



Ongoing Formation Hours



Our records indicate there are 34 active deacons who have not yet submitted Ongoing Formation hours for 2007. As a reminder, all active deacons of this diocese are required to complete 25 clock hours annually. A revised Ongoing Formation Hours form was included with the

newsletter last month. It is also available for download from the web site.

We are hopeful that all deacons will comply by April 30. After April 30, it will be necessary to communicate the status of your Ongoing Formation hours as well as your Ministry Agreement with the Vicar for Clergy Office for further action.

You are encouraged to submit this required information as soon as possible.

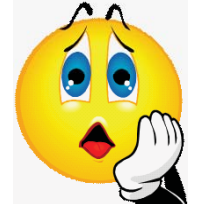
Ministry Agreements

Recognizing busy schedules for you and your pastor, the office grants leeway to the time line of updating Ministry Agreements.

Currently, 83 deacons are in need of updating their ministry agreements. In some cases, they are due to new pastor appointments. In most cases, however, it is simply a lapsed agreement.

As a reminder, a new ministry agreement is to be drawn up when appointed and then every three years or when there is a change in pastor or administrator. Enclosed is a Ministry Agreement. Please contact your pastor to schedule an appointment and complete this requirement.

Please send a completed, original signed agreement to this office. You and your pastor should each maintain a copy.



Diocesan Theological Institute

Preliminary information about the Diocesan Theological Institute was introduced to those attending Assembly Day and mentioned in the March newsletter. As a reminder, the institute is an ongoing formation opportunity for the graduates of the Ministry Formation program and the Permanent Diaconate. Deacon wives wishing to attend a course / courses offered with the institute, but have not completed Ministry Formation may also register.

Course offerings are: World Religions, Jesus of Nazareth, Spiritual Direction, The Gospels, Theological Reflection, Fathers of the Church, Church Teaching on Life Issues, Church History, Lead Like Jesus, Vatican II Documents, Meeting Christ in the Liturgy. We are pleased to announce an additional course added to the offerings of the institute: *History of the Catholic Church in America* and will be taught by Bishop Thomas G. Doran beginning in February 2009.

Classes will be offered on Saturday's 9:00 - 12:00 AM and 1:00 -4:00 PM as well as on Tuesday evenings and will be held at the Diocesan Administration Center. At times a course may be held at an alternative site to accommodate an instructor or larger group.

Although financial costs, schedules, etc. are still being finalized, it is estimated each course will cost \$100 for each registrant. If interested in any of the courses, you are encouraged to contact Pam Davis at extension 380 or email at PDavis@Rockforddiocese.org. Your name and the course you are interested in will be added to a database. You will be notified as soon as the details are finalized and registration materials are officially available.

Contact Information: Please notify the office with any changes to your email address, phone numbers, home address, etc.

Deacon I.D.'s: If you are need of a diocesan I.D, please provide the office with a 1 x 1 photo. Upon receiving a minimum of three requests, the office will submit the request and photo to the department for processing.

Pre-Nuptial / Annulment Class/Certification

Registration for deacons wishing to attend the Pre-nuptial / Annulment class for in preparation for certification is now closed. The Class of 2008, 2010 and twelve permanent deacons are scheduled to attend the class Saturday, April 19, 2008 Saturday, April 19, 2008 at Newman Center, DeKalb. Members of the Class of 2010, first year candidates, will be attending the class for auditing purposes only. The class is scheduled 9:00 AM - 1:00 P.M. with lunch at 1:00 PM and then dismissal. (The class was originally scheduled 9 - 12 & 1 - 2:30).

Permanent Deacons and the Class of 2008 attending the class are required to take the test the following Saturday, April 26 at the Diocesan Administration Building beginning at 9:00 AM. Certification will be given upon a passing grade.

St. Stephen-Deacon Relief Fund: An Update

As background, the Office has been given funds by parishes [tithes], deacons and individuals earmarked for assistance to deacons and their families in times of great need. The funds are kept in a separate account, isolated from the operating funds. With the advice of the Bishop's Committee for the Permanent Diaconate and authorization of the Vicar for Clergy, the Office has made several gifts since its inception over a decade ago.

Today, the funds are nearly depleted. If you or your parish would like to make a gift, please do so by sending a check payable to The Office for the Permanent Diaconate along with a letter indicating that it be deposited into the St. Stephen Fund. Please do not designate a specific name for the use of the funds. All donors will receive a tax donation letter.

Deanery Confirmation Update

Please review the confirmation schedule carefully, making note of all vacancies and contact the office with your willingness to assist or corrections. Letters of instruction will be sent to deacons assisting prior to each Confirmation. Please note the vacancies for May 17 and May 18 and contact the office with your willingness to assist.

*** Special Note for Sterling Deanery Confirmation April 20, 2008: There will be only a 1:00 PM Confirmation on April 20, 2008. The parishes participating at the 4:00 PM Confirmation will be combined with the 1:00 PM Confirmation on this day.**

Deanery Location Date Time
Aurora Aurora Central Catholic H.S. 4/5/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: Holy Angels, Sacred Heart; Aurora.
 1. Dick Groom 2. Mike Zibrun 3. Ray Weaver 4. Ignacio Felix
 5. Tom Petit 6. Greg Urban 7. Tom Hawksworth 8. Carlos Navarro **LIST COMPLETE**

Aurora Aurora Central Catholic H.S. 4/5/08 4:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Peter, Geneva.
 1. Mike Zibrun 2. Ray Weaver 3. Ignacio Felix 4. Tom Petit
 5. Greg Urban 6. Tom Hawksworth 7. Dick Groom 8. Hank Orlik **LIST COMPLETE**

Aurora Aurora Central Catholic H.S. 4/6/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: Annunciation, O.L.G.C., St. Mary, Aurora.
 1. Dick Groom 2. Ray Weaver 3. Norb Szudarski
 4. Ignacio Felix 5. Tom Petit 6. Bruce Watermann 7. Greg Urban
 8. Ray Martin **LIST COMPLETE**

Aurora Aurora Central Catholic H.S. 4/6/08 4:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: Holy Cross, Batavia
 1. Norb Szudarski 2. Ray Weaver 3. Ignacio Felix 4. Tom Petit
 5. Bruce Watermann 6. Greg Urban 7. Ray Martin 8. Carlos Navarro **LIST COMPLETE**

Sterling Newman H.S. 4/19/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Patrick, Dixon; St. Mary, West Brooklyn.

1. Terry Wagner 2. Larry Zitkus 3. Ron Szakatits 4. Sam Berard
 5. Kevin Prunty 6. John Kellen 7. Dan Goetz 8. Jim Lopez **LIST COMPLETE**

Sterling Newman H.S. 4/19/08 4:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Patrick, Amboy; St. Anne, Dixon.

1. Terry Wagner 2. Larry Zitkus 3. Ron Szakatits 4. Sam Berard
 5. Kevin Prunty 6. Dan Goetz 7. John Kellen 8. Jim Lopez **LIST COMPLETE**

Sterling Newman H.S. 4/20/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Mary, Sterling; St. Ambrose, Erie; St. Catherine, Prophetstown; St. Andrew, Rock Falls, Sacred Heart, Sterling, Immaculate Conception, Fulton.

1. Terry Wagner 2. Larry Zitkus 3. Ron Szakatits 4. Sam Berard
 5. Jim Lopez 6. John Kellen 7. Bill Lemmer 8. Dan Goetz **LIST COMPLETE**

McHenry Marian Central Catholic H.S. 5/3/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: SS. Peter & Paul, Cary; St. Joseph, Harvard; Sacred Heart, Marengo; St. Peter, Spring Grove.
 1. Hans Rokus 2. Jack O'leary 3. Lou Farinella 4. Art Holt
 5. Bob Anchor 6. Cy Grossmayer 7. Greg Duffey 8. Joe Kayser
 9. John McPhee 10. Mike Boyce 11. Tony Koss 12. Phil Emmert **LIST COMPLETE**

McHenry Marian Central Catholic H.S. 5/3/08 4:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Margaret Mary, Algonquin; St. Mary, Huntley; St. Joseph, Richmond.
 1. John McPhee 2. Cy Grossmayer 3. Hans Rokus 4. Don Miller
 5. Lou Farinella 6. Tom O'Brien 7. Bob Anchor 8. Art Holt
 9. Armand Ferrini 10. Gene Schubert 11. Greg Duffey
 12. Howard Fischer **LIST COMPLETE**

McHenry Marian Central Catholic H.S. 5/4/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: Holy Apostles, St. Mary, McHenry; St. Mary, Woodstock; St. Elizabeth, Crystal Lake.
 1. Ed Morrison 2. Joe Kayser 3. Jim Devona 4. Jack Roder
 5. Hans Rokus 6. Art Holt 7. John McPhee 8. Greg Duffey
 9. Allen Bondi 10. Cy Grossmayer 11. Jim Woeste 12. Joe Phelan **LIST COMPLETE**

McHenry Marian Central Catholic H.S. 5/4/08 4:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Thomas, Crystal Lake; St. John, Johnsburg; St. Patrick, McHenry.
 1. Ed Morrison 2. Jim Devona 3. Hans Rokus 4. John Nelson
 5. Art Holt 6. Greg Duffey 7. Allen Bondi 8. John McPhee
 9. Joe Kayser 10. Cy Grossmayer 11. Mark Raz 12. Tom O'Brien **LIST COMPLETE**

Elgin St. Patrick Church, St. Charles 5/17/08 10:00 AM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Catherine, Dundee; St. Thomas More, Elgin.
 1. Greg Stevens 2. Steve Fox 3. Bill Whitehead 4. Marty Hetzel
 5. Paul Iwanski **6. 7. 8.**

Elgin St. Patrick Church, St. Charles 5/17/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. John Neumann, St. Charles.
 1. Marty Hetzel 2. Greg Stevens 3. Paul Iwanski 4. Steve Fox
 5. Bill Whitehead **6. 7. 8.**

Elgin Elgin Community College 5/18/08 1:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Joseph, Elgin.
 1. Norb Szudarski 2. Jack Roder **3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.**

Elgin St. Patrick Church, St. Charles 5/18/08 4:00 PM
 Includes the following parishes: St. Patrick, St. Charles.
 1. Norb Szudarski 2. Jack Roder 3. Bill Johnson **4. 5. 6. 7. 8.**

Diaconate Calendar 2008

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Pre-Nuptial / Annulment Class	April 19, 2008	Newman Center, DeKalb
Pre-Nuptial / Annulment Test	April 26, 2008	Diocese of Rockford Admin. Bldg.
Permanent Deacon Ordination	May 24, 2008	Cathedral of St. Peter
Deacon Retreat	September 5 - 7, 2008	Bishop Lane
Priest / Deacon Symposium	September 12, 2008	Giovanni's - Rockford
Couples Retreat	October 10 - 12, 2008	Bishop Lane