

The Herald

A Newsletter of Diaconal Ministries



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Editor's Corner

Welcome to the first edition of The Deacon Herald, a space created to accompany you more deeply into communion with Christ the Servant so that your ministry may flow from Him with clarity, charity, and joy. This newsletter is offered as a quiet place of renewal, where the interior life is nourished and the outward work of service is strengthened in fidelity to the Church's teaching and mission. Each month, by subscribing, you will receive updates on new podcast episodes, blog reflections, spiritual insights, forthcoming books, and other resources designed to support your life and ministry as a deacon. It is my hope that this offering will serve as a small but steady companion, helping you remain rooted in prayer, formed in truth, and ever ready to give yourself in love for the people entrusted to your care. For those of you who've already subscribed to this newsletter, I'm deeply grateful.

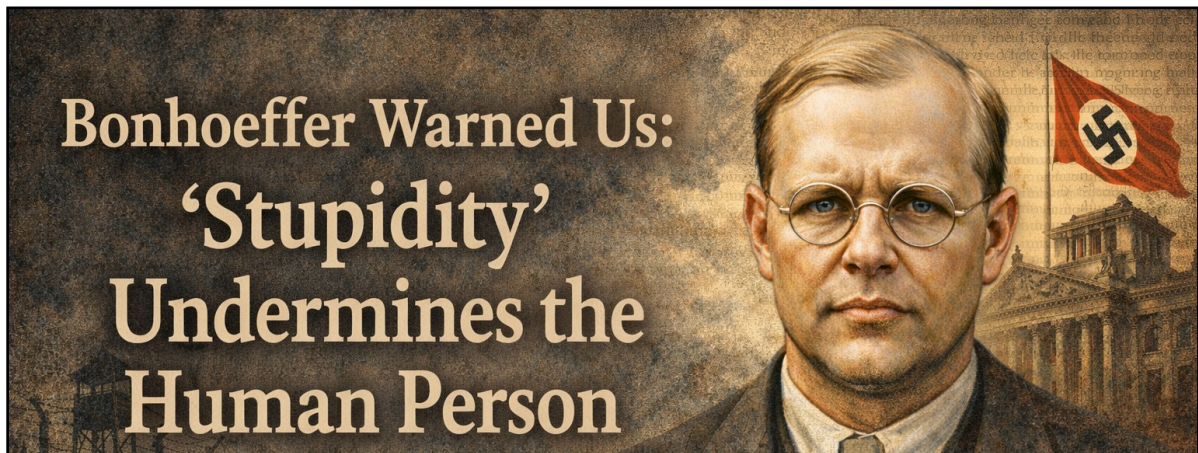
In Jesus and Mary,
Deacon Dom

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Feature



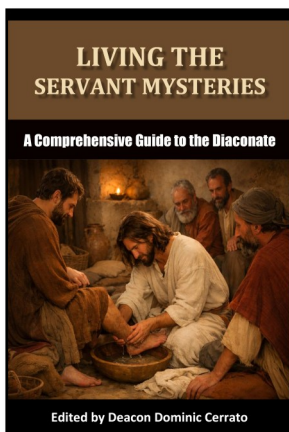
National Catholic Register—March 3, 2026

Overview

The article reflects on the insights of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who observed during the rise of Nazi ideology that evil often advances not only through malice but through what he described as “stupidity,” a condition in which individuals lose the capacity to recognize truth and exercise responsible judgment. Applying this insight to contemporary debates about human identity and freedom, the author argues that authentic freedom is not self-definition detached from reality but the ability to choose the good in accordance with truth. In harmony with Catholic teaching, the article emphasizes that the human person, created by God as a unity of body and soul and as male or female, finds true freedom only in living according to the truth revealed in Christ.

[Read the Article](#)

Coming Soon



The First Comprehensive Textbook on the Diaconate

SPRING 2026 *Living the Servant Mysteries* is a comprehensive eighteen-chapter textbook, written in collaboration with twelve contributing authors, that presents a deeply integrated vision of the diaconate, moving beyond pastoral technique to the very heart of the vocation itself. The work unfolds the diaconate as a sacramental participation in the self-giving love of Christ the Servant, rooted in the mystery of the Church and expressed through a life of charity.

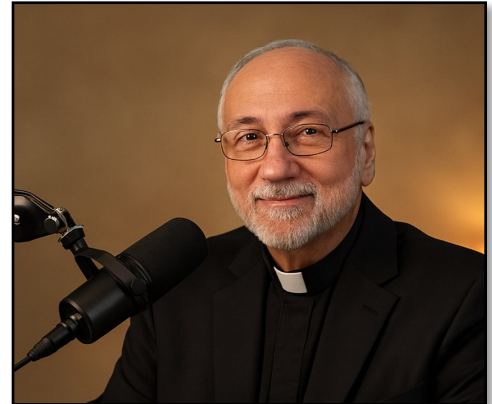
[Learn More](#)

Video Podcasts

Latest Posting: I Have Loved You

This video podcast presents the diaconate as a vocation shaped by divine love, as articulated by Pope Leo in his apostolic exhortation *Dilexi te* (“I Have Loved You”). Drawing from the Holy Father’s magisterial vision, this reflection emphasizes that authentic service flows from a renewed interior life in which contemplation and charity remain inseparably united. Rooted in prayer and nourished by the sacramental life of the Church, the deacon’s ministry becomes a living witness of Christ’s self-giving love.

[View Podcast](#)



Dom’s Blog



Latest Posting: Hidden, But Not Forgotten

This first posting reflects on how the permanent diaconate, though often overlooked or misunderstood, remains essential to the Church’s identity as a servant Church. Restored by the Second Vatican Council, the diaconate sacramentally manifests Christ the Servant in the midst of the People of God. Yet, despite this profound ecclesial significance, it has not yet fully entered the Catholic imagination. Take a moment to read it and feel free to leave a comment and join the conversation.

[Visit the Blog](#)

“Let all respect the deacons as Jesus Christ, the bishop as the image of the Father, and the presbyters as the council of God and the assembly of the apostles.

Without these there is no Church.”

— Letter to the Trallians 3:1



Short Reflections

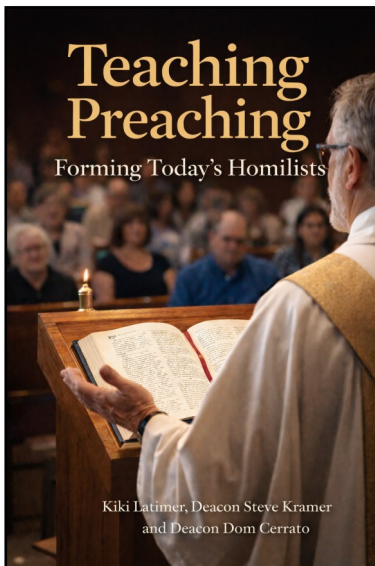
Meditations on Christ the Servant

These many reflections are drawn from the prayer and pastoral experience of Deacon Dominic, offering brief but penetrating meditations on the mystery of Christ the Servant and the vocation of those called to serve in His name. Rooted in Scripture, and the lived reality of diaconal ministry, they invite the reader into a deeper interior life. In this way, they gently lead the reader to allow that interior communion with the Lord to overflow into concrete acts of charity.

[Read the Reflections](#)



Bonus Feature



From Contemplation to Proclamation

In this recent interview by Deacon Steve Kramer and Kiki Latimer, Deacon Dominic reflects on his vocation to the diaconate and his deep love for preaching as a participation in the Church's mission. He speaks candidly about the interior life that sustains authentic ministry, the importance of fidelity to the Church's teaching, and the role of the deacon. In doing so, he offers a compelling witness that effective preaching flows from a heart conformed to Christ the Servant.

[Listen to Podcast](#)



From the Heart of a Deacon

In this column, I speak to you, personally, sharing a brief reflection born of prayer, ministry, and the daily desire to remain close to Christ our Lord. In the end, I am simply one poor beggar sharing with others where the food is found, passing along the grace I myself have received from the Lord who alone nourishes and sustains our diaconal vocation.

Living Lent As a Deacon

Deacon Dom

The season of Lent calls the entire Church to conversion, yet for the deacon this sacred time carries a particular depth. Ordained for service, the deacon is invited during these forty days to enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ the Suffering Servant. Lent becomes not simply a period of discipline but a path of renewal in which the deacon's interior life is purified so that his ministry of Word, altar, and charity may more clearly reveal the love of Christ.



True conversion always begins within the heart. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches that interior repentance is a “radical reorientation of our whole life, a return, a conversion to God with all our heart” (CCC 1431). For the deacon, whose ministry flows from sacramental configuration to Christ the Servant, this interior turning toward God is essential. Service that is not rooted in prayer easily becomes mere activity. But when the deacon's ministry flows from communion with Christ, service becomes an expression of divine love.

Lent therefore calls the deacon first to deepen his life of prayer. Time before the Blessed Sacrament, fidelity to the Liturgy of the Hours, and meditation on Sacred Scripture through *lectio divina* allow the deacon to encounter Christ anew. In this encounter he remembers that he does not merely perform acts of service; he participates in the mission of Christ, who came “not to be served but to serve”.

From this interior life flow the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Fasting teaches freedom from attachment and forms the humble heart of the servant who stands at the altar assisting in the Eucharistic sacrifice. Almsgiving deepens the deacon's ministry of charity, drawing him closer to the poor and reminding him that in serving them he encounters Christ Himself (Mt 25:40). Prayer anchors these practices in the love of God, ensuring that external works arise from an authentic interior communion.

Be a Part of Our Ministry

Help Support Us

Your support of Diaconal Ministries makes it possible to strengthen deacons in their identity as servants of Christ and to provide the spiritual, theological, and pastoral resources they need to serve the Church with confidence and charity. By partnering in this mission, you help deepen the interior life of the deacon, renew his ministry, and extend Christ's love to those he is called to serve.

[Learn More](#)



Upcoming Events

EveryDayDeacon and  DIACONAL MINISTRIES present
Diacons. Become What You Are

An Online Conference for Catholic Deacons

A Love That Stoops

Encountering Christ the Servant in the Diaconate

[Learn More](#)

JUNE 12-13, 2026

A painting depicting Jesus washing the feet of a man, with other men watching. The scene is set in a simple, rustic environment with a bowl of water and a cloth.

Diaconal Resources

The resources highlighted below are not paid advertisements. They reflect organizations, publications, and initiatives with which Deacon Dom has been personally associated or has found beneficial in his ministry. Their inclusion is offered solely

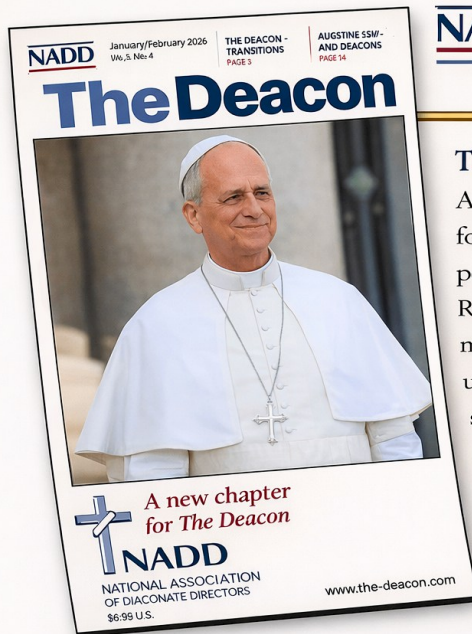
FORMING MEN OF THE CHURCH FOR THE SACRED ORDER OF SERVICE CENTER FOR DIACONAL STUDIES

At the heart of *the Church's life* stands the deacon, configured *sacramentally* to Christ the Servant and called to pour himself out in humble charity for the People of God. *The Franciscan Center for Diaconal Studies* forms men for this sacred ministry through a deeply integrated vision of *intellectual, spiritual, pastoral, and human formation*, drawing each deacon into an ever-deepening *communion* with the Lord whose love he proclaims in word and service. Rooted in *Scripture, Tradition, and the living Magisterium*, and offering courses for *both diaconal formation and ongoing formation*, this formation equips deacons to serve their bishops, strengthen their parishes, and become living signs of *Christ's self-gift poured out for the life of the world*.



FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY
— of STEUBENVILLE —

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NADD The Deacon

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DIACONATE DIRECTORS

The Deacon magazine, published by the National Association of Diaconate Directors, serves as a vital resource for the spiritual, theological, and pastoral formation of permanent deacons and those in formation for the diaconate. Rooted in the Church's teaching on Holy Orders and the ministry of service, it offers articles that deepen the deacon's understanding of his identity as an icon of Christ the Servant, strengthen his communion with the bishop and presbyterate, and support his mission of charity in the world.

Through reflections, pastoral guidance, and practical resources, *The Deacon* fosters an integrated vision of diaconal life that unites prayer, liturgy, and service, helping deacons live their vocation with clarity, fidelity, and zeal.

[Learn More](#)

DIACONAL MINISTRIES

Growing in Greater Intimacy
with Christ the Servant



Podcasts Blogs Reflections Retreats Webinars More...

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