

COMMUNITY UPDATE 05-07-26
EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

May 13, 2026: **Gathering of the Ministerium, RIT Inn & Conference Center**
May 30, 2026: **Diaconate Ordination, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 10:00AM**
June 20, 2026: **Diaconate Convocation, Notre Dame Retreat House (see below)**
June 27, 2026: **Priesthood Ordination, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 10:00AM**
September 11-13, 2026: **Annual SSDCA Retreat, Notre Dame Retreat House**

If you haven't had a chance to check out the May edition of the *Catholic Courier*, please read it on-line or in by hard copy. The diaconate community is well represented in stories about Phoebe's Friends, ordination anniversaries, diaconal ministry to young people, and the upcoming ordination of Matthew Hall and Michael Schoene.

On **Saturday, May 30, 2026, at 10:00AM, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester, Matthew Hall and Michael Schoene will be ordained to the Order of Deacon.** Please keep Matthew and Lizzy and Mike and Jennifer and their families in your prayers, and please plan to attend. There will be a pre-ordination reception hosted by the St. Stephen's Diaconal Community Association. I'll request a count of vested deacons and family before the event so that adequate seating can be arranged. Thank you.

On **Saturday, June 20, 2026** the **Deacon Convocation** will be held at **Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua.** In addition to **Bishop Bonnici**, our guest speaker will be **The Most Reverend Erik T. Pohlmeier, Bishop of St. Augustine**, who will address us via Zoom. We are still working out the exact times of Bishop Pohlmeier's availability, so I'll have a more detailed agenda for the day when that is confirmed. I know that Holy Mass will be in the morning, but the order of bishops (no pun intended) is pending! Details to follow...

<https://www.notredameretreat.org/events-1/dor-deacon-convocation>

You can register directly with Notre Dame Retreat House at the link above. The cost is \$55/person. Notre Dame Retreat House advises that you need to register on the registration link and pay separately on the payment link. I wanted to get this information out to the community before I'm out of the office for a couple of weeks.

Deacon Ed will be away from the office until May 26 with no access to email or voicemail. Kindly remember that if you require a **Letter of Suitability** on short notice for a funeral or other event you can submit the information on the link at the Clergy Services page on the DOR website. Events such as weddings, Baptisms, and First Communions usually lend themselves to sufficient advance notice, but understandably funeral services are generally held within a few days. <https://www.dor.org/about/office-ministry-directory/clergy-services/>