On Saturday, June 4, Archbishop Blase Cupich ordained 13 men into the Order of Deacon for the Archdiocese of Chicago. The liturgy at Holy Name Cathedral drew a record number of deacons (nearly 100) who vested to offer the Kiss of Peace to their new brothers during the Ordination Rite. It also saw the largest crowd to witness a deacon ordination in recent memory.

IDS would like to thank all the deacons, their wives and everyone who participated in this beautiful liturgy. Special thanks goes to the candidates and wives of Cohorts 2017 and 2018 who acted as ushers and brought a wonderful spirit of hospitality to this important event.
Also special thanks to David Pham, Year One Candidate, who shot these great photos for IDS!

A touching note: Newly-ordained Deacon Richard Holevoet (second from the right in the photo) was blessed to welcome his father, Deacon John Holevoet, Diocese of Peoria, as his vesting clergy. Deacon father and son also distributed Holy Communion side-by-side at the liturgy.

The new deacons are:

Deacon David F. Babczak  
sponsored by Rev. Edward B. Panek, Administrator  
St. Raymond de Penafort, Mt. Prospect  
Wife: Monica Babczak

Deacon Kevin Joseph Blindauer  
sponsored by Rev. Gerald T. Gunderson, Pastor  
Mary, Seat of Wisdom, Park Ridge  
Wife: Gladys Gysel Blindauer

Deacon Robert Francis Conlin  
sponsored by Rev. James P. Finno, Pastor  
St. Stephen, Deacon and Martyr, Tinley Park  
Wife: Catherine F. Conlin

Deacon Robert Edward Cyran  
sponsored by Rev. Ronald J. Gollatz, Pastor  
Transfiguration, Wauconda  
Wife: Renata Cyran

Deacon Michael Joseph Fekete  
sponsored by Rev. Lawrence J. Malcolm, Pastor  
St. Gerald, Oak Lawn  
Wife: Mary Jo Fekete

Deacon Richard M. Holevoet  
sponsored by Rev. Fred C. Pesek, Jr., Pastor  
St. Patrick, Wadsworth  
Wife: Jennifer L. Holevoet

Deacon Herbert Darrell Johnson  
sponsored by Rev. Lawrence M. Duris, Pastor  
St. Ailbe, Chicago  
Wife: Tina Marie Johnson

Deacon Joseph Gregory Krame  
sponsored by Rev. Paul G. Stemn, Pastor  
Our Lady of Humility, Beach Park/Zion  
Wife: Karen Elizabeth Krame
Deacon John Francis Mutnansky
sponsored by Rev. Thomas P. Conde, Pastor
St. Christina, Chicago
Wife: Karen D. Mutnansky

Deacon Neil Scott Rogers
sponsored by Rev. Waldemar Stawiarski, Pastor
SS. Cyril & Methodius, Lemont
Wife: Patricia M. Rogers

Deacon Thomas J. Ruzevich
sponsored by Rev. Joseph T. Noonan, Pastor
St. Damian, Oak Forest
Wife: Laura A. Ruzevich

Deacon Thomas Dale Schutzius
sponsored by Rev. Kenneth J. Fleck, Pastor
St. George, Tinley Park
Wife: JoAnn M. Schutzius

Deacon Douglas Peter Szarzynski
sponsored by Rev. Thomas R. Koys, Pastor
St. James at Sag Bridge, Lemont
Wife: Carolyn L. Szarzynski

A few more photographs from the ordination liturgy:

*Candidates laying prostrate during the Litany of the Saints*
Candidates making promise of obedience to the Archbishop

Around IDS

- June 11 – Aspirancy Path Day of Reflection
- June 18 – Admission and Scrutinies Board for recommendations to the Candidate Path
- The IDS staff is nearing completion of the application process for 2016-2017. Initial outlook tells us it’s shaping up to be a large Aspirancy Path cohort, which will start the formation year with a Welcome Retreat on Aug. 27-28. Then they’ll join the other IDS cohorts at the Welcome Mass at the Chapel of the Immaculate Conception, Mundelein Seminary, at 1:30 p.m.; our celebrant is scheduled to be the Very Rev. John Kartje, Rector/President of University of Saint Mary of the Lake/Mundelein Seminary.
- IDS also is scheduling end-of-the-year interviews with all Candidate Path Year 2 and 3 candidates/wives
- Finally, IDS will meet with Aspirants moving to Candidate Path Year 1 to preview the upcoming formation year; pastors will be invited to attend this meeting
- Fall Semester courses officially begin on Monday, August 29

Until then, IDS wishes everyone a safe, relaxing, enjoyable summer!

IDS June Birthdays

Prayers for a special blessing on these folks who celebrate birthdays this month:
6/6 - Conrad Wojnar; 6/7 - Jim Farina; 6/7 - Jan LeTourneau; 6/8 - Rich Korepanow; 6/9 - Mark Buckley; 6/22 - Rita Farina

Let Us Remember in Prayer Those Entrusted to Our Care

Pray for our beloved who have passed from this life to the next: Johnny Miller, Bridget Lenihan, Ann Chester, Elizabeth Ruth Lynch, Dr. Gerry Girdaukas, Maria Carmen Woodard, Kathy O’Brien, Robert Kunkel, Rev. Richard Mueller, Rev. Luc Tran, Tom Tricarico, Anna Georgen, Jerry Cerabona, Deacon Joseph Walsh, Kathy Fekete, Alice P. Anthony, JoAnn Streppa, Ron Szarzynski, Ronald Giranio

Pray in a particular way for all of our sick: Stanisława Ciomek, Marites Negrón, Catherine O’Hearn, Rita Farina, Justin Souta, Tom Seehausen, Yuki Birck, Lorraine Olley, Barbara Kupsak, Gloria Enriquez, Joan Madej
Deacon Peter Hajdu, Cohort of 2014, died suddenly while ministering at St. Emily in Mt. Prospect on June 6. He was the Deacon of the Eucharist for the ordination liturgy of his cohort; along with his wife, Melissa, he served as a Theological Reflection Group facilitator couple for IDS; and he was the newest member of our Admission and Scrutinies Board, which he would have attended for the first time on June 18.

Deacon Hajdu was a kind, humble servant who would always take time to help anyone in need. He was a wonderful model of diaconal ministry and the spirit of service. He will be sorely missed.

Please keep his wife, Melissa, their children, and the rest of his family in your prayers. Eternal rest grant unto Deacon Hajdu, O Lord!

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*The next edition of the newsletter will be issued in mid-August in preparation for the upcoming 2016-17 formation year.*