it was time to step back and make the way easier for him.

VERY DIFFICULT. I had to say “yes” to something I would have rather said “no” to many times—that something was my own ego.

Now 10 years later, I can look back and see the path that God already knew. My saying “yes” to Gary’s calling made the path clear for me to be able to say “yes” to following my own call to become a Pastoral Counselor and Spiritual Life Coach. The timing had to be what it was for me ever to have become aware of this calling. Take a look at your own timeline ... what has God made space for you to

become aware of as your husband has followed his own path?

I have long forgotten the originator of the phrase, “When you say yes to something, you are also saying no to many other things,” but I heard it again lately and thought how appropriate it is for us as wives of these men of God. Have you ever looked at the impact of that “yes” you acclaimed? It was a gift not only to the Church and God, but to yourself, your family, and everyone you all interact with. You are models of living out holiness in everyday life!

Again, that “yes” of support for my husband’s calling to serve God through the diaconate meant a sacrifice of many things, especially of time to be together and the freedom to plan activities without consulting about ministry duties. But, I was to learn that sacrifices like these sweeten the actual times together and allow us to focus on our purpose as a couple serving God.

As women, we have almost infinite ways to serve God. While there are some Catholic women who feel strongly that there should be women priests, I tell people who ask me about it that it would be limiting to the use of our extraordinary gifts and talents! As the wives of deacons, we are able to serve God in our own unique ways, discerning when to say “yes” through the eyes of our purpose as a married couple and as individuals.

I look forward to chatting with you in future newsletters and am hopeful about meeting with you soon. Please feel free to email me comments on this article or suggestions for future articles. My email address is Ellen@LivingYourExceptionalLife.com.

My prayers are for us all to continue to serve God through with our own unique gifts and to be given the strength and love to support our husbands’ ministry. God bless you all. ❖

COMMITTEES

Deacon Personnel Board

Chair: [George Sisson](#)

Vice Chair: [Dave Page](#)

Policy Committee

Chair: [Jim Sullivan](#)

Communications Committee

Chair: [Lee Benson](#)

Ongoing Formation Committee

Chair: [Dave Page](#)

Placement Committee

Chair: [Mike Dodge](#)

The committees need members! Both deacons and wives are invited — just email the appropriate committee chair.

Current Emmaus Groups

St. Ephrem Fraternity

2nd Tuesday of each month
10 a.m. — Immaculate Conception
Contact: [Deacon John Gramling](#)
410-823-0694

Harford County - St. Stephen

4th Friday of each month
7:30 p.m. — St Mark, Fallston
Contact: [Deacon Chuck Hicks](#)
410-879-2496

St. Lawrence

3rd Friday of each month
8:30 a.m. — Location varies
Contact: [Deacon Mark Soloski](#)
410-664-4654

The Amen Corner

Last Thursday of each month
Noon — An Poitin Stil Irish Pub

St. Vincent Fraternity

Contact: [Deacon Jack Ames](#)

Holy Trinity

2nd Tuesday of each month
6 p.m. — Holy Trinity, Glen Burnie
Contact: [Deacon Kevin Brown](#)
410-544-6330

Urban Emmaus Group

2nd Saturday of each month
8 a.m. — St. Peter Claver/St. Pius V
1546 N. Fremont Ave., Baltimore
Contact: [Deacon Will Witherspoon](#)
410-599-8327

Deacon Families of Central Maryland (includes wives)

Fourth Sunday (location changes)
Contact: [Deacon George Sisson](#)
301-473-4800

If you have started a new Emmaus Group, or if your group’s information needs updating, please provide the pertinent information to [The Deacon’s Call](#).