

Deacon “Come and See” Events

Permanent deacons are ordained clergy who have received the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Deacons are called to a special ministry of service through which they assist the needy, the hungry, the sick, the homeless, the imprisoned, immigrants, and others. As ministers of God’s Word, deacons proclaim the Gospel at Mass, preach and teach. They also exercise various liturgical roles, including baptizing, witnessing marriages, presiding at funerals and wake services, and serving as ordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

The Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation of the Archdiocese of Washington will begin a new cycle of recruitment and preparation of men for the diaconate. It will begin with an aspirancy program in **late Fall of 2016**. The initial selection process for this class will begin with a series of “Come and See” events at various parishes around the Archdiocese in **January-March 2016**. Potential applicants should review the schedule below for the locations and dates of these events in order to take advantage of the opportunity to attend and learn more about the permanent diaconate and the formation program. Applicants must be baptized Catholic men between the ages of thirty and sixty (at the time the formation program begins), active in the parish, and recommended by their pastors. Interested persons may contact Deacon Desi Viktor, Director of Formation, at 301-853-4582 or by e-mail at vikord@adw.org. The mailing address for the office is: Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation, P.O. Box 29260, Washington, D.C. 20017-0260. Additional information is available at <http://site.adw.org/permanent-deacons>.

The “Come and See” events are all on Wednesday evenings. The schedule to “come and see” for potential applicants and their wives is:

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| 1. Jan. 13, 2016 – Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Hyattsville, MD | 7-9 pm |
| 2. Feb. 03, 2016 – St. Joseph, Largo, MD | 7-9 pm |
| 3. Feb. 17, 2016 – St. Andrew the Apostle, Silver Spring, MD | 7-9 pm |
| 4. Mar. 02, 2016 – Jesus the Good Shepherd, Owings, MD | 7-9 pm |
| 5. Mar. 09, 2016 - St. Aloysius, Leonardtown, MD | 7-9 pm |
| 6. Mar. 16, 2016 - Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Hyattsville, MD | 7-9 pm |

Please RSVP to Ms. Diane Biggs, (301) 853-5345, biggsd@adw.org and let her know which session you will attend.