



Minute of Mercy

DEACONS

*At the Last Supper, Jesus taught and gave examples of how He wanted the apostles to continue His work of love to all mankind. In doing so, He instituted the priesthood. While we often think of the priesthood as our bishops and priests, we must remember, by our baptismal vows, we all share in Christ's mission and priesthood. There is yet another ministry that receives the Sacrament of Holy Orders, that of the deacon. The title "deacon" comes from the Greek word **diakonos**, which means "servant," who is also the sacramental sign or "icon" of Christ, who came "not to be served but to serve." (Mark 10:45)*

The ordination of the deacon has an indelible (permanent) mark on those who to whom it is bestowed on. A deacon exercises his service in many ways - he baptizes, leads the faithful in prayer, witnesses to marriages; and conducts wake and funeral services. He proclaims the Gospel, preaches and teaches in the name of the Church.

Let us, in prayer, remember our humble servants and cherished Deacons of St. Peter Parish for the countless ways they serve Christ and His people.

Heavenly Father, since the time of the Apostles, you have inspired the Church to commission certain members to assist in a special way in the pastoral mission of Christ.

Bless the deacons and all other ordained and non-ordained ministers that they may be humble and faith-inspired in their service.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mercy in Action

*This week's **Mercy in Action** is for all of St. Peter Parish to pray for all deacons and for more to hear the call of a vocation to the diaconate.*