

Deacon Council Meeting
September 8, 2022

Deacon Ray Sobina opened the meeting with a prayer.

Attendance: Very Rev. Nicholas Rouch, Deacon Thomas McAraw, Deacon Raymond Sobina, Deacon Richard O'Polka, Deacon Richard Brogdon, Deacon Frank Luciani, Eleanor Walker, and Peggy Jacquel were present. Deacon Martin Aubel was absent.

Moment of silence was held for all recently deceased brother Deacons.

Review of last meeting was held.

Selection of 2022/2023 officers was held as follows: Chairman: Deacon Richard O'Polka, Vice Chairman: Deacon Richard Brogdon, Secretary: Deacon Frank Luciani

It was decided that the Deacon Council Meeting will be held every two months on the second Thursday of the month from 4:00-5:30pm with no meetings in the summer. Meetings this year will be on November 10, January 12, March 9, May 11, and September 14. With election of officers held on September 14.

A letter of thank you written to previous Deacon Council members was approved and signed by all.

Deacon Ray Sobina informed us that the new Deacon Formation Program was completed in accordance with The National Directory and was typed and ready for review. The program includes a Master's Degree in Pastoral Ministry developed by Gannon, a Spiritual Formation component to be developed by Fr. Mark O'Hern, and a program that reaches out to the pastors to help Deacons be prepared to assist in their parish. It was noted that a key part of the program would be the inclusion of the Deacon trainees' wives and their pastors.

The retirement letter that will be sent to Deacons during the year prior to their 75th birthday was accepted as written.

Two committees were recommended: 1) Committee to revise The Deacon Policy Manual, and 2) Committee for Reviewing and Revising the Current Website for Deacons with Deacon Richard Brogdon as chairman.

A round table discussion was held concerning the differences of serving on the altar for your pastor and what is in accordance with normal policy and for the bishop. A training program was suggested.

Very Rev. Nicholas Rouch ended the meeting with a prayer.