

AOD Diaconate Community Board
Meeting Minutes January 25, 2020

Meeting Called to order 8:00 am with Liturgy of the Hours

Attendees: Kevin Breen, Bob Gajda, Dennis Loffreda, Brigid Loffreda, Skip Rodger, Dave Fleming, Kelly Fleming, Jim Berch, Carol Berch, Rick Rhein, Anne Rhein, Russ Ortisi and Trish Ortisi

Russ approved minutes; Jim seconded.

Report from Office of clergy and Consecrated Life

- Jubilee was well attended, about 130 people. The January program regarding same sex attraction had about 64 attendees.
- Erin is due February, Sandra A..., will step up for many of her assignments, Linda Piccilo will handle sick and funerals, John Simons will handle letters of good standing. Sandra will pick up the rest. Erin plans to take eight full weeks of FMLA, then working four days per week, using Fridays for the remainder of her FMLA.
- Assignment letters have gone out for Deacons whose terms are an end, those letters will need a response. Any Deacons wishing to make mid-terms changes can request at this time. There will only be 5 meetings and hoping to have wrapped up by April 1.
- After survey and discussion, the couple's retreat will remain Valentine's weekend. It would not have been possible to change date, place or speaker at this time. Kevin said he would look at different dates for next year. Russ mentioned that as this is leap year, Valentine's would fall on Sunday next year.
- On the calendar there is request for Deacons at Cathedral for special events, there is now a Deacon assigned to the Cathedral, which has helped.
- There is only one candidate for October ordination, even with just the one, it will still be held at the cathedral. This brought up a question of how do we increase the number of candidates? Kevin mentioned that there were two information nights in the fall, did have a number of inquires after the info night. Could do more info nights, talk with men in our own parishes, offer an info night in our parish. It will take time. Going forward, at this time we have 4 men for 2021 and 5 for 2022.
- Kevin passed out a calendar of events for the year, as well as dates for Ordination out to 2023.
- No date set yet for Mini convocation, after discussion decided to set date in early December 2020, have two speakers, one for women and one for the men. Russ suggested sending out a simple survey of what each group would like as topic as well as suggestions for speakers.
- Russ discussed the website for Deacons, still in progress, pages to request a letter of good standing, find homily resources, community board information, Diaconate Wives. Link should have been sent out, will send out to community board members.
- Very brief discussion of election of chair/co-chair and secretary, will do after elections.

As the room was booked by another group, we dispersed early than planned at 8:59am, Dave moved we close, Skip seconded.

Next meeting will be March 21, 2020.

Following third Saturday as in past, May16, 2020, July 18, 2020, September 19, 2020, November 21, 2020.