

**St. Patrick's School**  
**Bedford, NY**  
**Open House**  
**January 26, 2020**  
**1-3 pm**

*St. Patrick's*  
*Parochial*  
*School*

**483 Old Post Road**  
**Bedford, NY 10506**  
**(914) 234-7914**  
**(914) 234-0773 fax**  
**[www.stpatricksbedford.com](http://www.stpatricksbedford.com)**  
**[www.applycatholicschoolsny.org](http://www.applycatholicschoolsny.org)**

**Established 1956 by Sisters of Charity**

**We exist to teach our faith to our children,  
to instill a set of core values of Christianity,  
to promote a high academic standard, and to  
teach & build a spirit of community**

**Accredited by AdvanceEd**

**Dedicated, Professional & NYS Certified  
Staff**

**Follow NYS Core Curriculum**

**We are located in historic  
Bedford, NY on park like  
acres...Affordable private  
education...Full day Pre-K  
program...High academic  
standards & performance....After  
school programs...  
Full day Pre-K 3 & 4  
Art, Spanish, PE, Music, Tech**

**Mrs. Sharyn O'Leary, Principal**

**St. Patrick's School seeks to instill in our children a LOVE of God; to impart a fundamental knowledge of our FAITH;  
to create an atmosphere of Christian LOVE and RESPECT and to maintain HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

## Is Christ Divided?

**“You’re breaking the back of the body of Christ!”** Saint Paul might have said this to members of the Corinthian community who rival each other, claiming that the leader who baptized them is greater than the one who baptized others: “I belong to Paul...I belong to Apollos...I belong to Cephas” (1 Corinthians 1:12). This suggests that, based on their baptizer, the members themselves are superior. Such rivalry sounds so petty. We should be careful here, because some of this rivalry still exists in the Church.

In any healthy group there will be diverse opinions. We all have our own tastes, preferences, cultural habits, and so on. This is true in church music, preaching style, and religious devotion. The uniformity of the Church prior to the Second Vatican Council has given way to great diversity. What is different is not necessarily bad. Nor is our preference necessarily superior. Such diversity need not pit us against each other, but sometimes it does. Is Christ divided over points of preference?

We are all part of the body of Christ; we are all God’s beloved. The diversity among us challenges us to work toward the common good, to “be united in the same mind and in the same purpose” (1 Corinthians 1:10). Let us not divide Christ.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *How do you act toward someone who understands faith differently? Do you respect their viewpoint or automatically ignore them?*
- ★ *Which religious voices do you listen to? Why?*

*From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”*

MATTHEW 4:17



# Dear Padre,

**What are deacons' duties? Can they preside at wedding ceremonies? What about baptisms and other duties usually reserved for priests?**

**T**he Catholic Church has two kinds of deacons: transitional deacons, seminarians in the last stage of their studies for the priesthood, and permanent deacons, men who will remain deacons.

Transitional and permanent deacons can baptize, give homilies at Mass, give blessings (for example, the blessing of throats on St. Blaise's feast day), perform the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, and preside at wedding and funeral services where there is no Mass.

Neither type of deacon can administer the sacrament of reconciliation. They can visit and bless the sick, but they cannot anoint them. Deacons can distribute holy Communion, but they cannot consecrate the bread and wine.

Unlike transitional deacons, permanent deacons can be married. If a deacon's wife dies, he may not remarry except in certain circumstances, for example, if his children are still very young. Unmarried permanent deacons must remain unmarried.

Deacons are vital to the life of the Church. Many permanent deacons have families and full-time jobs in addition to their Church work. We don't thank deacons and their families enough for the many sacrifices they make for the people of God.



DEACON, AT LEFT / CNS PHOTO SEAN GALLAGHER, THE CRITERION

—Fr. Donald Kirchner, CSSR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

## A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*It deeply troubles me when I see a timetable in a parish: "From such a time to such a time." ...Don't worry about the timetable: have the courage to look past the timetable. In this way, dear deacons, if you show that you are available to others, your ministry will not be self-serving, but evangelically fruitful.*

—JUBILEE OF DEACONS, MAY 29, 2016



## Calendar

### Monday

JANUARY 27  
Weekday  
2 Sm 5:1–7, 10  
Mk 3:22–30

### Tuesday

JANUARY 28  
St. Thomas Aquinas,  
Priest and Doctor of  
the Church  
2 Sm 6:12b–15, 17–19  
Mk 3:31–35

### Wednesday

JANUARY 29  
Weekday  
2 Sm 7:4–17  
Mk 4:1–20

### Thursday

JANUARY 30  
Weekday  
2 Sm 7:18–19, 24–29  
Mk 4:21–25

### Friday

JANUARY 31  
St. John Bosco,  
Priest  
2 Sm 11:1–4a, 5–10a,  
13–17  
Mk 4:26–34

### Saturday

FEBRUARY 1  
Weekday  
2 Sm 12:1–7a, 10–17  
Mk 4:35–41

### Sunday

FEBRUARY 2  
Presentation  
of the Lord  
Mal 3:1–4  
Heb 2:14–18  
Lk 2:22–40  
or 2:22–32