

DEACONS: Ministers of Service



With praise and gratitude to Almighty God,
The Archdiocese of Cincinnati
and
Immaculate Conception/St. Teresa Parish,



Announces the ordination of

Charles W Salway

To the order of Permanent Deacon



Please share Charlie and Judy's joy as
The Sacrament of Holy Orders is conferred by
His Excellency Dennis Schnurr
Archbishop of Cincinnati

You are cordially invited to join in the
Celebration of a Mass at which Charlie will serve as deacon
On Sunday, April 28th, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon
Immaculate Conception, Celina, OH

A reception will follow in the PAC

Transitional and Permanent Deacons

Since Vatican II (1962-1965), the Roman Catholic Church has restored the diaconate "as a proper and permanent rank of the hierarchy." (Vatican II, *Lumen Gentium* #29) The Eastern Churches have always maintained it. The *permanent* diaconate, which can be conferred on married or single men, is for men who make a lifelong commitment to serve as a deacon. In our archdiocese, men who have completed the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program (or its equivalent) can apply for admission to the Deacon Formation Program. As they discern the call to the diaconate, they gather every other weekend at Mount St. Mary's Seminary for three years of formation and study.

The *transitional* diaconate is for men who intend to become priests, thus transitional deacons must be single men. Seen before Vatican II as a "brief stepping stone" to priesthood, the transitional diaconate has also been restored so that men preparing for priesthood ordination would become deacons and exercise diaconal ministry for several months before becoming priests. In our archdiocese, men discerning a call to the priesthood enter a five-year program of formation and study at the seminary and are normally ordained deacons about one year before they are ordained priests.

The Ordination of a Deacon

After the gospel reading at an ordination Mass, those to be ordained as deacons are called forward. A priest, usually the one in charge of their formation, asks the bishop, on behalf of the Church, to ordain these men who have been found worthy and suitable. After the bishop's homily, the candidates make a commitment to celibacy (if married, this commitment means that a permanent deacon cannot marry after his wife dies). Next the candidates make a promise of obedience to the bishop and his successors. And finally, the candidates promise to pray the Divine Office, i.e. the Liturgy of the Hours, daily. The candidates then lie prostrate as the litany of saints is sung. The bishop alone lays hands on each candidate and then says the prayer of consecration over them. The deacons are then vested with stole and dalmatic, and given the Book of the Gospels with the words, "Receive the gospel of Christ, whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach." The newly ordained deacons then receive the gifts of bread of wine and assist the bishop at the altar as the Mass continues.

Sacraments and other Rituals

Deacons can baptize, witness marriages, perform funeral and burial services outside of Mass, distribute Holy Communion, preach the homily (which is the sermon given after the Gospel at Mass), and are obligated to pray the Divine Office (Breviary) each day. They cannot celebrate Mass, but they can preside at celebrations of the Eucharist outside of mass including presiding at benedictions.

