

The Permanent Diaconate in the Archdiocese of Southwark



Diaconate Update – July 2016

Ordinations

Three men were ordained to the Permanent Diaconate by Archbishop Peter Smith at Southwark Cathedral on Friday 17th June 2016. Ged Perkins (Norbury) and Piotr Ziezio (Woolwich) were ordained for the Archdiocese whilst Robert Smith was ordained for the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham and will serve at Westerham.

A few days prior to this Joice James Pallickamyalil, who was in formation with the Southwark men, became the first married deacon in the Syro Malabar Rite and will be serving his community in South East London.

We welcome the four new deacons and pray for the success of their ministry.

Appointments

Archbishop Peter confirmed two appointments relevant to the Permanent Diaconate in June.

Deacon Alfred Banya is taking over as Assistant Director of Formation for the South West London pastoral area, in succession to Deacon Tony Flavin who resigned earlier this year. This brings the Formation Team back up to full strength and contact details are included at the end of this update.

Deacon Gehad Homsey has been appointed as the Archbishop's Delegate for the Pastoral Care of Permanent Deacons and widows.

On-going Formation

For the time being the position of Director of On-going Formation for the Permanent Diaconate, vacated by the retirement of Stephen Newman, is not being filled. Instead the on-going formation work will be shared across the Formation Team, who will provide three Diocesan Diaconate Days and a Retreat each year. Each of the Assistant Directors will be organising a DDD in their own area and John Letley will co-ordinate the annual retreat.

The remaining "legacy" events previously proposed for 2016 will be retained and a full programme for 2017 will be published later this year.

Men Commencing Formation in September

Five men have completed their propaedeutic year and will commence formation in September. They are Errol Jadoc (Woolwich), Roy Cavey (Westerham/Ordinariate), Arthur Champ (Rainham), Martin Smith (Walderslade) and “JayJay” Atmosfera (Battersea West). **Candidacy** will be conferred on these men at **English Martyrs, Strood** on Thursday, 8th September 2016 at 7:30pm by **Bishop Paul Mason**. This will bring the total number of men in formation for the Archdiocese up to fifteen.

Forthcoming Events

Candidacy Mass at English Martyrs, Stroop on Thursday 8th September 2016 at 7:30pm.

Diaconal Renewal Colloquium and Mass at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 24th September 2016. Tickets are still available for this event at £5 a ticket including the Colloquium. Free tickets are available for admission to Westminster Cathedral Hall for vesting and to the reserved seating. **Please contact Deacon Barry Chalkley for tickets.**

Diaconal Retreat This “legacy” event will be going ahead at Emmaus, West Wickham on 16th – 18th September 2016. The retreat leader will be Deacon John Crowshaw. Full details and a booking form are attached to this update.

A **Diocesan Diaconate Day** will take place at the Franciscan Study Centre, Canterbury on Saturday 1st October 2016. The main speaker will be Fr David Gibbons on the subject of **Amoris Latitia**. Attendance at this event is required for all deacons ordained for less than three years but the content will be of use to all deacons. A booking form and information are attached.

The next DDD after this will take place at St. Joseph’s, Bromley on 11 February 2017 when Fr Ashley Beck will speak on ‘Maintaining the Church’s vision after the referendum: the Deacon’s role’. We will revert to the normal meeting with Renewal of Commitment in May next year, date to be confirmed.

Diaconate Formation Team Contacts

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