

# COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

April 2005



A communication tool for the Deacon community of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing



## John Paul II

✠ April 2, 2005 ✠

1978-  
2005

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Wojtek Laski / Getty Images

**Stay with us, Lord!**

(cf. Lk 24:29)

*URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE  
OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II  
Easter Sunday, 27 March 2005*

Newsletter on-line at: <http://parishesonline.com/CommunityCommunications>

*Lansing Deacons* on-line at: <http://parishesonline.com/LansingDeacons>

## U. S. Deacon Directory

by Deacon Bill Ditewig

I'm happy to announce that "**The National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons**" is now available. The Publishing Department of the USCCB is in the process of updating its website as I write this note to you. I will also have information on the diaconate section of our website as soon as our MIS Department can update the site.

The full text of the National Directory itself, as well as the secondary documents "Basic Standards for Readiness" [these are the competencies for formation] and the "Visit of Consultation Teams to Diocesan Permanent Diaconate Formation Programs" comes in standard 6 x 9 bound paperback book format. The list price for this edition is \$19.95.

You may purchase this document directly from the USCCB Publishing Office.

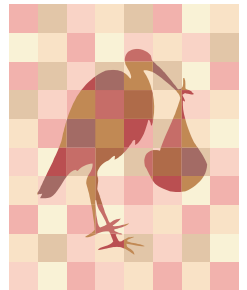
## The Rest of the Story

Don't order one yet! (from Bill Sirl)

Bishop Mengeling has ordered copies of "**The National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons**" for all deacons and candidates in our diocese. If, for some reason, you don't feel you would like or need a copy of it, please let me know and I'll put your copy aside to give future candidates.

## It's A Boy!

Just in case you haven't heard the news, Lisa and Ron Kenney (3<sup>rd</sup> year Candidate, St. John, Fenton) are the proud parents of Jack Joseph Kenney, born March 15, and weighing in at 7 lbs. 5 oz. Mom and baby are doing well (so is dad!).



## Excellent Music Resource

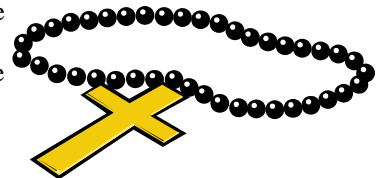
by Rita Thiron

I rarely do this, but I write to recommend a new resource, published by OCP. "A Contemplative Rosary." With music by Bob Hurd and reflections by Elaine Park, this recent release would be a fine way for your parish community to celebrate a communal rosary, perhaps for the month of May, perhaps during a period of mourning following the death of the pope.

It follows the directives found in Rosarium Virginis Mariae, John Paul II's October 2002 encyclical on the rosary. The collection provides hymns; icons; reflections on the mysteries; Scripture readings; simple, yet lovely, chant for the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be; and instrumental music for the Salve Regina. Interestingly, it intersperses scripture verses among the Hail Mary's in each decade.

A beautifully recorded CD allows you to experience the whole devotional exercise; it is based on the Luminous Mysteries.

For more information, visit the website at [www.ocp.org](http://www.ocp.org)



# Catholic Identity and Mission Campaign

The next two weekends for the vocations campaign will be **Priesthood on April 16-17** and **Diaconate on April 23-24**. Homily helps and bulletin inserts will be mailed in advance of the weekends. Response cards will be placed in the pews for individuals interested in one of the vocations or for recommending some one that might be interested.

Every person noted on a response card will receive a letter inviting them to one of four regional vocation information programs in early June. The program will include a general presentation on the process of discernment and break out information sessions for each vocation.

## Ordinations 2005

### Deacons

Bishop Mengeling will ordain seven men as Permanent Deacons **May 14, at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral**. All deacons of the diocese should be in attendance to welcome and embrace their new brother deacons into the "Sacramental Fraternity" (*Directory for the Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons*) of the Order of Deacons. The deacons will vest (alb and white stole), process in and sit together as a body. Reserved seating for deacon wives will be available. Plan to arrive no later than 9:15 a.m. (earlier would be advisable as parking will be scarce).

### Priests

Five men will be ordained priests **June 11, at St. Thomas Aquinas in East Lansing at 10:30 a.m.** There are no seminarians scheduled to be ordained in 2006, so the deacon community is especially encouraged to attend this year to show support of these men and the priesthood. The deacons will not vest but there will be reserved seating for them and their wives.

## Deacon Pre-Ordination Retreat

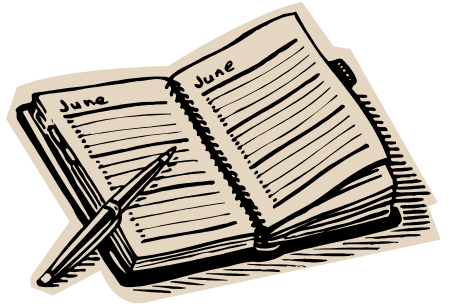
The following men and wives will be on a pre ordination retreat at Bethany House in DeWitt April 29 through May 1. **Please pray for them** as they prepare for ordination to the diaconate, May 14th.

Tom & Jo Fogle	St. Mary, Charlotte
Ron & Lisa Kenney	St. John, Fenton
Stan & Celeste Kukla	Holy Trinity, Ypsilanti
Mike & Linda Murray	St. Thomas, East Lansing
Greg & Liz Poole	St. Mary, Charlotte
Dave Rosenberg	St. Joseph, Dexter
Michael & Patricia Sullivan	St. Francis, Ann Arbor



## Convocation 2005

Mark your calendars to reserve the weekend of October 7-9, 2005 for the next deacon community convocation to be held at Boyne Mountain in their luxurious Mountain Grand Lodge. Adjacent to this new facility is Avalanche Bay, an indoor water park. More details on the convocation will be forthcoming.



## Formation Opportunities

### NDICE 2005

This year, the National Diaconate Institute for Continuing Education (NDICE) will be held at Xavier University in Cincinnati, July 17 through July 20. This organization, formed and maintained by deacons, has been providing quality educational conferences for nearly 30 years. Their summer conferences offer opportunities for learning, spiritual growth, sharing and building diaconate community to deacons and their wives.

The theme for NDICE 2005 is *The Identity of the Contemporary Deacon: Formation and Relationships*. Plenary sessions led by bishops and nationally recognized experts in diaconal ministry will explore the core identity of the deacon in his sacramental, relational and ministerial commitments.

NDICE is a great opportunity to meet other deacons and their wives from around the country. Several of our Lansing deacons have attended NDICE in the past and have spoken highly of the program. They've also found the atmosphere and fellowship very enjoyable.

Contact Deacon Hank Babin at [hankndice@msn.com](mailto:hankndice@msn.com) for information/registration form or see page 9 of the March-April issue of Deacon Digest.

## Castelot Summer Scripture

**Monday June 13—Thursday June 16, 2005**

**St. John Center Plymouth, MI**

*Paul as a Model for Pastoral Ministry*

Ronal D. Witherup, SS

*Gospel Parables*

Barbara Reid, OP

*Navigating Narrative:*

*Some Practical Hints for Reading Biblical Stories*

Jerome Walsh

Look for a brochure in early 2005

For information call 313-237-5954



## (assistant) Easter Bunny

By Tom Franklin

(assistant) Easter Bunny, on assignment

**H**ow tough could it be, Lord? It was a simple assignment: “You are hereby commissioned as staff assistant to the Easter Bunny. You have but one assignment – Take this Easter Bunny Bag to Mary and Joe for their daughter, Anne, who is as cute as her mom and as witty, at 4 big years, as her dad.”

**S**imple enough. And as I walked into Mary and Joe’s place of business, their story came rushing over me, and for a moment I hurt too much to speak. O Lord, I see them occasionally on Sunday, but not so much lately.

**I**nnounce in profound voice that I am the staff assistant to the Easter Bunny, assigned to bring this Easter Bunny Bag just a bit early to Anne, who suddenly pops up from behind the counter, almond eyes a-sparkle, her radiant smile lighting my heart. Graciously, gently, gleefully she takes the Easter Bunny Bag and disappears behind the counter. I smile and wave, afraid to say another word...

**A** churchperson, making small talk, condemned their son as a sinner, irretrievably destined for hell – and he hasn’t been back to church since... Another churchperson complained in meanspirited spite to the building manager about them. Churchpeople. These are the most recent of many incidents, each event grinding them down, wearing them out...

**N**ot too long ago, Mary asked why regular churchpeople were so mean. “Do they not believe the Gospel?”

**L**ord, do not harden my heart. Hear my prayer that I never be so wrapped up in myself that I fail to see your being abandoned, your being shunned. Lord do not permit me the foolishness of disengagement with your Word, nor allow me to become deafened by the clanging gong of my own voice and the pious-sounding nullities of churchspeak.

Speak, Lord – I long to hear your voice.

## The Deacon, the Disabled and Dispensing the Mysteries of Faith

Part three of a three part series



**Part III coming next month!**

# Formation Calendar

Date	Place	Third Year	First Year
April 9	Diocesan Center	Final Ordination Planning Homilies	Homiletics
April 29 - May 1	Bethany House – DeWitt	Pre Ordination Retreat Michael Fonseca - Retreat Director	
May 7	Holy Trinity, Ypsilanti		First Homilies

All Sessions are 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

## Other Important Dates

May 14, 2005	10:00 a.m.	St. Mary Cathedral
Deacon Ordination		
June 11, 2005	10:30 a.m.	St. Mary Cathedral
Priest Ordination		

## Directory Updates

3<sup>rd</sup> year Candidate:  
**Ron & Lisa Kenney**  
 7471 Windwood Dr.  
 Linden, MI 48451-8797

**Gideon & Rosemary Marsal**  
 gmarshal@homesteadrealtorsinc.com

1<sup>st</sup> year Candidates:  
**Randy & Debbie Coffelt**  
 Work: 810-534-0130 ext. 32  
 Cell: 810-304-2599



## Placement of Corporal

*by Msgr. Raymond Goehring*

I've been noticing some deacons (and a few deacon candidates when serving Mass) who set up the altar by bringing the chalice and unfolding the corporal. Some of them then turn the corporal upside down, top to bottom, after unfolding it.

The purpose of the unfolding open and then the folding closed according to the same pattern is so that any very small particles of consecrated Host will be contained. If the corporal is flipped top to bottom, then particles would be lost because they would be dumped onto the main altar cloth. There is nothing in the liturgical documents calling for the corporal to be turned upside down each time it is used, whether at the preparation of the offerings or after communion.

This is why the corporal is typically ironed with the folds in a particular pattern and why it is one of the sacred linens that receives the "sacred wash" routine, by which the water from the first washing is supposed to be put on the earth in an area that is not walked on, rather than down the drain into the sewer system.

**For the sick:**

**Judy Barrett**  
**Bill Everett**  
**Warren Hecht**  
**Kathleen Huiskens**  
**Beth Lennon**  
**Tom Moore**  
**Elizabeth Poole**

**For those who have died:**

**His Holiness**  
**Pope John Paul II**

**Bonnie Howe**  
 sister in law of Mike &  
 Diane McCrandall  
**Barbara McDonald**  
 Mother of Nancy Hilker



**Necrology**

April

27 Deacon Robert 1974  
 Boehmer

May

2 Mr. Ferdie Savoie 1990  
 16 Bishop Alexander 1975  
 Zaleski  
 19 Josephine Fournier 2000



**Community Prayer Line**

*Submitted by David Rosenberg*

U.S. deacon working in Belize killed in apparent robbery  
 ST. LOUIS (CNS) -- A deacon serving with St. Louis  
 priests at a parish in Belize was killed during an apparent  
 robbery March 11. Deacon Donald F. Kostecki, a native of  
 St. Louis and a retired state hydrologist from Topeka, Kan.,  
 was inside his pickup truck when shot at close range. He  
 had been on his way to early morning Mass at Sacred Heart  
 Church in San Ignacio in the western district of Cayo in the  
 Central American country. "He was a model Catholic  
 Christian who brought solace and comfort to a great many  
 through his ministry," said Father Kevin Hederman, a St.  
 Louis priest who staffs the parish with Father Anthony  
 Siebert as part of the St. Louis Archdiocese's Latin  
 American apostolate.

**Genesee/Owosso Cluster**

**Place:** Little Joe's Restaurant  
 Grand Blanc  
**Date:** April 4  
**Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Contact:** Gary Gallagher  
**Other Details:**

**Jackson/Lenawee/Hillsdale Cluster**

**Place:** Blissfield Coney Island  
**Date:** TBD  
**Time:** Noon  
**Contact:** Carol or Linda Franssen  
**Other Details:**

**Lansing Cluster**

**Place:** St. Gerard—Lansing  
**Date:** April 15  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.  
**Contact:** T. Fleming, D. Stanford,  
 Ed or Florence Schneider  
**Other Details:**

**Livingston Cluster**

**Place:** McDonald's Home  
**Date:** April 16  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Contact:** D. Piggot, Pat or Peg  
 McDonald  
**Other Details:**

**Washtenaw Cluster**

**Place:** Guy Hollaran's  
**Date:** April 9  
**Time:** 9:45 a.m.  
**Contact:** W. Hecht or T. Franklin  
**Other Details:** Mass at Christ the  
 King at 9:00 a.m.

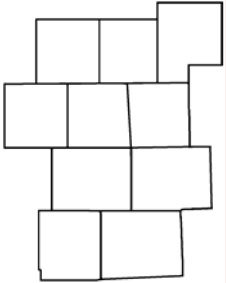
**Cluster Meetings**



## Diocese of Lansing Office of Deacons

300 West Ottawa St.  
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Submit newsletter articles to the Office of Deacons  
([bsirl@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:bsirl@dioceseoflansing.org) or [awoelf@dioceseoflansing.org](mailto:awoelf@dioceseoflansing.org) )



### Just For Fun

#### Homily Humor

A very successful businessman died and went to heaven. When he arrived St. Peter immediately noticed he was very depressed. Going over to him, St. Peter asked, "Mr. Jones, why are you so despondent? You should be rejoicing. After all, you were very successful in your profession on earth and now, after a long life, you have come to heaven. I don't understand."

Replying, Mr. Jones said, "St. Peter, I know what you say is true and I know I can not take my wealth with me, but I do wish I had a small memento of my earthly success."

St. Peter thought for a moment and said, "I think it would be OK for you to go down and bring back a small souvenir of your success, nothing big like a yacht but a small token would be alright."

So Mr. Jones vanished and was back in a heartbeat with a small box that was clearly quite heavy. St. Peter asked, "So what did you decide to bring up?" Mr. Jones smiled shyly and opened the box revealing 4 bars of gold bullion. St. Peter looked at him a little confused and said, "You brought pavement?"

Jim Miles



Pray for Peace