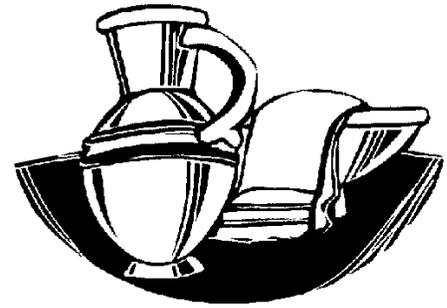


# MEMO

To: Deacon Community  
From: Deacon Mark Machuga  
Subject: Monthly Newsletter  
Date: October, 2020

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## Clerical Attire Policy Decision

I was invited to attend the Presbyteral Council on Oct 19. The clerical attire policy for deacons was on the agenda. This was the second time I attended Presbyteral Council to discuss the policy. I provided an overview of the draft policy, a summary of the poll of deacons (77% desired the policy, 23% did not) and information on other dioceses that have a policy. I asked for any questions and there were none at all.

One elderly priest spoke up and supported the policy, stating that it would be good for deacons to be able to minister in clerical attire for ministries such as hospital visitation. One priest spoke out against allowing the policy. He based this on the historical perspective of clerical attire for priests as an outward sign of their vow of celibacy. Another priest offered "Can't you just wear a polo shirt that says 'Deacon'?" The Archbishop offered no comments on the policy.

The Archbishop then allowed a vote on the policy by the Council. The votes were 9 opposed to the policy and 6 in favor.

The following day, I asked the Archbishop for his decision, since Presbyteral Council is an advisory body to assist the him with decisions related to the Archdiocese, but the decision is his. He informed me that, based on the vote of the Council, he will not allow the policy to be implemented. The statement given to me by Archbishop Schnurr on October 20 reads as follows:

*"In light of the action taken by the Presbyteral Council yesterday, the proposed Clerical Attire Policy for the permanent deacons of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will not be promulgated at this time. If priests, and pastors in particular, do not agree with the recommendation of the Council not to approve the Policy, they should be in contact with their priest representative."*

Brothers, I am grateful for your input and your patience throughout this process. I am grateful to the deacons who assisted me in the preparation of the materials to

petition the Archbishop, including the draft policy. Let us continue to serve God's people in the spirit of charity and service to which we are all called by our ordination.

## **Deacon Informational Meeting at your Parish?**



I have been asked by the deacons of St. Columban Parish to hold an informational evening in early December for men of the parish who are interested in a possible vocation to the Permanent Diaconate. I think this is a great idea.

I would like to extend to all of you the invitation to hold a meeting and invite men from your parish or the larger community of several parishes who would like more information on the diaconate. Please let me know if you would like to organize an evening. I'd be very happy to participate!

## **Virtual Retreat: "The Deacon as the Voice and Model of Hope in Challenging Times."**

There is still time to register for the Virtual Retreat for all deacons from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the Diocese of Covington. This retreat will consist of six pre-recorded presentations from November 2 through 13. They will be viewed by participants individually. The following day, participants will come together in a Zoom meeting forum to join in a discussion of the presentation.



The presenters and topics for the retreat have been set. They are:

- ❖ Msgr. Frank Lane - "The Role of the Deacon in Revolutionary Times"
- ❖ Fr. Eric Woods - "The Loss of the Sense of Sunday and the Eucharist as the Transforming Sacrament"
- ❖ Deacon Mike Cassani - "The 4 Levels of Happiness"
- ❖ Deacon Royce Winters and Mr. Andrew Musgrave - "Open Wide Our Hearts - How Do We Love Our Neighbors?"
- ❖ Deacon Dave Shea - "The Joys, Challenges, Issues, and Obstacles for Your Life as a Deacon"
- ❖ Fr. Matt Summe - "Where Do We Go From Here?"

To register, send an e-mail to [deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org](mailto:deaconoffice@catholicaoc.org).

## **Blessing of the Bikes Coordinator**

The annual Blessing of the Bikes takes place on the Sunday after Mother's Day in May. Deacon Greg Cecere has coordinated the clergy for this event for many years. Due to Deacon Greg's health concerns, he is looking for a deacon to help coordinate the clergy. If you can help, please contact Deacon Greg at [gjccere@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gjecere@sbcglobal.net) or Deacon Clif Perryman at [deaconclif@gmail.com](mailto:deaconclif@gmail.com). Your help is greatly appreciated!



## **Requiescet in pace**

Deacon Philip Kenzora	Ordained April 30, 2016	Died May 20, 2020
Deacon Omer Bertke	Ordained June 20, 1987	Died Sept 23, 2020
Deacon Richard Martin	Ordained June 10, 2000	Died Sept 27, 2020
Deacon Jerry Sasson	Ordained April 28, 2007	Died Oct 3, 2020



*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual Light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."*

## **Necrology - November**

November 1, 1998	Deacon Francis Wheelock	Ordained 7/28/79
November 1, 2009	Jean Petrie	
November 2, 1999	Mary Lane Kiley	
November 2, 2016	Deacon Johannes Schade	Ordained 4/30/16
November 3, 2009	Pat Sonnenberg	
November 3, 2018	Deacon Jack Borgerding	Ordained 7/28/79
November 10, 1994	Deacon Eugene Wabler	Ordained 9/25/76
November 10, 2018	Deacon John Schmiesing	Ordained 9/28/91
November 12, 2002	Deacon Thomas Gargan	Ordained 7/28/79
November 13, 2006	Deacon John Jachimowicz	Ordained 6/25/83
November 16, 2004	Mary Blum	
November 20, 2004	Deacon Charles Briley	Ordained 6/21/86
November 21, 2002	Deacon Eugene Miller	Ordained 6/22/85
November 21, 2004	Deacon Robert Huffman	Ordained 6/25/83
November 29, 1998	Carolyn Wiehe	

**This Month's Humor ...**



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