

EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

August 30, 2026: Annual SSDCA Picnic, Cayuga Lake State Park
September 11-13, 2026: Annual SSDCA Retreat, Notre Dame Retreat House
October 1, 2026: Continuing Formation Report due

The SSDCA Picnic is scheduled for **Sunday, August 30, 2026** from **12:00PM-5:00PM** at **Cayuga Lake State Park, 2678 Lower Lake Road, Seneca Falls**. We gather at the Lodge. There is a parking fee for the nearby parking lot. SSDCA provides the food, but you are kindly asked to bring a dessert to pass and to bring your own beverages.

<https://parks.ny.gov/visit/state-parks/cayuga-lake-state-park>

Father Bob Kennedy will be our retreat leader for the **Annual SSDCA Retreat** at **Notre Dame Retreat House, 5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua, September 11-13, 2026**. Watch for additional details.

There are a couple of new books on the diaconate that might be of interest to you for your ongoing formation: *The Diaconate Revisited - Questions and Developments Since Vatican II*, by Rev. Mark Caron, and *Living the Servant Mysteries - A Comprehensive Guide to the Diaconate*, by Deacon Dominic Cerrato.

<https://www.cuapress.org/9780813240602/the-diaconate-revisited/>

<https://www.diaconalministries.org/books>

Another resource for ongoing formation is *Josephinum Connect!*, a program of the Josephinum Diaconate Institute at the Pontifical College Josephinum. You may wish to review their a la carte course offerings or consider a subscription to their on-line course catalog. Please be reminded that your Diaconal Service Agreement calls for your parish or institution to cover expenses for your ongoing formation up to \$500.00. <https://diaconate.pcj.edu/>

Notre Dame Retreat House (<https://www.notredameretreat.org/>) and St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry (<https://stbernards.edu/>) routinely post various offerings and events that may be of interest, so you may wish to check their websites regularly or request to be added to their mailing list.

Enjoy these Summer days - safe travels if you're planning to be away on vacation!