

DIOCESAN NEWS

Bishop to ordain three as permanent deacons

By Mike Latona
Staff Writer

A software specialist, a police officer and a prison official are all on the verge of attaining a common title: permanent deacon in the Diocese of Rochester.

On Saturday, June 3, Bishop Matthew H. Clark will ordain Ken Arnold, a parishioner at St. Joseph's Parish in Penfield; Ed Giblin, from St. Lawrence Parish in Greece; and Nicholas Valvo, from Sacred Heart Parish in Auburn. The ordination Mass will take place at 10:30 a.m. at Rochester's Sacred Heart Cathedral. It is open to the public.

Later this year, on Dec. 9, seminarian Joseph Marcoux will be ordained a transitional deacon in Louvain, Belgium.

Ken Arnold, 56, said he was drawn to the diaconate not by a specific experience, but what he termed "a growing process."

"More or less, it was by working in the church for years," Arnold remarked.

Arnold performed his field work by ministering at Rochester's Genesee Hospital; Bethany House; and Roman Catholic Community of the 19th Ward cluster. Noting that all three assignments took place in city settings, Arnold said, "We'd always been in this big suburban parish, and we thought we'd like to get a feel for the city."

Arnold said that his wife, Ursula, family faith formation director at St. Joseph's Parish, joined him for the lion's share of his field work. Prior to his entering the diaconate program, Arnold and his wife also spent four years performing prison ministry at Groveland Correctional Facility.

After ordination, he hopes to minister at St. Joseph's in Penfield, working toward establishing a Stephen Ministry and men's spirituality group in his home parish.

Arnold has been employed for 39 years

by Gleason Works, working in research and software development. He and his wife have two daughters: Lori, 23, and Amy, 22.

Ed Giblin, 40, said his desire to pursue the diaconate was fueled over the years by many of his soon-to-be cohorts.

"I was inspired by the service of the other deacons that I saw," he said. Giblin added that he has also been greatly influenced "by the wonderful ministry of all the people in the Diocese of Rochester."

Giblin performed his field work at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester; Park Ridge Nursing Home in Greece; and the Western Monroe-Orleans County Hispanic Ministry in Brockport. While remarking that he enjoyed his ministry to the sick, Giblin also noted, with a laugh, that his grasp of the Spanish language could stand improvement if he were to work again with the migrant community.

Giblin is a police lieutenant for the City of Rochester, currently serving as administrative assistant to Chief Robert F. Duffy. He acknowledged similarities between the diaconate and police work, saying, "There's a common ministry of service."

Giblin said he hopes to minister as a deacon at Holy Cross Parish in Rochester after ordination.

He and his wife, Patricia, have three children: Molly, 8; Erin, 5; and Eddie, 2.

Nick Valvo, 55, has served since 1974 as a correctional officer and administrator at several prisons around New York state. He is currently the deputy superintendent at Cayuga Correctional Facility, a medium-security prison in Moravia, Cayuga County. Valvo said he plans to bring to the diaconate the same compassion he has reflected in his full-time work.

"It's all about working with people no matter where you find them," Valvo said.

Finger Lakes agency will honor four faithful for 'sharing light'

The sixth annual Sharing the Light awards this year will go to Kevin Powers and Frank Giardino of Ontario County, and Lucia Wheeler of Yates County. The late Marie Koebel will also be recognized. The awards are sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Finger Lakes, and recognize service to the community.

The awards dinner will be held Tuesday, June 6, at Club 86 in Geneva. Bishop Matthew H. Clark will be a special guest, and the Rev. W. James Gerling, keynote speaker. Rev. Gerling is pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Geneva and the first recipient of the award.

Giardino is a member of St. Francis de Sales Parish, Geneva, where he has been a eucharistic minister and lector for more than 35 years. A longtime member of the Knights of Columbus, Giardino also has coordinated and participated in weekly visits to hospitalized parishioners for more than 20 years, delivering Communion, encouragement and company.

He retired as secretary-treasurer after 38 years with Howard's Express Inc. He and his wife, Anna Marie, share five children between them.

Powers, a member of St. Stephen's Parish, Geneva, was on the DeSales Board of Trustees from 1993-99 and an active member of the booster club. He has served as his parish's chairman for the June Happening and in 4th Degree member status in the Knights of Columbus. He also belongs to the Geneva Historical Society. Over the years he has been recognized by such organizations as the Nester Hose Company, St. Stephen's CYO basketball program, the Salvation

Army and Geneva Fire Department.

Powers worked for about three decades for the American Can Co. He currently serves as assistant fire chief and safety officer for the Geneva Fire Department. He has chaired the annual firemen's parade in downtown Geneva the past three years, and also has served as president of the Ontario County Fire Chiefs Association. He and his wife, Nancy, have one son.

Wheeler is a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Penn Yan. She came to Geneva from Newport, R.I., as a student at William Smith College. She has served as president of the board of directors of St. Mark's Terrace, a senior living center; as a representative to Church Women United; and in several parish capacities and on diocesan commissions.

Wheeler was an English teacher for 28 years for Penn Yan Academy. She was a charter member and fourth president of Alpha Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International, a society of women educators. She serves as a Rape Crisis counselor and also a hospice worker.

Koebel grew up in Ogdensburg and became a nurse. Early in the 1970s she was instrumental in establishing the Geneva Center of Concern, which has offered food, clothing, legal aid, bail bonds and scholarships. Koebel was vice president, a three-term president and a committee member of the center. She also served on St. Stephen's parish council and in the choir, Communion ministry and religious education. She died in February 1999.

Ticket information may be obtained from Catholic Charities, 315/789-2686.



Andrea Dixon/Staff Photographer

An evening of reflection

Fr. Paul Bonacci speaks at the City East Evening of Reflection on May 21, at Rochester's Church of the Annunciation, where parishioners from Annunciation, St. Andrew, St. George, St. Stanislaus, St. Phillip Neri, and the Faith Community of Rochester General Hospital.

Valvo added that as a corrections counselor, he always took an optimistic attitude.

"The people in the prisons have done horrendous things, but they still have spirituality and they're still people of God. We live in hope, and we hope that people will change and will grow," he commented.

Valvo's field work took place at Mercy Rehabilitation Center in Auburn; with

L'Arche, a community of developmentally disabled people in Syracuse; and at his home parish of Sacred Heart in Auburn.

Following ordination, Valvo said he would like to work in some form of parish ministry, possibly at Sacred Heart.

Valvo and wife, Judi, have three children: Nicole Vitale, 25; Lisa, 22; and Matthew, 12.

New diocesan appointments

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has announced the following parish appointments, effective June 27:

- Father Scott Kubinski, to chaplain at Ithaca College and sacramental minister at All Saints Church, Lansing, from parochial vicar at Church of St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads.

- Father Damien Iloko, to chaplain at Monroe Community Hospital and sacramental minister at St. Mary's Church, Scottsville. He succeeds Father George Okoth at the hospital, named pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas/St. Lucy Parish, Leicester/Retsof, and Father Kevin McKenna, new pastor of St. Cecilia Parish, Irondequoit. He has been assisting at Holy Cross Parish, Rochester.

- Father George Heyman, to pastor of the Catholic Community of the Blessed Trinity, Wolcott, from pastor, Immaculate

Conception, Ithaca. He succeeds Father John Forni, named pastor of St. John the Evangelist, Greece.

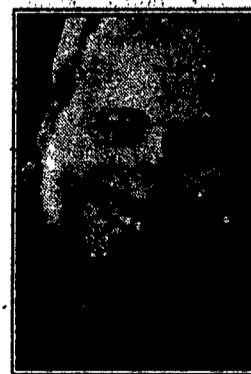
- Father Ted Auble, to weekend sacramental minister at St. Vincent de Paul Parish, Churchville, from chaplain of the Newman Community at SUNY College at Brockport.

- Craig Bullock, to part-time pastoral administrator of Sts. Peter and Paul Parish, Rochester, from pastoral minister.

- Father Douglas DellaPietra, to parochial vicar of St. Mary's Parish, Canandaigua, concurrent with his duties as sacramental minister to St. Bridget/St. Joseph Parish, East Bloomfield.

- Father Richard Kinsky, CSB, to sacramental minister at St. Joseph Parish, Rush, succeeding Father Robert Kennedy, named pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish, Rochester.

David Haas



Concert

Friday June 2nd

7:30 pm

Workshop

Saturday June 3rd

8:30am

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Retreat Leader, Liturgist from Minnesota.
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"You Are Mine," and "Blest Are They."

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