

AOD Community Board
Meeting Minutes, November 20, 2021

Meeting Called to order 8:08 am with prayer.

Attendees: Chris Beltowski, Jim Berch, Carol Berch, Perry Clark, Mary Clark, Dave Fleming, Kelly Fleming, Bob Gadja, Alan Gwozdz, Dennis Loffreda, Brigid Loffreda, Russ Ortisi, Trish Ortisi, Marc Rybinski

Jim Berch approved minutes; Russ Ortisi seconded.

Deacon Chris's Clergy & Consecrated Life report:

- Ordination was October 2, three wonderful new deacons:, Charles (Deborah) Dault, Richard (Carol) Kliemann and Michael (Mary) Merlo.
- Convocation was great, many thanks for the great work done by the tea,
- Jubilarians for last year and this were recognized.
- The last All Deacon quarterly meeting was cancelled, going forward there are two scheduled for the year as there is just a lot going on, the next meeting on January 26 will be virtual as this seems to be the best way to reach everyone.
- We need to move forward on the Men's Fellowship as we've talked about in the past, just getting together, no agenda, just shoot the breeze most likely at a restaurant.
- Couples retreat is still on for February 18 to 20th at the Capuchin Retreat House. Presenters will be Anthony and Ann Feola, they are from Our Lady of Good Counsel as part of their renewal ministry. There have been suggestions that use another location, we will take other considerations for future retreats. Cost will be \$400 per couple, but that is rising costs from everywhere, I've looked at convocation for 2023 and prices have already or jacked up.
- Men's retreat is tentatively June 2022, based on family of parishes situation, we want to make sure it's fruitful for everybody in attendance.
- Mini convocation is set for September 17, 2022, very excited to have Dr. Marlon DeLaTorre this will be a great chance to get to know him better as he is the new Director of Evangelization and Missionary Discipleship for AOD.
- Dates to keep in mind for 2022; Ordination October 1, Jubilee October 30, 2023 September 21 to 24th convocation.
- Chris opened the floor for sharing on how family of parishes wave one is going, questions about happy to talk about:
 - Discussion ranged from things are progressing slowly to things are moving along great, some bumps in the road. Tensions here and there, some extra work for Deacons, especially where several parishes, but only one Deacon. Overall, things are progressing.
- Diaconate website, Chris to get the handbook to Russ to add, there will also be grief support resources, con vocations recordings, slides, some of the presentations didn't come out good, but all the slide presentations are there.
- Nominations requests will go out shortly, followed by voting so the new Board will be available for our next meeting in January. What will happen in January? The old and new board will meet, first order of business will be to elect a new chair, vice chair and secretary, who will take over meeting at that time.

Dennis announced that due to health conditions, isn't sure if he will be available for meeting on 15th, but will be available for supporting the Diaconate Board as best as he can. Thanked everyone for allowing him to be chair of the board for the past few years.

Any questions or ideas for the good of the community?

Wondering if we need to think about reorganizing to spread out the deacons? Some families have only one, other have three or four. Currently, idea to recommend status quo, but no not want to feel stuck.

Is there anything that we as a board can help you with? Aaron and Russ will get together and brainstorm and bring that to the next meeting.

Handbook, we'll put up what we have, make sure it says draft, then after elections, we'll form a subcommittee to start working on and have a target of by the end of 2022?

Closed with prayer at 9:18am

Reminders future Diaconate Community Board meetings will be at Sacred Heart Seminary third Saturdays of every other month. Next meetings are January 15, 2022 and March 18, 2022.