



Brief Biographies of the First 24 Deacons

DAN ABBALLE

Dan Abballe is a parishioner at St. Christopher's in North Chili. He is married, and his wife, Joan, has also attended classes in the diaconate program. The couple has two daughters, Beth and Michele. Abballe has been a school principal for the past 17 years. His church involvement has ranged from ushering, teaching CCD, serving as a parish council representative and committee member, to acting as Lector and Eucharistic Minister. In addition, he has worked with the Cursillo movement, as a community organizer in the inner city, as a chaplain at Genesee Hospital, and as a member of a team developing a marriage preparation program.

STEPHEN CARROLL

Stephen Carroll, a native of Rochester, is a parishioner at St. Mary of The Lake in Ontario. He and his wife, Barbara, have four children: Marie, Laura, Stephen and Tom. After 17 years with Xerox Corp., Carroll has recently left to pursue a full-time ministerial position with the Church. The couple has been involved with Cursillo, Marriage Encounter, Life in the Spirit Seminar, prayer groups, and Teen Seminar. On the parish level, they have served the human development committee, the education committee, as Eucharistic Ministers, as Lectors, in the planning and implementation of a Eucharistic Minister-Program to a local nursing home, as CCD teachers, in the reality program, for the parish newsletter, and for Respect Life. On the wider level they have been involved in the CCD planning-board, teen retreats, and Right to Life. Carroll has also done field training at Rochester General Hospital and Monroe County Jail.

RAY DEFENDORF

Ray Defendorf, his wife, Patricia, and three children, Chris, Anne Marie, and Monica Joy, are parishioners at St. Mary's in Corning. Defendorf is the director of Community Relations and Fund Development at Corning Hospital. Defendorf is also director of Celebrate Life, a well-known musical ministry for high schoolers in the Corning/Elmira area. He founded that group in 1967. He has done his field education at Elmira Reformatory, Reception Center and Camp Monterey. In addition he directs Camp Star, a Rotary camp for handicapped children, and has worked with youth ministry projects in St. Mary's and St. Patrick's Parishes.

ROBERT DIZER

Robert and Joan Dizer are parishioners at St. Patrick's in Owego. The couple has 11 children: Michael, Robert, Cathy, Tom, Sue, Mary, Patty, Russ, Tim, Bill and Peter. Dizer has been employed at IBM Corp. for the past 29 years. Joan is secretary at St. Patrick's. Dizer's field experiences of work with the parish and Tioga County rural ministries build on his earlier work in Catholic Family Movement,

various Church organizations and renewal movements, Pre-Cana, Family Camp and Stewardship programs, and parish choir and liturgy committee committee.

WILLIAM DOUGHERTY

William C. Dougherty has been a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Elmira Heights for 22 years. The Superintendent of Schools for the Elmira Heights Central School District and his wife, Mary, have three children: Ellen, Michael, and Tim. Prior to entry into the Permanent Diaconate Program, Dougherty served his parish as a member of the parish council, as a Reader, as a Eucharistic Minister, a CCD teacher and administrator. He is now working with liturgy and education programs, liturgy and CCD planning, and the training of Readers and Eucharistic Ministers.

STANLEY DOUGLAS

Stanley J. Douglas, a member of St. Mary's Parish in Elmira, is director of Community Relations/Fund Development at St. Joseph's Hospital. He and his wife, Joanne, have three daughters: Debra Ann, Susan Mary, and Mary Elizabeth. In the past Douglas has served his parish as an usher, bingo worker, Reader, CCD teacher, trustee and parish council president and member. He is now acting as a member of the parish staff and is staff representative to the human development committee, as Lector coordinator and scheduler/trainer, and by conducting marriage and baptismal interviews. In addition, Douglas has served on a number of diocesan bodies and boards. He took his field education at Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmira; St. Joseph's Hospital, in Pastoral Care; and the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry, for which he served as president of its board of directors.

PATRICK GRAYBILL

Patrick Aaron Graybill is a member of the Rochester Institute of Technology Parish, on which campus he is also a teacher and artist at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. He is 42 years old. Since last Fall, he has served as a lay campus minister and has also served the diocesan department of Campus Ministry in ecumenical endeavors. In addition, he is a Lector, Acolyte and Eucharistic Minister, a member of the liturgy committee and participant in "Ordo Missae" meetings, and a spiritual director and counselor for NTID students.

LEO KESTER

Leo and Helen Kester have been members of Holy Trinity parish for 21 years. The couple has 13 children: Mary, Timothy, Therese, Margaret, Joan, Monica, Frances, Patrick, Ruth, Ann, Elizabeth, Daniel and Helen. Kester is a supervisor of Engineering in the Kodak Park Facilities Organization Engineering Division. His training for the Permanent Diaconate included field education with the

Rochester Interfaith Jail Ministry in visiting prisoners at the Monroe County Jail which led to visiting the Monroe Development Center for mental health; helping Father Larry Murphy, Chaplain at Genesee Hospital; and helping Father Daniel O'Shea, pastor of St. Bridget's. Before joining the Permanent Diaconate Program, Kester helped form and served on the Holy Trinity Parish Council and Spiritual Action Committee, taught CCD and helped on the men's retreat planning and Operation Breadbox. Currently, he is a Eucharistic Minister and Lector and is teaching CCD.

DAN KINSKY

Dan and Sheila Kinsky have four children: David, Michael, Julie, and Maria. He is a systems engineer for IBM Corp. The family belongs to St. John of Rochester Parish, through which he and his wife have served the church through teaching in the CCD Program, working on Christian Service Committee, organizing the folk group, and through membership on the home-school board and liturgy committees. Also at the parish the couple began and coordinated the Family Life Committee and have both been members of the parish council. In addition they are regular presentors in the Baptismal Preparation Program and both are Eucharistic Ministers. For a number of years the couple was active in Marriage Encounter and have also done a Sisters Experience. Field placements included Bethany House, Melita House, and St. John's.

ANTHONY MARINI

Anthony and Maria Marini along with their children Agnes and Claude, are parishioners of St. Louis Church. Marini is employed at Xerox as district manager, Employee Assistance Program. His field education experiences have been with the Ibero-American Action League, the University of Rochester/Campus Ministry, and the Diocese of Rochester. He has served as diocesan lay director of the Cursillo Movement, Parish Council president, CCD teacher, Eucharistic Minister, Lector, and prayer group leader. He is presently serving as baptismal preparation instructor, and as a Diocesan Health Board Member, implementing the diocesan policy on alcoholism.

NEMESIO MARTINEZ

Nemesio Martinez Vellon and his wife, Brunilda, are presently doing ministry at Mt. Carmel parish where they work with youth. They also work closely with the Parish Council; and at the interparochial level with the personnel engaged in Spanish Ministry. They have two children, five-year-old Marisol, and nine-month-old Monalisa. Martinez is a native of Puerto Rico and during the six years he and his family have lived in Rochester they have been involved in Cursillo, Marriage Encounter, Pre-Cana, and Ecclesial Base Communities. He also is involved with the

Spanish Action Coalition, and is a member of the Ibero-American Action League Board of Directors.

BILL MAUNE

Bill Maune, an employe of Eastman Kodak as BSM Service Manager in the Eastern Region, has been a member of St. Lawrence parish for eight years. He and his wife, Winnie, have five children ranging in age from 19 to 36 years old. During the last year, Bill, as Acolyte, has prepared the gifts and assisted the parish priests at the Eucharistic liturgies. His training for the Permanent Diaconate has included field education with the senior citizens at Grandeville Manor, in a hospital ministry at Rochester General, and in a parish ministry last summer at St. Lawrence. His wife also participated in these field ministries and in the four years of academic and spiritual training. Bill and his wife's previous services to the Church include 20 years as principal of Religious Education in four parishes and 10 years in the Christian Family Movement. Bill is presently a Lector, Eucharistic Minister and a member of the Parish Council, liturgy and religious education committees of St. Lawrence.

JOHN MEDICO

John Medico is single and employed at Eastman Kodak Co. in the Film Technical Services Division. His Church involvements include: religious education instructor at Christ the King Parish; social worker at the Genesee and Lewis Street Settlement Houses; and in 1973, founder of a program with the New York State Division for Youth to train young men on parole from Elmira Reformatory, Attica, and Industry.

ELISEO MELENDEZ

Eliseo Melendez is a parishioner at Holy Redeemer Church. He and his wife, Alicia, have six children: Hector, Carmen, Rafael, Rosario, Juan and Andelle. Melendez has been employed by Star Supermarkets Inc. for the past eight years. His Church involvements include: Marriage Encounter, catechesis, and assisting the elderly. His field education work was done at Corpus Christi Parish.

ANTHONY MERCADEL

Anthony Mercadel is a parishioner at Guardian Angels Church. He and his wife, Jean, have four children: Kevin, Daryl, Monica and Christina. Mercadel is employed by Eastman Kodak Co. as a photo-technician. His Church involvements include liturgy committee chairman, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Marriage Encounter presenter, charismatic core group leader, parish council member, and Human Development Committee member. His field education work has included stints at Monroe County Jail, Genesee Hospital, and Guardian Angels Parish.

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