



Deacon News

Diocese of Davenport

Winter 2016

“Thus says the LORD:
Here is my servant whom I
uphold, my chosen one
with whom I am pleased,
upon whom I have put my
spirit;.” *Isaiah 42:1 -
First Reading—Baptism of
the Lord*

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From the Diaconate Office:

Deacon David Montgomery, Director of the Diaconate

I have some news that I want to share with you that was announced at the November Clergy Overnighter last fall by Bishop Amos.

Rev. Msgr. John Hyland, the vicar general of our diocese, will be retiring next July. The bishop will appoint a new VG in January to work with Msgr. Hyland until July. The new VG will work part time while retaining his parish assignment, focusing primarily on job responsibilities outside of the chancery. Bishop Amos is reserving the responsibilities of moderator of the curia to himself. A new position is being created following to some degree with what has been developing in other dioceses to assist the bishop - a chief of staff. I have accepted this position.

With this change in assignment, I will be continuing to serve as Chancellor with the additional responsibilities of the Director of Communication. However, the part-time position of Director of the Diaconate will be assigned to another deacon who will begin in July. It has been an honor to serve you and with you. I have been blessed in many ways with the gifts of ministry you have shared with me.

The **National Association of Diaconate Directors** is sponsoring the 2018 National Congress celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Permanent Diaconate in the United States in July 2018 in New Orleans.

Last month I asked for your input to a survey regarding advertising for this event. Thank you for your responses. Here are the results.

The most popular periodicals you read are (in order of popularity):

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
1 Deacon Digest	73.2%	115
2 Magnificat	33.8%	53
3 America	32.5%	51
4 Catholic Digest	22.9%	36
5 Other (please specify)	21.7%	34
6 Liguorian	21.0%	33
7 St. Anthony Messenger	13.4%	21
8 The Catholic Answer	12.1%	19
9 US Catholic	12.1%	19
10 Josephinum Diaconal Review	11.5%	18
11 Maryknoll	10.2%	16



**50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE
DIACONATE**
JULY 2018 - NEW ORLEANS

Important Dates**Priest Convocation**

March 14-15, 2016

Archabbot Lambert

Reilly, OSB

Ordinations

June 4, 2016

June Clergy Institute

June 6-8, 2016

Deacon Formation—Class VII

The application and formation process for Deacon Class VIII will begin this fall. During this inquiry phase, those discerning a possible call to the diaconate begin a period of purposeful reflection on this calling.

To help them in this process, we will host "information days" in each of the six deaneries. The purpose of these inquiry sessions is to introduce men to the diaconate, explain our formation program, and answer any questions that they or their wives might have. The application forms will be distributed only to those who attend one of these sessions.

Once the written application is completed an interview with the Director of Deacon Formation will be arranged. If all is in order, an interview with the Admissions and Scrutinies Committee will then be scheduled.

Those who may be interested in the Diaconate are reminded that completing one year in our diocese's lay Ministry Formation Program is a prerequisite. For more information on the lay ministry program, please contact Mr. John Valenti in the Faith Formation Office (563-888-4244) or click here for more information: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/faithform/Lay%20Ministry%20MFP.htm>.

The table below lists the dates, times, and locations for these Inquiry Sessions. Please call the office (563-888-4257) or e-mail the Director (agnoli@davenportdiocese.org) to reserve a place at one of these meetings.

September/Septiembre 2016	
17 (Sab/Sat) - Español/Spanish - 2-6 pm	St. Mary—216 N. Court Street, Ottumwa
18 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	St. Mary—216 N. Court Street, Ottumwa
24 (Sat/Sab) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	Sacred Heart—1115 S. 8th Ave E., Newton
25 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5pm	SS. Mary & Joseph Church (Holy Family Parish) 1111 Ave. E, Fort Madison
October/Octubre 2016	
22 (Sab/Sat) - Español/Spanish - 2-6 pm	St. Patrick—4330 St. Patrick Dr., Iowa City
23 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	St. Patrick—4330 St. Patrick Dr., Iowa City
29 (Sat/Sab) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	Chancery—780 W. Central Park, Davenport
30 (Sun/Dom) - English/Inglés - 1-5 pm	St. Joseph—417 6th Ave., DeWitt
November/Noviembre 2016	
19 (Sab/Sat) - Español/Spanish - 2-6 pm	Chancery—780 W. Central Park, Davenport

For general information on formation for the diaconate, please see our Deacon Formation Page: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/dcn/dcnformation.htm>.

The link to the Class VIII webpage is: <http://www.davenportdiocese.org/dcn/dcnclassviii.htm>.

**Candidacy Year II Calendar -
Spring & Summer 2016**
Please keep them in your prayers



January 9-10, 2016	Introduction to Liturgy <i>Formation: Baptism Preparation</i>
February 6-7	Deacon Spring Retreat
February 13-14* <i>Begin scheduling ASC interviews.</i>	Sacraments I <i>Formation: RCIA</i>
March 5*	Interviews with Director
March 12-13* <i>Evaluations from parish, etc. due.</i>	Sacraments I <i>Formation: Chant II</i> <i>Separate formation session for the wives.</i>
March 19*	Interviews with Director
April 9-10*	Sacraments I <i>Formation: Theological Reflection</i> <i>Separate formation session for the wives.</i>
May 14-15 <i>Turn in binder.</i>	Liturgy Practicum I
June 5*	Interviews with Admissions and Scrutinies Committee
June 11*	Retreat Day Rite of Installation as Acolytes

* = required for wives

Candidate Wife Parish City

Steve Barton	Rosie	Holy Family, Davenport	Karl Lantzky	Kathy St. Paul, Davenport
Dan Freeman	Judy	St. Andrew, Blue Grass	Joe Rohret	Tammy St. Peter, Cosgrove
Tom Hardie	Mary	St. Anthony, Knoxville	Mike Snyder	Patty Our Lady of Lourdes, Bettendorf
John Jacobsen	Tracey	Sacred Heart Cathedral, Davenport	Lowell Van Wyk	Denise St. Mary, Pella
Chris Kabat	Julie	St. Wenceslaus, Iowa City	Joseph Welter	Katie Newman Center/ St. Mary, Iowa City

DELIVERY: VERBAL AND NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION

Over the last eleven articles, we've explored the "what" of preaching – attending to the content of a homily: what message do we want to convey, what words do we use, what form should the homily take, what do we need to do if we are going to be heard by our particular assembly? In this twelfth article, I want to turn our attention to the other part of the equation: the *how* of preaching.

The art of communication is complex; preaching is no exception. On the one hand, we need to attend to the verbal (voice) aspects of communication. For example, what is the quality of the preacher's voice? Is it loud enough and does s/he project? Does pitch vary, or is the preacher monotone? Is the preacher able to be easily understood, or does s/he have problems with sound production (technically, articulation and phonation)? Does s/he have a pronounced accent or dialect that may make it hard for some to understand?

One key area that we tend not to pay much attention to is what speech experts call "fluency". In the extreme, this can mean problems with cluttering or stuttering; more commonly, we're talking about rate and the use of pauses. A common error in preaching is speaking too quickly—that's especially a risk if we use a manuscript (we tend to read faster than we speak). If folks can't keep up with us, they will stop listening. When Dr. Rick Stern, the homiletics professor from St. Meinrad, presented to Deacon Class VII in December 2015, he mentioned that pauses are among the most underutilized and effective strategies in preaching. Teresa Fry Brown (35) puts it this way:

The rate and duration of speech expresses emotion—for instance, slow indicates sadness, fast indicates joy. The use of action verbs, the length and types of sentences used in speaking (that is, declarative, exclamatory, or interrogatory), and punctuation set the intonation of vocal production. The use of a pause in speech is an indication of control and transition. The speaker may use the pause as a means of allowing the listener to catch up, integrate what has been said, or satisfy expectations of the homiletical event. At times preachers are reticent to pause. They feel the need to fill a void, resort to repetitions, or fear waiting even briefly for the communication to be transmitted. The pause, however, indicates the completion of a thought, timing for vocal variety, maintenance of interest, and allowing the listener to reconnect or attend to the content of the message.

On the other, we also need to attend to the non-verbal. According to Brown, the preacher also "embodies" the word. She states that embodiment "occurs when someone speaking uses their physical self to transform an abstract, mental idea into a concrete form, shape, or representation in order to assist in establishing its meaning for the audience" (60). Preachers have a particular "presence" in the ambo; but such a presence needs to be authentic – not a caricature or stereotype – if there is to be a congruence between message and messenger (60). For example, "[f]acial expressions are an important external part of embodying and transmitting emotion" and "[u]se of hands can either aid or distract from the way hearers receive the sermon" (61). Facial expressions and quality of voice should match the message being preached; otherwise, we will come across as insincere. Eye contact may communicate trustworthiness; the lack thereof may communicate that the preacher is lying or afraid (79). Open gestures (smiles, open hands, relaxed posture) invite the listener in; closed gestures (frown or poker face, fidgeting, rigidity) the opposite (80). Finally, a preacher needs to attend to how s/he "fits" in the ambo (height, ability to see the assembly, constraints on movement) as well as to how the sound system works (using a microphone, quality of the system) (62).

Some Reflection Questions (from Brown 32, 69)

- Is my voice pleasant to hear?
- Does my voice reflect the message I intended to convey in thought and feeling?

DELIVERY: VERBAL AND NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION

- Does my voice have characteristics that I would consider undesirable in another preacher?
- Does my voice reflect my personality?
- Do I want to express the pastoral or the prophetic personality?
- Is my articulation (diction) up to my own standards/expectation?
- Is my diction similar to that of my peers or listeners?
- Is there something in my voice that needs improvement?
- Are the changes in pitch, loudness, duration, and quality appropriate to the changes in thought and/or feeling that I am trying to convey?
- Would I listen to this voice if I were not the preacher?
- What emotions do I feel before, during, or after the proclaiming moment?
- Consider your posture and use of space: What does the congregation see?
- Consider your facial expressions: How do I transmit emotions?
- What are my body language, eye contact, and energy level like?

Resources

Brown, Teresa L. Fry. *Delivering the Sermon: Voice, Body, and Animation in Proclamation*. Elements of Preaching Series. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2008

Rang, Jack C. *How to Read the Bible Aloud: Oral Interpretation of Scripture*. New York: Paulist Press, 1994.

Webb, Joseph M. *Preaching Without Notes*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001.

Resources:

Sacramental Records

The [Sacramental Records Handbook](#) has been completed and is now promulgated. It contains significant changes to past policies and procedures and should be reviewed carefully. Of particular note is the modification of policies and procedures that comply with canon law (recording sacraments in the parish where the sacraments are celebrated) while maintaining statistical records for each parish when sacraments are celebrated by a group of parishes in one location. On the website you will also find form templates that can be completed electronically. See the [chancellor](#) or [general policies page](#).

Extraordinary Holy Year - Jubilee of Mercy

An extensive list of resources and information is available on the diocesan website for the [Year of Mercy](#), including Vatican resources, USCCB resources, calendar of events, formation for mercy and works of mercy.

Prayers for Various Needs In Times of Disaster

Resources for prayers and prayer services are available in the [Liturgy Library](#) of the diocesan website which can be modified to particular circumstances. In addition, recall that prayers and prayer services found in the *Pastoral Care of the Sick* and the *Order of Christian Funerals* can also be used.

Deacon Retreat – February 6-7, 2016

For wives, deacons & deacon candidates

Benet House Retreat Center - Sisters of St. Benedict at St. Mary Monastery

2200 88th Avenue West, Rock Island, Illinois 61201-7649

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving –Again!



The Rev. R. Michael Schaab, STD

Fr. Schaab is a retired priest of the Diocese of Peoria. He is well known by the deacons of class V; he taught the week-long session on homiletics during formation. Fr. Schaab is very active in leading retreats for a variety of audiences.

Saturday February 6, 2016

12:30 – 1	Arrival (lunch on own)
1:00 – 4:00	Session(s) with breaks
5:30	Dinner
6:30	Evening Prayer
7:00	Session or social; or session & social

Sunday February 7, 2016

8:00	Breakfast
8:45	Morning Prayer
9:00 – 10:00	Session
10:30 – 11:30	Mass with Bishop Amos & Sisters in the main chapel
Noon	Lunch with a short council meeting
Departure after lunch	

Registration – Due Monday January 25, 2016

Please check the appropriate registration choice listed below. Let me know as soon as you can via e-mail if you plan to attend, need a room and if your wife is also attending – I need to reserve rooms.

Guest rooms are available at the Benet House. The cost of the room is included in the appropriate category below. These costs are the same as the spring retreat in 2015.

<u>Couple staying at Benet House</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$254.00	<u>Couple travelling from home</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$184.00
<u>Single staying at Benet House</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$142.00	<u>Single travelling from home</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 92.00

Please have your parish send a check made out to the **Diocese of Davenport** & mail it with this form to:

Office of the Diaconate
Diocese of Davenport
780 W Central Park Ave
Davenport, IA 52804-1901

Attendee Names: _____

Any special needs / dietary requirements? _____

Each guest room has a bathroom. A kitchenette is available in the Benet House.

Directions from the West: Take I-280 East. Exit at Rt 92 W. Cross Andalusia Rd (do NOT turn right on Rt 92 W). Go 1.1 miles to stop sign and turn left at Ridgewood Rd and left at 88th Ave W.

For more information contact: Deacon David Montgomery; montgomery@davenportdiocese.org