

Diocesan duo to be ordained Jesuit priests June 13 in NYC

Deacons James J. Coughlin of Rochester and Frank LaRocca of Ithaca are scheduled to be ordained priests in the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) June 13 in the University Church at Fordham University in New York.

Deacon Coughlin is the son of Thomas and Florence Coughlin of St. James Parish, Rochester. He graduated from St. James School, McQuaid Jesuit High School and St. John Fisher College. He joined the Jesuits in 1987, and did his novitiate studies at St. Andrew Hall in Syracuse from 1987 to 1989. He then earned a master's degree in philosophy from Fordham University in 1991.

From 1991 to 1994, he taught mathematics, chemistry and physics at Regis High School, Manhattan, and also served as director of liturgical music and moderated the Regis in Austria Program during 1994 and 1996. He studied theology at the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass. (1994-98); and was ordained a transitional deacon in May 1997 by Bishop Terence Pendergast, SJ, auxiliary bishop of Toronto. He served as parish deacon at Sacred Hearts Parish, Malden, Mass.

Following his ordination, Deacon Coughlin will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at the Fordham University June 14, and another Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:30 a.m. June 21 at St. James Parish.

Deacon LaRocca is the son of Phillip and Madeline LaRocca of St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Ithaca. A graduate of Ithaca High School, he earned a bachelor's degree in Romance languages from the University of Pennsylvania in 1986. He entered the Jesuit novitiate at St. Andrew Hall in 1987.

During his novitiate, Deacon LaRocca worked at Calvary Hospital in the Bronx, and at the Esperanza Center in Manhattan. He then counseled immigrants at Transfiguration Parish, Brooklyn. He also studied Spanish in the Dominican Republic and worked among the poor at a summer camp in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

He studied philosophy at Fordham University from 1989 to 1991. He taught French and Spanish at Regis High School (1991-94), and served as the director of the Christian Service Program at the school.

After studying theology at the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, Calif., he was ordained a transitional deacon in March 1997 by Bishop John Cummins of Oakland. For the past year he has been working as a research fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center, Washington, D.C., studying the impact of economic development upon the poor in Latin America.

Deacon LaRocca will celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11 a.m. June 21 at St. Catherine of Siena Church.



Greg Francis/Staff photographer

Authors acclaimed

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary School first-grader John Pacilio reads the story he wrote, "The Beavers 8th Adventure," June 5. Students of Lorie Henry's first-grade class held an Author's Tea, a time for the students to read their stories to parents and other students, and then share iced tea and cookies. It was the Brockport school's ninth year of holding the tea.

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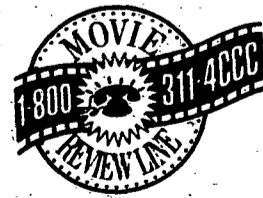
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