

The Permanent Diaconate in the Archdiocese of Southwark



Diaconate Update – March 2017

(F)-Formation (OGF)-On-going Formation (G)-General Diaconate

Recent Events

Diocesan Diaconate Day at Bromley (OGF)

Numbers are slowly creeping up with an attendance of 24. Father Ashley Beck led the day. He gave two sessions before lunch divided by a short coffee break and then more of a discussion session after an excellent lunch.

Session 1 was on the subject of Catholic Social teaching today and the Deacon. This looked at how teaching had evolved particularly in the last 20 years and where it fits in to the deacon's ministry. Session 2 looked at contemporary challenges and opportunities looking in particular at the EU referendum, Laudato Si, Amoris Laetitia and others.

The final session was entitled "Building communities of resistance" and looked at how we can translate teaching into practical work in our parish and other communities. The notes of Fr Ashley's talks have been previously circulated, if you have misfiled your copy please contact Deacon Barry Mellish who will send you a copy.

We finished with an open forum; much of the detail of which is given elsewhere in this update. As always we finished with Evening Prayer.

Report by Deacon Barry Mellish, Assistant Director of Formation and DDD Organiser

Forthcoming Events

Diocesan Diaconate Day Amigo Hall (OGF) (F)

The next DDD will be the annual one held at Amigo Hall/Southwark Cathedral, which was omitted last year due to the special event at Westminster Cathedral & Hall. The day will include the Mass for Renewal of Diaconal Commitment and Candidacy for those commencing formation.

The DDD will take place on Saturday 22nd July and details have already been circulated by Deacon Alfred Banya, who us the Formation Team lead on this event. A copy of the flyer for the event is attached to this update.

Deacons and Wives Retreat (G)

Update from Deacon John Letley, Assistant Director of Formation and retreat Co-ordinator

We have been planning the detail of our Deacons and Wives Retreat with Father Damian Cassidy, Prior at Aylesford, who will be leading the Retreat at Hothorpe Hall, Theddingworth from the evening of Friday 19th until lunch on Sunday 21st May. The theme of the Retreat this year is, 'Prayer a comfort and challenge'. The Retreat will commence after Supper on Friday evening with Mass and

during the Homily Father Damian will give an overview of the weekend. We will conclude Friday with Compline. There will be a led session on Saturday morning and late afternoon, between which Father Damian will be available for one to ones and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Saturday evening there will be a guided prayer around the Emmaus story. On Sunday morning there will be final conversations and Mass.

There will be a full liturgical programme including Lauds, Vespers and Compline; Mass on all three days. We will be publishing a full programme after visiting Hothorpe Hall in early April. Bookings are going well, so if you have not booked already we urge to do so as soon as possible and not wait for the deadline. The cost is £175 per person which now payable in full when you book.

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our only led Retreat this year

Conferral of Minor Ministries for 2017 (F)

Minor Ministries will be conferred on all men in formation by Bishop Paul Hendricks at St Elphege Church, Wallington at 12 noon on Sunday 18 June. Six men could potentially be receiving the Ministry of Acolyte and five the Ministry of Lector, with men from all three pastoral areas involved. Please support them with your prayers and if possible your presence.

Potential Ordinations (F)

Four men will potentially be ordained to the Permanent Diaconate in 2017, subject of course to final references and the Archbishop's call. This year we are reverting to ordination in the Ordinand's home parishes.

Amgad Gerges will be ordained by Bishop Patrick Lynch at Forest Hill on 12 June, Roland Gooding by Bishop Paul Mason at Westerham on 6 July and Paul Henshaw and Fidelis Iwu by Bishop Pat at Beckenham Hill on 29 July. Please pray for these four men as they complete their formation and try to attend at least one of the ordinations.

Diaconate Formation Team Contacts

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The Permanent Diaconate in the Archdiocese of Southwark



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The Third DDD for the Academic year 2016/7, including Candidacy, Renewal of Diaconal Commitment, and a Question & Answer session with His Grace after lunch, will be held at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 22nd July 2017.

The subject for discussion in the morning is "Discovering Parish Evangelisation in the context of diaconal ministry". This will be led by Deacon Jim Coleman.

The programme for the day:

9.30 am	Arrival, Registration, Coffee.
10.00 am	Opening Session
11.45 am	Preparation for Mass
12.00 pm	MASS (including Admission to Candidacy and Renewal of Diaconal Commitment)
1.30 pm	LUNCH
2.30 pm	Question & Answer with His Grace Archbishop Peter Smith
3.00 pm	Open Forum (including suggestions for OGF for the next year)
3.30pm	Finish

PLEASE SEND THIS SLIP FOR BOOKING THE DDD BY 30th June 2017.

To: Rev. Alfred Joseph Banya, 33 Kelly Avenue, London, SE15 5GL.

(please tick)

Please reserve my place at St George's Cathedral at £50 for the DDD day

or £30 if attending only for the Mass and afternoon session

Please also reserve a place for my wife at £25 (Note: This is a flat rate)

I enclose a cheque for £..... (Please make cheques payable to "RCAS Permanent Diaconate")

Dietary Requirements:

Names:

Address: