



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE

11 April 2024

Dear Father

INFORMATION SESSION - PERMANENT DIACONATE

Saturday 4 May, at 10.00am at the University of Divinity, Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

In the middle of the pandemic, Pope Francis outlined his prayer for vocations that “deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.” He asks everyone to pray for permanent deacons, who live their vocation in and with their family.

He wrote:

Deacons are not second-level priests.

They are part of the clergy and live their vocation in and with their family.

They are dedicated to the service of the poor, who carry within them the face of the suffering Christ.

They are the guardians of service in the Church.

Let us pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Pope Francis in his book, “Let us Dream” wrote, ‘Permanent deacons are vital to reflecting a domestic Church that finds its greatness in the Word and in service’ (p91) In the Archdiocese the permanent diaconate is well established. There are permanent deacons in well over a dozen parishes with a growing number of number of aspirants and candidates in training.

On **Saturday, 4 May 2024, at 10.00am** in University of Divinity, Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne VIC, there will be an information session. The session will be presented by some of Melbourne’s permanent deacons. It will last no longer than two hours.



Catholic Vocations

Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne VIC 3002 Australia

PO Box 146, East Melbourne VIC 8002 Australia

Telephone: (03) 9926 5733 Email: vocations@cam.org.au

www.vocations.melbournecatholic.org

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

Perhaps there are some male parishioners, married or single, between the ages of 30 -60, whom you may wish to speak with concerning this call to ministry. If any are interested, they can simply turn up. An email to Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, would be welcomed, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning.

Wives are also invited. They are most welcome. After previous information sessions spouses have commented on how important it was for them to understand the nature of the Permanent diaconate and its impact on their husbands and families.

Walking together in service to the Lord,

Fr Dishan Candappa

Director of Vocations,
Archdiocese of
Melbourne.

Fr Andrew Jekot

Director, Office of
Permanent
Diaconate.

Deacon Jim Curtain

Director, Ongoing
Formation of
Permanent Deacons,
Vocations team.

Deacon Kevin Pattison

Vocations Team.

Attachment: Bulletin notice and Prayer of the Faithful.



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