

November
2011

DFP Journal



WHAT'S INSIDE

From the Director
Feature – Roman Missal
The Heart of Evangelization
Ministry of Charity

Briefs & Releases
Helpful Reminders
What the candidates are doing...
Appeal 2011



DEACON FORMATION

UNIVERSITY of SAINT MARY of THE LAKE

DIRECTOR OF FORMATION

DEACON BOB PUHALA

A

ADVENT IS APPROACHING IN A FEW WEEKS, when Christians prepare for the coming of Christ into the world – and prepare themselves for further conversion. It's interesting that Advent was chosen for the introduction of the new English translation of the third edition of Roman Missal (see the feature article on page 3) but I'll get to that later. Therefore, deacons, like everyone else, will need to prepare not only for Advent but for changes in translation from the Latin text to English by learning some new prayers, responses, invocations and instructions particular to their ministry – most notably invocations for the Penitential Act; request for the celebrant's blessing prior to proclamation of the Gospel; words spoken quietly as he kisses the Book of Gospels; instruction to the assembly before solemn blessings; and the dismissal, offering four new choices.

The new translation also provides rubrics for deacons governing postures and gestures during Mass. But that's not all. It also includes a new General Instruction of the Roman Missal, which prescribes the norms for deacons' assisting at Eucharistic liturgies.

So what has this got to do with Advent and the theme of preparing the way of the Lord? Everything! The celebration of the Eucharist is THE source of unity for Catholics. It brings us together, with all the heavenly hosts, so God's people can praise and thank the Father for His love. We do this through the Church's *universal liturgical language* (words, postures, gestures and other ritual actions). This unity of prayer (words) and action (postures and gestures) reminds us that, as Scripture tells us, we are all one in Christ. It also reminds deacons that we, too, *are called to be prepared* -- to express unity of word and action in our diaconal duties and responsibilities as the celebrant's principal assistant at Mass. Personal liturgical theologies, idiosyncrasies and iconoclasts have no place in the diaconate. What a great opportunity to refresh our diaconal service at the altar – using the gift of the new translation to prepare ourselves for orthodoxy in the celebration of the Mass, this “right thinking” with the mind of the Church that expresses most perfectly, with inspiration of the Holy Spirit, our love of our Creator God.



Feature story...	3
Evangelization...	4
USCCB ...	5
News...	6
Student Activity	7
In Brief...	8
A Lighter Side...	9
Appeal 2011...	10

ADMINISTRATION

Deacon Bob Puhala
Director of Formation

Anne Chrzan
Associate Director

Rev. Dennis J. Stafford
Director of Spiritual Formation

STAFF

Deacon Jim Cozzo, Jr.
Administrative Assistant

Holly Bertolani
Administrative Assistant

DFP Journal is a monthly publication of
Deacon Formation (English)
University of Saint Mary of the Lake
/Mundelein Seminary
Archdiocese of Chicago. All rights reserved.

Feature

The Third Edition of the Roman Missal

Deacon Bob Puhala

“Last

week my computer froze. It stayed that way until I executed my only sophisticated IT move – shut the thing off, pull the plug, re-plug and reboot. Then I started all over again. It occurred to me that the new English translation of the Roman Missal which we'll begin using on the First Sunday in Advent is kind of a reboot, too. The third edition, issued in Latin about a decade ago by Blessed Pope John Paul the Great, speaks with a ritualistic and elevated language that best expresses our understanding of and relationship with God. It is guided by *Liturgiam Authenticam*, a 2001 Vatican document which presents a more literal translation (formal equivalence is the technical



term) than the current translation. Not only that, but the new translation is, as writer Jerry Filteau has noted, “deeper theologically and more evocative emotionally and intellectually” – better expressing the rich liturgical heritage of the Roman Rite. Think of it as *lex orandi, lex credendi* – our prayer expresses our belief. Of course, the new translation means (word) changes for lots of people: the priest celebrant, deacon, and the assembly. And changes can be difficult, especially if they are not understood theologically.

But changes also bring great opportunities.

In my mind, the new translation of the Roman Missal offers everyone, but especially deacons, tremendous blessings. How?

Consider the words of Rev. Msgr.

Anthony Sherman, executive director at the USCCB Secretariat of Divine Worship, who notes that the new Roman Missal, containing the prescribed prayers, chants and rubrics (instructions) for celebrating Mass in

the Roman Catholic Church “is a common treasure. It serves as a point of unity that keeps us all together ...” Exactly! What an opportunity! No matter what era of deacon formation you were part of, no matter what model of formation you experienced, no matter what kind of liturgical theology you

were taught, no matter what instruction you were offered regarding the deacon’s words, gestures, postures and duties at Mass, no matter what kind of practicum you had (or not) that allowed you to hone liturgical skills for assisting at Mass – you can stop, reboot, and all start over – from the same page – literally! This is truly an incredible gift and a unique opportunity. This Roman Missal, with its new GIRM, leads deacons to the proper way they are to exercise their ministry at the altar. It’s a re-do, a reboot, a new start for all of us who have developed bad habits or misunderstandings regarding our liturgical ministry. And in doing so, this new translation renews for us the understanding that Mass is not only the source and summit of the Catholic faith; but as both John Paul II and Benedict XVI have told us, it is where the deacon’s ministry begins and ends.

...this new translation renews for us the understanding that Mass is not only the source and summit of the Catholic faith; but as both John Paul II and Benedict XVI have told us, it is where the deacon’s ministry begins and ends.

A Diaconal Mandate

A Pearl of Wisdom...

On theological reflection

All aspirants and candidates in Deacon Formation (English), as well as wives, are actively involved in theological reflection. Every month of the formation year (September – May) they gather with members of their cohort in the home of an ordained deacon and his wife (mentors). These small Christian communities are strategically placed for reduced travel.

Theological reflection is an essential ingredient in formation. It involves personal experience with the Risen Lord. It is a time of reflection and articulation. It allows for appropriate responses to perceptions of the unseen God. As Dr. Richard Dickey states, “Entered into with integrity, theological reflection challenges how we think and feel about ourselves, others, and our world.”

Check it out

Deacon at Mass (PDF)
on our website **INFO LINKS** –
www.usml.edu
Click *Ministry Formation*,
click *Deacon Formation*

Evangelization

Where does Catholic evangelization come from?

Catholic evangelization is deeply rooted in Scripture, in the very person of Jesus Christ, and mandated anew by the Second Vatican Council. Jesus Christ is the Good News for us. At His Ascension to the Father, Jesus commanded his disciples to carry out His message when He said: All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And, behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age. (Matthew 28: 19-20) This passage is known in tradition as “the Great Commission.”

Almost thirty years ago, this significant word entered our Catholic vocabulary: Today, EVANGELIZATION is a word frequently used but not always understood. In our Catholic Tradition, evangelization is neither a new word nor a new idea but something which the Second Vatican Council, the recent documents of the Popes, and our US bishops have re-appropriated from our Catholic Tradition.

What is the “heart” of evangelization?

The heart of evangelization remains the clear, explicit proclamation that Jesus is Lord.

A Personal Objective - Transform:

Develop a deeper gratitude and practice of sacrificial love in families to mirror the love of Christ and strengthen the domestic Church.

Spreading the Holy Fire, Copyright 2004
Office for Evangelization, Archdiocese of Chicago

FAQ's

Copyright 2011, Archdiocese of Chicago, Office for Evangelization

USCCB

The National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States (USCCB 2005)**VI. The Church's Ministry of Charity and Justice:
The Deacon as Witness and guide**

36. The deacon's ministry, as Pope John Paul II has said, "is the Church's service sacramentalized." Therefore, the deacon's service in the Church's ministry of word and liturgy would be severely deficient if his exemplary witness and assistance in the Church's ministry of charity and justice did not accompany it. Thus, Pope John Paul II affirms both: "This is at the very heart of the diaconate to which you have been called: to be a servant of the mysteries of Christ and, at one and the same time, to be a servant of your brothers and sisters. That these two dimensions are inseparably joined together in one reality shows the important nature of the ministry which is yours by ordination."

37. The deacon's service in the Church's ministry of charity and justice is integral to his service in the Church's ministry of word and liturgy. "The three contexts of the diaconal ministry . . . represent a unity in service at the level of divine Revelation: the ministry of the word leads to ministry at the altar, which in turn prompts the transformation of life by the liturgy, resulting in charity." "As a [participant] in the one ecclesiastical ministry, [the deacon] is a specific sacramental sign, in the Church, of Christ the Servant. His role is to 'express the needs and desires of the Christian communities' and to be 'a driving force for service, or *diakonia*,' which is an essential part of the mission of the Church." The ancient tradition appears to indicate that because the deacon was the servant at the table of the poor, he had his distinctive liturgical roles at the Table of the Lord. Similarly, there is a reciprocal correspondence between his role as a herald of the Gospel and his role as an articulator of the needs of the Church in the General Intercessions. In his formal liturgical roles, the deacon brings the poor to the Church and the Church to the poor. Likewise, he articulates the Church's concern for justice by being a driving force in addressing the injustices among God's people. He thus symbolizes in his roles the grounding of the Church's life in the Eucharist and the mission of the Church in her loving service of the needy. In the deacon, in a unique way, is represented the integral relationship between the worship of God in the liturgy that recalls Jesus Christ's redemptive sacrifice sacramentally and the worship of God in everyday life where Jesus Christ is encountered in the needy. The deacon's service begins at the altar and returns there. The sacrificial love of Christ celebrated in the Eucharist nourishes him and motivates him to lay down his life on behalf of God's People.

38. . . .The deacon, consecrated and conformed to the mission of Christ, Lord and Servant, has a particular concern for the vitality and genuineness of the exercise of *diakonia* in the life of the believing community. In a world hungry and thirsty for convincing signs of the compassion and liberating love of God, the deacon sacramentalizes the mission of the Church in his words and deeds, responding to the master's command of service and providing real-life examples of how to carry it out.

"...the diaconal ministries [word, liturgy, charity] ...are not to be separated; the deacon is ordained for them all, and no one should be ordained who is not prepared to undertake each in some way."

National Directory
page 21

Bishops' Committee on the Permanent Diaconate, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Permanent Deacons in the United States: *Guidelines on Their Formation and Ministry, 1984 Revision* (Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference, 1985), no. 43.

NEWS

Charity

*Imagine thyself
always to be
the servant of
all, and look
upon all as if
they were
Christ our Lord
in person; and
so shalt thou
do him honor
and reverence.*

St. Teresa of Avila

A candidate's thoughts...

The DePaul - O'Hare site is a blessing for a number of reasons. One site fosters more of a spirit of camaraderie. A central location is more equitable given the diverse geographical locations of all the candidates. Classrooms are fine. Even the lack of a cafeteria has not been a hindrance as our class typically shares lunch together. DePaul works well, but the teachers are still the key. We've been blessed with Frs. Anderson and Fuller, and Todd Williamson (from the archdiocese) at De Paul this year. (We also had) great experiences with Frs. Kunkel and Burton at Mundelein.

Mike McManus, *Cohort 2012*
6500 north in Chicago - St. Thecla, Chicago

Helpful reminders From the General Instruction on the Roman Missal

...for the newly ordained

38. *The Manner of Pronouncing the Different Texts*

In texts that are to be pronounced in a loud and clear voice, whether by the Priest or the Deacon, or by a reader, or by everyone, the voice should correspond to the genre of the text itself, that is, depending upon whether it is a reading, a prayer, an explanatory comment, an acclamation, or a sung text; it should also be suited to the form of celebration and to the solemnity of the gathering. Consideration should also be given to the characteristics of different languages and of the culture of different peoples.

Therefore, in the rubrics and in the norms that follow, words such as "say" and "proclaim" are to be understood either of singing or of reciting, with due regard for the principles stated here above.

Guide For Deacons by Deacon Bob Puhala

Deacon Bob Puhala, Director of Formation for Deacon Formation of the Archdiocese of Chicago, is happy to announce the publication of his new book, *Guide for Deacons*, the author of the Liturgical Ministry Series Copyright 2011, Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. A must read for all candidates and deacons.

e-mail ordering - www.orders@ltp.org fax ordering - 1-800-933-7094

Check out the book illustration on the back page!

Mary, teacher of charity, who by your total openness to God's call have cooperated in bringing to birth all the Church's faithful, make the ministry and the life of deacons fruitful by teaching them to give themselves totally to the service of the People of God.

DFP JOURNAL *November 2011*

CANDIDATE ACTIVITY

A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Reverend Dennis J. Stafford

I KNOW I SHOULDN'T BE AMAZED AT peoples' reaction; after all we need everyone to make the world go 'round. But a recent phenomenon - in my estimation - is that more people have a starting point of

negativity. The economy has us all depressed, I imagine.



I'm a

'glass half-full' kind of person and look at most things positively and joyfully.

But my hope is that in the face of busyness and obligation we can all begin to have a more positive face and spin. Good vibes (and prayers) can make good things happen.

What's our starting point?

Karen Margerison has a wonderful anecdote: Her nephew, aged 5, had just started school and as she picked him up after school he shyly asked, "Mum, I know what they call men who love each other." You can imagine the thoughts that flashed through her mind. "Oh, yes," she nervously replied, "what's that?"

Her nephew answered, "Christians."

Our aspirants are experiencing something dramatically new in their lives. For many, it has been years since they have been in a structured classroom environment and the notion of 'formation' also is new. The DFP is here to ease the transition and make it a very positive experience.

...a glass half-empty or is it half-full

Our candidates have a very busy schedule. It is a huge commitment and demanding of their time and effort. Once again, administration is here to help. We are an active presence to be embraced as experienced fellow travelers.

It is precisely within this element that a positive attitude and humble spirit are most welcome. It is natural for us humans (maybe, especially in the United States) to react quickly to demands and obligations. Quickness is not always subtle and not always positive. Let's all pray that subtle and nuanced changes can occur in our responses. A glass half-full is a beautiful thing.

What are the aspirants and candidates doing in November?

ASPIRANCY (15 aspirants)

- Monastics & Mystics
- Ecumenism

CANDIDACY YEAR 1 (10 candidates)

- Sacraments of Initiation
- Old Testament
- Evangelization
- Reader Retreat & Institution
- (Ongoing) Service to the Word Field Education

CANDIDACY YEAR 2 (18 candidates)

- Ecclesiology
- Eucharist as Sacrament & Sacrifice
- Special Moral III
- (Ongoing) Service to Liturgy Internship

CANDIDACY YEAR 3 (10 candidates)

- Integrating Seminar
- Sacraments of Healing & Vocation
- Christology
- Presiding at Rites & Rituals IV

End of quarter break runs
November 13 through November 27
A well-deserved respite!

CARDINAL STRITCH RETREAT HOUSE

An atmosphere of prayer in a beautiful wooded setting. Stritch is *the* retreat house for your private retreats - during and after formation. Call Deacon Richard Hudzik
847-566-6060
to arrange your time for prayer.

MUNDELEIN, ILLINOIS

Deacon Formation encourages all deacons and pastors of the Archdiocese of Chicago to invite interested inquirers to attend an "Exploring the Permanent Diaconate" session at the Cardinal Stritch Retreat House in Mundelein, Illinois (attendance at one session is only required).

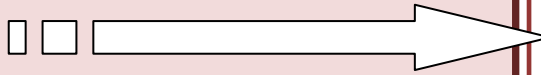
Sunday, November 20, 2011 - 12:00 P.M. (Mass)
Sunday, February 19, 2012 - 12:00 P.M. (Mass)

IN BRIEF

NOVEMBER BRIEFS

Attention Inquirers – Exploring the Permanent Diaconate

For all men beginning to hear the Holy Spirit inviting them to investigate the potential of a vocation – please refer to the ‘Links’ page on the DFP web site www.usml.edu (click on Ministry Formation, then click Deacon Formation) and click on ‘Exploring the Permanent Diaconate.’ Our next gathering is **Sunday, November 20, 2011** (12:00 Noon Mass) at the Cardinal Stritch Retreat House in Mundelein, Illinois (USML campus).

Field education and parish internship

Year 1 candidates - who are instituted as Reader - are engaged in a Service to the Word field education experience throughout the entire year. During this experience, candidates interview parish leaders in various ministries and also develop, with the support of the pastor, a hypothetical new ministry (related to the Word of God) for potential (not required) future implementation. Year 2 Candidates - who are instituted as Acolyte - are engaged in a year-long Service to Liturgy internship which provides valuable hands-on training and observation in many areas of diaconal liturgical ministry including giving Mass reflections, leadership at wake services, diaconal protocol for baptisms and weddings, leading public prayer, and much more (check out the quote in the right column).

Aspirants learn the basics of mental prayer

Aspirants learned the nuances of developing good prayer habits with an introduction to Lectio Divina in October. They also had a fascinating session on the history, theology and spirituality of the diaconate.

RECENT PRESS RELEASE

Spiritual directors to receive a new handbook

MUNDELEIN, IL – Spiritual directors for all aspirants and candidates in Deacon Formation (English) of the Archdiocese of Chicago are vetted through a deliberate process by the program and approved and appointed by the archbishop. Fr. Dennis Stafford, Director of Spiritual Formation, recently completed a new handbook for spiritual directors. It includes many diverse categories including a precise vision and philosophy of the unique relationship and extraordinary circumstance of spiritual direction for candidates for the Sacrament of Holy Orders (diaconate). Also included are sections on the development of conscience, moral decision-making and transparent lifestyle of both candidates and permanent deacons.

87. (...in relationship with) the teaching of pastoral theology a practical internship should be provided for each candidate, to permit him to meet in the field what he has learned in his study...For the choice of activities, account should be taken of the instituted ministries received, and their exercise should be evaluated.

Basic Norms for the Formation of Permanent Deacons

Directory for the Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons (Vatican City)

United States Catholic Conference 1998

A LIGHTER SIDE



Didimus, the deacon candidate, offered this eloquent tidbit – I saw my doctor the other day: he said I’m looking fit. I told him I intend on living forever – so far so good! (*rim shot!*)

2011 DJStafford



Good health should be a goal for all of us!



But seriously folks – pray over this thought...

In the Gospel of Matthew (5:48) we read “You must be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Please know that we candidates in formation for the permanent diaconate are encouraged continually to maintain a healthy lifestyle – physical, intellectual, emotional, and spiritual. I am reminded of the words of Henry Ward Beecher – “God did not make men perfect. He made them pilgrims after perfection.”

Story Telling

*... is good evangelization
... is good preaching*

Generosity feeds on generous hearts. How many times have we been moved by witnessing a generous spirit offering a morsel to a hungry soul. We are fed simply in the witness. I have often paraphrased a story I once heard by George Stewart. There is a ranch somewhere west at the base of a mountain where snow covers fields hundreds of feet above. Two streams flow and divide. One grows until its waters are caught up and made to irrigate many ranches. The other moves with no where to go and it poisons itself. In it are those animals that were thirsty and eager. They drank of a tainted morsel and some still stand at the bottom, their heads bent in death, flesh decaying. The first stream has an outlet and it gathers on beautiful earth and offers drink. The other turns in on itself and destroys all that touches it. One loses life and finds it again in generosity – the other loses life in stagnation, never to find it again.

Padre Dionisio



APPEAL 2011

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP / PARISH STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Memorials and Honorariums are available for a **\$300 donation**
Name engraved on plaque at USML
(In Memory of...) (In Honor of...)

FRIENDS OF DEACON FORMATION

\$500 minimum donation - Name engraved on plaque at
USML

PARTNERS IN DEACON FORMATION

\$1,000 minimum donation - Name engraved on plaque at
USML; Monthly Newsletter recipient

SAINT EPHREM SCHOLARSHIP FUND

\$1,500 minimum donation - Name engraved on plaque at
USML; Prayer remembrance at institutional ceremonies &
Scholarship presentation

VERBUM ET CARITAS SOCIETY

\$2,000 minimum donation - Name engraved on plaque at
USML; Monthly Newsletter recipient; Annual Mass of the
Holy Spirit remembrance

SPONSORS OF DEACON FORMATION

\$3,000 minimum donation - Name engraved on plaque at
USML; Monthly Newsletter recipient; Inclusion in monthly
Newsletter; personal plaque for individual or parish usage

Deacon Formation encourages deacon ordination classes and
parish organizations to pray over the potential of a group gift
or scholarship.

Contact Deacon Bob Puhala at Deacon Formation:
847-837-4564 and learn about the many ways you can become
a DFP steward.

*Please help candidates
and parishes in need of
financial aid!*

To Our Generous Supporters!

Deacon Formation wishes to express its appreciation for your outstanding support of Catholic Christian vocations and, especially, vocations to the permanent diaconate. As friends in ministry may we take a moment of your time and ask for your assistance?

Currently, the archdiocese provides about 50% of formation revenue through an annual seminary collection and the Cardinal's Appeal. Parishes of individual candidates provide the other half of revenue as a sponsored investment in future ministry and to cover direct formation costs. Deacon Formation is very appreciative of this generosity. Yet, many parishes are feeling the economic crunch and the need is urgent to support sponsoring parishes struggling with their share of formation costs.

For permanent deacons, serving God's people is certainly a joy as well as a challenge and privilege. Diaconal ministry is made possible by the faithful who seek authentic witness and prayer. It is a gifted ministry that celebrates God's grace by entrusting lives, souls – and families – to the competent hands of deacons in both joyful and sorrowful times.

All of this is made possible because candidates for the permanent diaconate receive a first-class education and well-rounded formation while discerning a vocation. And, candidates in formation need generous souls to pray for and financially support them.

Deacon Formation (English) is proud to say we have 52 aspirants and candidates currently studying in the program. Jesus has captured their hearts as well as the hearts and souls of their wives and families. They need our prayers and support. We are all stewards to the Archdiocese of Chicago and the aspirants and candidates in formation are in need of our financial support. In fact, several parishes throughout our diverse archdiocese are in urgent and immediate need of financial aid for their diaconal candidates in formation.

Prayer is the first step in faithful stewardship. Know that your assistance aids pastors and parishes who support a candidate in your area that are in financial need.

Also, your tax-deductible stewardship – no matter how great or small – is an investment in future ministry and a personal stake in vocation discernment.

APPEAL 2011 is being sent to all deacons and bishops. Deacon Formation invites you to join the generous group of clergy in faithful stewardship in the formation and education of candidates for the permanent diaconate.



Thank you!

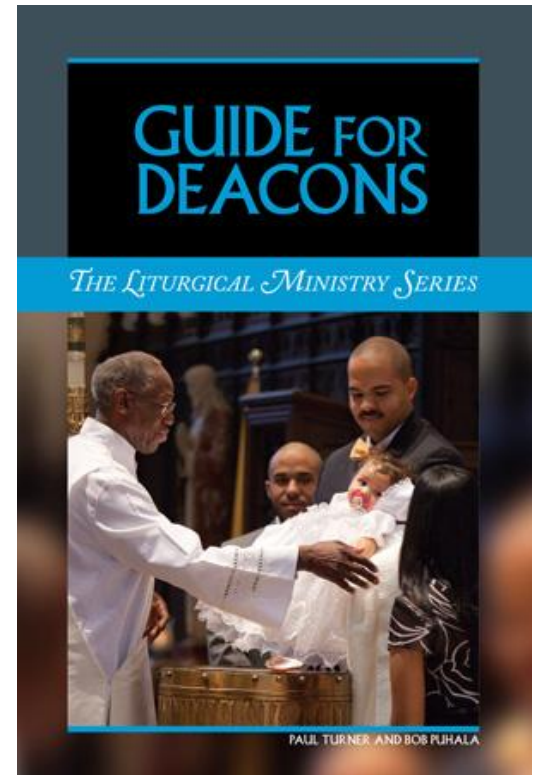
*In this time of
Thanksgiving - gifts
from the heart
positively impact a
candidate's formation!*

CONSTITUTIVE ELEMENTS OF A CANDIDATE IN DEACON FORMATION

- Age 31 – 62 at time of application
- Firm Catholic Christian foundation
- Solid prayer, devotional and sacramental life
- Transparent moral lifestyle in compliance to all Catholic teaching
- Passionate about learning and serving in all three diaconal ministries – Word, Liturgy & Charity
- Immersed in the four dimensions of formation – Human, Intellectual, Pastoral & Spiritual
- Deeply engaged in theological reflection and spiritual direction
- Openness to vocation discernment and objective feedback
- Committed and humble personality
- Open to and accepting of objective evaluation and suggestions for growth
- Understands that ordination is to the Archdiocese and not a particular parish

DEACON FORMATION
UNIVERSITY of SAINT MARY of THE LAKE

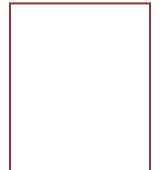
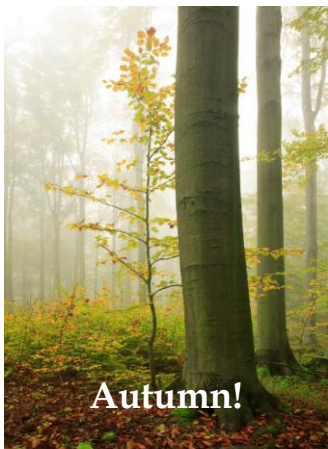
Order your copy today!



e-mail ordering – www.orders@ltp.org
fax ordering – 1-800-933-7094

DEACON FORMATION

University of Saint Mary of the Lake
1000 East Maple Avenue
Mundelein, Illinois 60060-1174



DFP Journal

November 2011