

Deacons of Manitoba Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 1 October 2021

Words from The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops

The Canadian Bishops to Welcome Pope Francis to Canada on historic Pilgrimage of Healing and Reconciliation.

<https://www.cccb.ca/media-release/canadian-bishops-to-welcome-pope-francis-to-canada-on-historic-pilgrimage-of-healing-and-reconciliation/>

Words from Deacon James

Post deaconate workshop: I would like to thank the organizers for all their hard work, both for the programming and the follow up.

Also, I would like to thank our bishops and deacons for their participation on the study day. I found the subject and content extremely enlightening. It left me with some well-developed tools to add to my toolbox. Thank you to all.

November brings all the Christmas movies to TV. It also is the time when we mark the remembrance of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, to allow us a lifestyle and a country that cherishes diversity and welcomes newcomers. As great as we are in some ways, we cannot forget the hurts and wrongdoings that have been done to people in the name of progress. These atrocities must be addressed. History forgotten is history repeated.

LEST WE FORGET.

We are approaching the season of advent and how it will unfold in the light of COVID. We cannot be sure as to the way we will be able to communally celebrate. It might be different but, it need not be any less of a spiritual journey to the joy of Christmas and the birth of Jesus.

Our focus of sharing our diaconal love beyond the church to all continues. When the need is greatest, our effort should be greater.

Blessings.

Deacon Jim Frater

Words from the Formation Team

Community Deacons Newsletter October 2021

News from the Director of Diaconate Formation

Our latest cohort has begun its Aspirancy Phase, a year of Guided Discernment. Ten men entered into this discernment, nine accompanied by their wives and one discerning a celibate diaconate. Seven are from the Archdiocese of Winnipeg, two from the Archdiocese of St. Boniface, and one, though he originates from the Archdiocese of St. Boniface, is discerning for ministry in the Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas.

Through the inquiry and application phases the Formation Team has shared some of their lives, faith, and sense of call, beginning a journey in which we may come to know each of them.

The September and October gatherings proved to be rich with sharing and discussion – the men and wives being very participatory. September was an entry into discernment centered around prayer, which will be the major theme throughout the year. In October we focused on the importance of spousal and family support with of course, prayer.

The photo accompanying was taken at the October gathering at St. Vital Parish and includes the Formation Team and their wives who generously shared their journey through their husband's discernment, formation and lived diaconate.

The Formation Team is looking forward to sharing the journey with this cohort for the next eight months as we discover together what they, their families, and the church sense their call to be.



Deacon Doug Cross
Director
Interdiocesan Diaconate Formation Program.

Our one-year anniversary issue



Praise God for our one-year anniversary issue!

Deacon Jimmy wanted a means to connect with the deaconate community. He also wanted to ensure that the emails of the deacons are accurate. Consequently, the Deacons of Manitoba Newsletter got started. And its been more than one year since we did our maiden issue last July 2020.

Let us continue to include in our prayers the deacon aspirants in their discernment journey and the Formation Team.

Deacon Michael Cordova

Deacon study day recorded on zoom

The deacon study day was recorded on zoom. If you missed this event and interested to watch, please send us an email.

Suggestions or comments:

Please do let us know how to do better with the newsletter through email: jrfrater@mymts.net or michaelmartincordova@yahoo.com