



WORDS AND WORKS

quarterly newsletter for Holy Infant Parish
Ballwin, MO

Men of Faith, Men of Action —The Two Dans The Permanent Diaconate

By Ralph Moritz and Eileen Buehrle

The Diaconate was established in the first century of Christianity and flourished for the first 400 years of the church; but then gradually declined until it was resurrected by the Second Vatican Council in the early 1960's. One of the first seven deacons of the church was St. Stephen who was martyred for his faith;

another famous deacon was St. Francis of Assisi on whom Pope Francis has modeled his current papacy. Deacon is a Greek term for servant or messenger. The origin of the word means "of the dust" because of the dust that is kicked up by the busy servant or messenger.

The formation of a deacon is a rigorous and time demanding program requiring a total commitment on the part of the future deacon. Their wives also play a vital supportive role in the formation of their husbands. There are two types of deacons, a transitional deacon and a permanent deacon. A transitional deacon is a step in becoming an ordained priest, while the permanent deacon is a vow to live a life as an active servant and messenger of God. A transitional deacon is not married but a permanent deacon can be married but if single or widowed cannot marry once he is a deacon.

The work of the deacon is defined as a ministry of liturgy, word and charity. The deacon's response to his ministry is not to move away from the secular world, but to become more involved in it. His

daily dress is not different, but his manner of living demonstrates a caring for others and a living expression of the gospel of Jesus. There are approximately 19,000 deacons who are supporting and serving their parish pastors throughout the United States.

This past June, two of our parishioners became deacons.

They are Deacon

Dan Henke and Deacon

Dan Raidt. Both are married. Deacon Henke has 4 children and Deacon Raidt has 3 children.

When asked why he became a deacon, Deacon Henke said he is not sure that he ever really "wanted" to be a deacon but did "feel the calling and it took me a while to discern whether that is really where God wanted me to be. I knew that I felt the need to dedicate more of my time and energies to serve Him and His people. And, besides my family, it is this service that I derive my greatest

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Congratulations, Deacon Dan Raidt and Deacon Dan Henke.

(The Two Dans . . . Continued from page 1)

joy and satisfaction.”

Deacon Raidt said that being a deacon was something he had contemplated from time to time. He always kept it “at arm’s length” because of a tough work schedule requiring a lot of travel. As the diaconate came more and more into focus it “seemed to be a good way to give back to God - a God that had been so merciful to me for so many years.”

Friends and relatives often serve to influence a man to pursue the Diaconate; for Deacon Henke it was Deacon Ken Clemens of Holy Infant. He had been approached by Deacon Ken many years ago to become a deacon. Deacon Henke said when approached he thought it was very flattering. He “must see something in me that I don’t see. This planted the seed and I kept turning over the idea of being a deacon.” He also spoke to Monsignor Dempsey and Father Bannes who encouraged him. It was at an Informational Meeting for Formation that Deacon Jim Powers, of Holy Infant, got Deacon Henke’s attention. Deacon Jim told the group that when he first joined formation, he didn’t know if God was calling him. But he just took the first step and if it was not what God wanted him to do God would let him know. Deacon Henke felt that Deacon Jim was talking only to him. He told his wife what he wanted to do and she told him to “go for this and I think this is what God is calling you to do.”

Sister Rosario was the first person to suggest to Deacon Raidt to become a deacon. “Within 12 hours of that conversation” he said, “Deacon Ken and Deacon Bill Krull, of Holy Infant, also inquired into whether I would like to be a deacon all without knowing that others had spoken to me in this same regard. I figured that this was the Holy Spirit at work and I began to discern the Diaconate in earnest from that point forward.”

Every deacon is assigned to a parish, hospital, nursing home, prison or someplace where they can minister to people. We are grateful that both Deacon Henke and Deacon Raidt have been assigned to Holy Infant for their ministry. Deacon Henke said that a “deacon lives out his ministry in 3 ways – by assisting the sacraments, by proclaiming the word and by charitable works.” Their first minis-

try will be to assist the priests with Mass, perform Baptisms and funerals. Deacon Henke will be also assisting with Parish School Religion (PSR), be a leader for Stephen Ministry, working with couples through Teams of Our Lady and other marriage groups. He is being trained as an Annulment Advocate.

Deacon Raidt plans to be more involved with Legion of Mary, Knights of Columbus, visiting the sick and homebound, plus more with the youth and seniors. He is pursuing a Master’s Degree in Theology in order to be qualified to be a board-certified hospital chaplain. He plans to spend a lot of time in ministering to the sick, injured and dying as well as their families and the staff at the hospitals.

At Holy Infant we are privileged to have had several deacons. Deacon Bill Krull was a deacon at Holy Infant but died in 2012. We had another deacon, Richard Lake, who was not assigned to Holy Infant but who died in an automobile accident. Currently, besides Deacon Henke and Deacon Raidt we have Deacon Jim Powers who is a Deacon at Our Lady of Guadalupe and plays the bass fiddle for the Holy Infant Joyful Noise Choir. Deacon Ken is a retired deacon having been the head of PSR for many years. He will be helping at Holy Infant with whatever Father Stanger would like him to do as well as helping with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA); plus occasionally teaching PSR and preaching once a month.

When asked what advice they would give to someone who wants to become a deacon, Deacon Raidt said he “would advise anyone discerning the Diaconate to talk with as many people involved with the Diaconate as possible – this would include the spouses and families of deacons. Carla, my wife and I discerned this calling for at least a year before I petitioned to join the Diaconate Formation with the Archdiocese of St. Louis.”

Deacon Henke said his advice was “simple . . . pray and discern, take the time to just listen to God! It’s great to think we know where we should be going but it’s even better when we allow God to lead us! It can be scary sometimes, but that’s when you just try harder and pray to accept where He is leading you.”

By Carol Laupp and Jean Hostman

Holy Infant Business Network

Have you ever wondered "Where can I find a good financial advisor?" or perhaps "Does anyone know of a good handyman that is dependable?" or "Which real estate agent can get my house sold quickly?" You might want to start your search with our very own Business Network (HIBN) here at Holy Infant Parish.

The HIBN consists of business owners, independent contractors and sales representatives who come together not only to share information and knowledge among themselves, but also to give back to the community as well as the Parish. They financially support most of the parish functions as well as make donations to various causes and fundraisers, including St Vincent DePaul Society, Saints Peter and Paul men's shelter and Holy Infant School Tuition.

The goal of HIBN is to provide a place where parishioners in need of products or services can find businesses run by fellow parishioners, who provide those products and services. When utilizing a HIBN member, you in turn support the parish.

HIBN was first formed in March of 2005 and has continued to be a viable asset to the Parish community. Only Parish members are allowed to join, and types of businesses are not limited to one of a kind

in the group as it is with other networking groups.

They meet the First Thursday of every month at 5:30 p.m. currently at The Corner Pub at Clarkson and Clayton Roads. If you would like to join HIBN or are interested in contacting one of its members, call Jean Hostman at (314) 750-1870 or Bernie Williams at (314) 603-1778 or log onto the website www.HolyInfant.biz

Make a difference and support the businesses that help to support your Parish community.



submitted photo

HIBN serving dinner at the men's shelter at Soulard, St. Peter and Paul.



submitted photo

Thank You Father Chris for your years of service at Holy Infant Parish. We ask God's Blessings upon you as you begin your ministry to the good people of St. James The Greater Parish!!

Farewell Father Chris Dunlap

By Pam Miller



submitted photo

WHY NOW? NEW CATHOLICS !

By Eileen Buehrle



2013-2014 Holy Infant RCIA

“While they were still speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple guard, and the Sadducees confronted them, disturbed that they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead. They laid hands on them and put them in custody until the next day, since it was already evening. But many of those who heard the word came to believe and (the) number of men grew to (about) five thousand.” (Acts 4:1-5). At Holy Infant, we have never had thousands of people wanting to enter the Catholic Church, but on Holy Saturday; we had 22 men and women baptized or making a profession of Faith, confirmed and receiving Holy Eucharist.

These 22 individuals began in September of 2013 to learn about the Catholic Church. They had either never been baptized, baptized in another Christian Church or baptized as an infant in the Catholic Church but never received any religious upbringing in the Catholic faith. They all went through a conversion and learning process in a program called Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). They met each week beginning in September of last year and continued for three weeks after Easter. They had a sponsor who was willing to be with them for support and encouragement as they

went through the program. RCIA is a four step process based on the principle that the process of conversion proceeds gradually, in stages, progressing from one stage to the next stage. The experience and needs of each individual differs, and so the length of time may vary for each person, yet there are certain similarities in the process everyone will experience.

Many people might wonder why these 22 individuals felt this was the time to join the Catholic Church. I asked a few of them this question. Corey had been baptized at a young age but never confirmed. After his marriage and the Baptism of his son, his desire for Confirmation grew. Andrea had been a Christian all of her life but was drawn to the Catholic Church by the “transformational approach taken by the Church to become Christ-like”. Katelyn had learned about the Catholic faith in college. She is now engaged and her fiancé has taught her more about the Catholic faith. After he proposed to her she decided to go through RCIA so she could “officially become part of the church.” John’s fiancé helped with his decision. She supported him in his choice to become a Catholic.

The process of deciding to inquire about the Catholic Church can be started by someone in a person’s life. John and Andrea were inspired by their future partners. Corey was going through a tough period in his life and a co-worker, a strong Christian man, talked him through his situation, put a Bible in his hand and he has been walking ever since.”

Another question I asked was what changes they have made as a Catholic. Andrea said she now tries “to speak with actions and not words...The Catholic Church brought something new to the table-Eucharist.” John says he has made a real effort to

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(Why Now? . . . Continued from page 4)

control...his patience and not only to not hurt the feelings of others, but to compliment or say hello, or just open a door for someone.” Corey says he listens more and prays for others more than himself. He reads the Bible more than he had previously but he says he is “still a work in process.”

If you or anyone you know wishes to inquire about the Catholic Church to see if it is for you, please contact Laura Marlo at 636/346-7983 or at laura.marlo@ustrust.com. She will be glad to answer any questions or to help anyone begin the RCIA process. These four individuals seem to be glad they did.

FATHER ANSTOETTER'S VATICAN EXPERIENCES

By Mary Jane Zust

No one was more surprised than Father Anstoetter as he entered Holy Infant school and heard the call “more chairs” coming from Rosario Hall where he was to talk about his Vatican experiences. It was Sunday, June 1st, Father Chris’ big day – jam-packed church and dining room, and long lines waiting to greet him. Surely there couldn’t be very many people with energy enough to be back at Holy Infant this evening. Father Anstoetter’s week had been a busy one too but so many people waiting to hear his talk quickly energized him.

Father is an excellent speaker and his exuberance captivated the audience as he began showing his many slides of the Vatican, explaining his involvement in many of them. He was able to give his viewers some understanding of the Vatican System. Especially interesting to the group were those places the 250 seminarians from the Pontifical North American College call home.

Some of the slides brought specific memories to Father. One of his favorites is of Cardinal Dolan who, in his usual style, was able to make Pope Benedict VI smile as Dolan became a Cardinal. A bitter-

sweet memory is Pope Benedict’s last Mass. Father and his priest friends had looked on the Pope almost as a loving father, and were shocked beyond belief when they received word of his resignation. Father Anstoetter felt blessed to be able to assist at that last Mass on Ash Wednesday and did so with deep gratitude and great sadness. Benedict was no longer Pope and the Chair of St. Peter was vacant.

Another slide shows close to 250 seminarians from the North American College lined up on either side of the road as eight American Cardinals made their way to the Conclave. Father explained that the word “Conclave” means “with a key” but the locking now is really ceremonial. At one time the Cardinals were literally “locked in” but since it took two years before they could come to a decision, several ways were tried to force a faster vote. One was to offer the Cardinals only bread and water for their food. That only brought more problems. Another way was to hold the Conclave in a roofless room. Not good either. Eventually the present “locked in” carefully guarded system prevailed. The Cardinals’ needs are cared for quietly and efficiently, allowing each of



Father Anstoetter addresses an enthusiastic crowd in Rosario Hall.

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Words and Works is a quarterly publication of Holy Infant Parish, informing parishioners of events and activities of interest to the parish, with a further goal of fostering unity within the Church and drawing all together into a closer warmer Church family.

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TREK TO THE HEART OF GOD: Spiritual Opportunities for Men

By Kathie Hanneke

TUESDAYS WITH HIM: Meet other men from Holy Infant on Tuesday mornings after 6 AM Mass at St. Louis Bread Co. in Winchester Plaza to discuss the Scripture readings of the day and other interesting topics. Call Jon Nienas 636-207-0386 or email nienas@att.net

PX90: Men gather every Saturday morning from 7 - 8:30 AM for a spiritual workout with video presentations, guest inspirational speakers and small group discussions. PX90 will resume this Fall with the exciting **SYMBOLON** video series. **SYMBOLON** is a beautiful presentation of the Catholic faith using an exciting video filmed on location in Rome, the Holy Land, Calcutta, and elsewhere. It features dozens of nationally-known teachers such as **Johnette Benovic**, **Patrick Coffin**, **Tim Gray**, **Curtis Martin**, **Edward Sri**, **Teresa Tomeo** and many others who unpack the Catholic faith and call people to live it more deeply. Call Jon Nienas 636-207-0386 or email nienas@att.net. Also check out the PX90 blog site: <http://himenpx90.blogspot.com/>

MEN'S WHITE HOUSE RETREAT: Join the group of Holy Infant Men who make the annual Fall retreat the weekend of October 16-19. The retreat starts with 7:00 PM dinner Thursday and ends at 2:00 PM Sunday. Call Steve Laug 314-892-7333 cell, whretreat.laug@gmail.com to register. There is also an annual mid-week retreat, which starts at noon Monday, September 29 and ends after brunch on Thursday, October 2. Call Joe Pfeifer 636-220-9564, mejoe@charter.net to register for the mid-week retreat. Many men report the time away is relaxing, but also spiritually uplifting. The Jesuits use the Ignatius-centered spirituality involving prayer, reading and reflection. Check the Holy Infant website for details: <http://holyyinfantballwin.org/ministries/spiritual-growth/retreat-opportunities/white-house/>

CRHP: The Men's Christ Renews His Parish retreat offers a weekend filled with inspirational witnesses by fellow men parishioners; prayer and sacraments; time for personal reflection; plus group activities and discussions. Prayerfully consider attending the weekend of October 18 - 19, 2014. Call Adam Szabo, 314-724-6733 or aszabo@jamplast.com

Holy Infant Fall Festival - September 12-13, 2014

Sign up to volunteer online!

<http://holyyinfant.ivolunteer.fcom/fallfestival2014>

Father Welschmeyer

1954—2014

Reverend Joseph John Welschmeyer was born in 1954 in Freeburg, Missouri, and was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on May 27, 2000. He died on June 25, 2014. Father Joe was an Associate



submitted photo

Pastor at Holy Infant from 2002 until 2008. He was appointed pastor of St. James Catholic Church in Potosi, Missouri in 2008. Father Joe also served as a chaplain at the Potosi Correctional Center. His funeral Mass was held at Holy Infant Catholic Church on Saturday June 28, 2014. Archbishop Robert Carlson was the main celebrant and Msgr. Thomas Dempsey was the homilist. A Mass of Christian Burial was also celebrated on Monday, June 30, 2014 at Holy Family Church in Freeburg, Missouri, Father Joe's home parish. Burial was at Holy Family Cemetery in Freeburg. Father Joe was a friend to so many and had so many friends — he will be greatly missed. †

(Father Anstoetter'sContinued from page 5)

them maximum time to discuss and ponder their momentous decision.

At the time of the Conclave, Father was finishing his studies at the Pontifical University of Sant'Anselmo. Just to be in Rome, ten minutes from St. Peter's Square in Holy Week was a wonderful experience for a young priest. And to be there at a Conclave was mind-boggling. It seemed unreal to Father to meet almost all the American Cardinals, including Cardinal Dolan, and to watch as Cardinals from all over the world arrive for the Conclave. Adding to the excitement was his acquired knowledge of Italian, which allowed him to listen to or be part of some of the world - spanning conversations.

Father was returning from class at Sant'Anselmo on the evening Pope Francis was elected. Knowing the smoke at the Conclave almost always was black for the second vote he did not rush as he walked along the Tiber. That changed dramatically when he heard the words "white smoke." He thought "the vacant Chair of St. Peter's is filled and I need to see that white smoke" And he did. Running at a speed he didn't know he possessed he managed to arrive at St. Peter's in time to see the last of the white smoke and to hear a Cardinal announce "Habemus Papam" - "We have a Pope." He announced the name of the new Pope and his chosen name "Francis."

When the Cardinal announced the name "Bergoglio" few in the crowd, including Father, recognized the name. Using his cell phone, Father

asked his Mother to find out "on line."

She gave him the information and he shared it with those around him, including Chris Nagus from Channel 4.

The scene at St. Peter's was electric, as more and more people thronged into the Square – crying, laughing, hugging, yet all keeping one eye on the balcony immediately above the front door of St. Peter's. The balcony is used only at Christmas, Easter and the election of a new pope. It was dark now and wouldn't be lighted until the new Pope was about to step out. But pandemonium reigned unchecked in the square as an estimated 80,000 people watched and waited

The balcony lights went on, and the crowd went crazy. When Pope Francis stepped out, St. Peter's Square erupted into one colossal roar. The Pope greeted the people and asked them to pray for him. It doesn't seem possible but at that moment, some 80,000 excited people gave their gift to the new Pope – a prayer in such complete silence one could have heard a pin drop.

Father thought of the millions of people around the world glued to their T.Vs also watching and waiting, maybe giving their gifts of silence and prayer to Pope Francis. But he, just an ordinary new young priest, was HERE, he was EXPERIENCING it, he was PART of this world-changing event. That thought was almost too much for him to bear. He knew that this moment, this Holy Week, this complete experience was so indelibly printed on his mind and in his heart that he would carry the memories of it all with him forever.

Regular Mass Schedule

Sunday Obligation

Saturday: 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 7 a.m., 8:30 a.m.,
10:15 a.m. and noon

Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday: 6 a.m. and
8 a.m.; Saturday 8 a.m.

Holy Day Masses

Please check the bulletin or
call the rectory to check
times for Holy Day Masses.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

24 hours, 7 days a week.
Enter the chapel through the
main lobby.

Holy Infant Church

627 Dennison Drive, Ballwin MO 63021-4898

Rectory: (636) 227-7440 FAX (636) 227-4548

Website: www.holyinfantballwin.org

Pastoral Staff

Father Edward J. Stanger Pastor
Father Donald T. Anstoetter Associate Pastor
Father Thomas Vordtriede Associate Pastor

Rectory Office Hours

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.
Closed for lunch from noon -1 p.m.

Ministry to the Homebound

Please call the rectory if you are ill at home or in the hospital or
nursing facility and would like Communion brought to you. Volun-
teers also are available to help in other ways.

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627 Dennison Drive
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These are instructions for printing the Newsletter and are not intended to be part of the printing process.

- 3000 copies
- **Fold in half for mailing (5 1/2 x 8 1/2.)** (We decreased the number of pages of the newsletter so the printer could fold for mailing..)
- **Ship copies to the following address:**

Pam Miller

311 Fox Briar Lane

Ballwin Missouri 63021

"DO NOT SHIP TO HOLY INFANT"

Contact phone numbers for Pam Miller

314-498-6730 (cell/home)

314-625-9225 (work)

Please process as quickly as possible—Thank you so much.