

Thank You,
Deacon John

From the
St. Elizabeth of the Trinity
Community
and friends you have touched

June 4, 2023



Deacon John Rottman

Celebrating the Diaconate

Deacon John Rottman was one of three Chicagoland deacons quoted in a feature article commemorating and celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the re-established permanent diaconate in the Latin Church.

The piece was published by *The Connection*, an area-wide publication for mature Catholics in May 2022.

In the article, Deacon John explained,

"..unlike a parish ministry that you join and then at some point, decide to leave, the permanent diaconate involves a solemn promise for life, not merely agreeing to serve for a stint."

Also, in that article, Deacon John recognized the importance of his late wife, Candace, in his ministry. He said,

"Candace's involvement in sacramental preparation was a very real gift and her insights helped create a positive connection with many of our parish families."

Well done! Well said!

Ron & Connie Polaniecki

May 2023

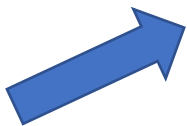
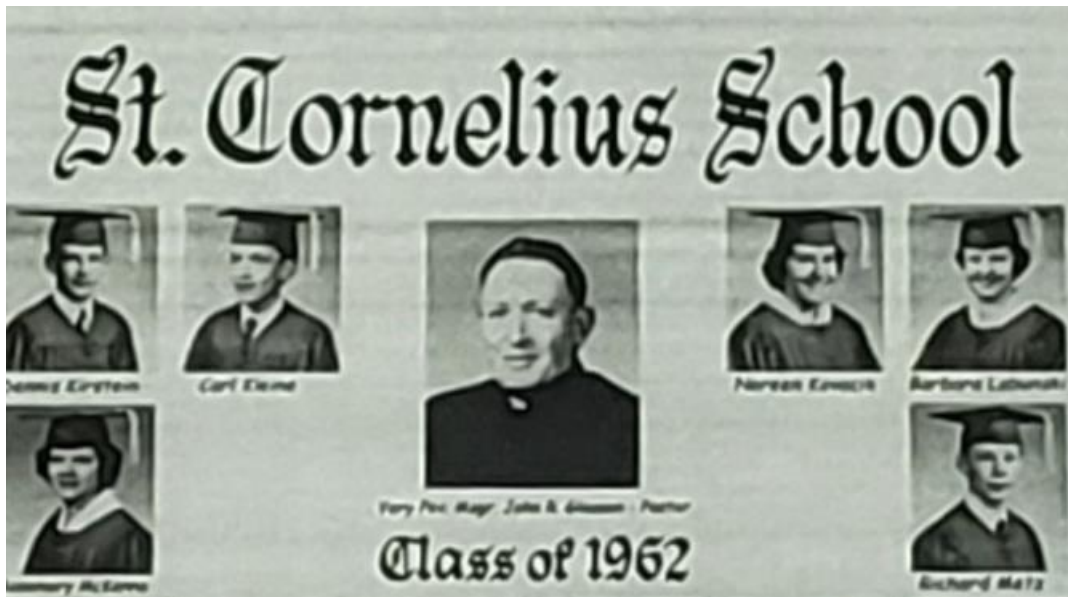
Deacon John,

On behalf of the Duggan and Mydlowski families, I want to thank you for your years of service to our parish and our family. You've helped us through difficult times and have been there for our joyous occasions as well. Your commitment to the parish and its parishioners is greatly appreciated, and your absence will be felt by all. May God bless you and the work you will continue to do. You are an inspiration to us all.

God speed,

Ryan and Darlene Duggan and family





The Seeds were Planted

Deacon John:

It has been such a pleasure to know you and see you at services and hear your homilies. We first met you at St Thecla and my husband knew you at the St Thecla Men's Club. You were always so nice and welcoming. When we switched to St Tarcissus in 1999, we did not see you as much and fought to get you to come to St Tars before you moved on to St Cornelius. It was so great when the merger brought you to St Elizabeth of the Trinity. It's been great to see you and say hi and get your quick opinion on something spiritual. We will miss you and are glad that you will still be helping with Women's Club and the Soup Kitchen so we can touch base sometimes. We wish you all the blessings and luck and peace and joy and love with your family, friends and next assignment. You do deserve to get a little rest and fun. Thank you for everything. You are the best!! We should all be as kind and welcoming and loving and spiritual as you. This is not good-bye as we hope to see you again here and there.

Good luck.

Love,

Dorothy and Pat Holden

Dear Deacon John,

I want to wish you the best in your future endeavors. My family and I will miss you dearly. We were incredibly blessed that you came into our lives several years ago when you became a deacon at St. Cornelius. With your words and your actions, you taught me how to be a good Catholic father and positive member of the parish. You have an uncanny ability to offer words of encouragement or a shoulder to lean on in times of need. Your down to earth sermons were must-listens. While we will not see you in mass or around the parish, this is not goodbye. My family and I look forward to seeing you again many times in the near future.

Sincerely,

Tim Jacobs







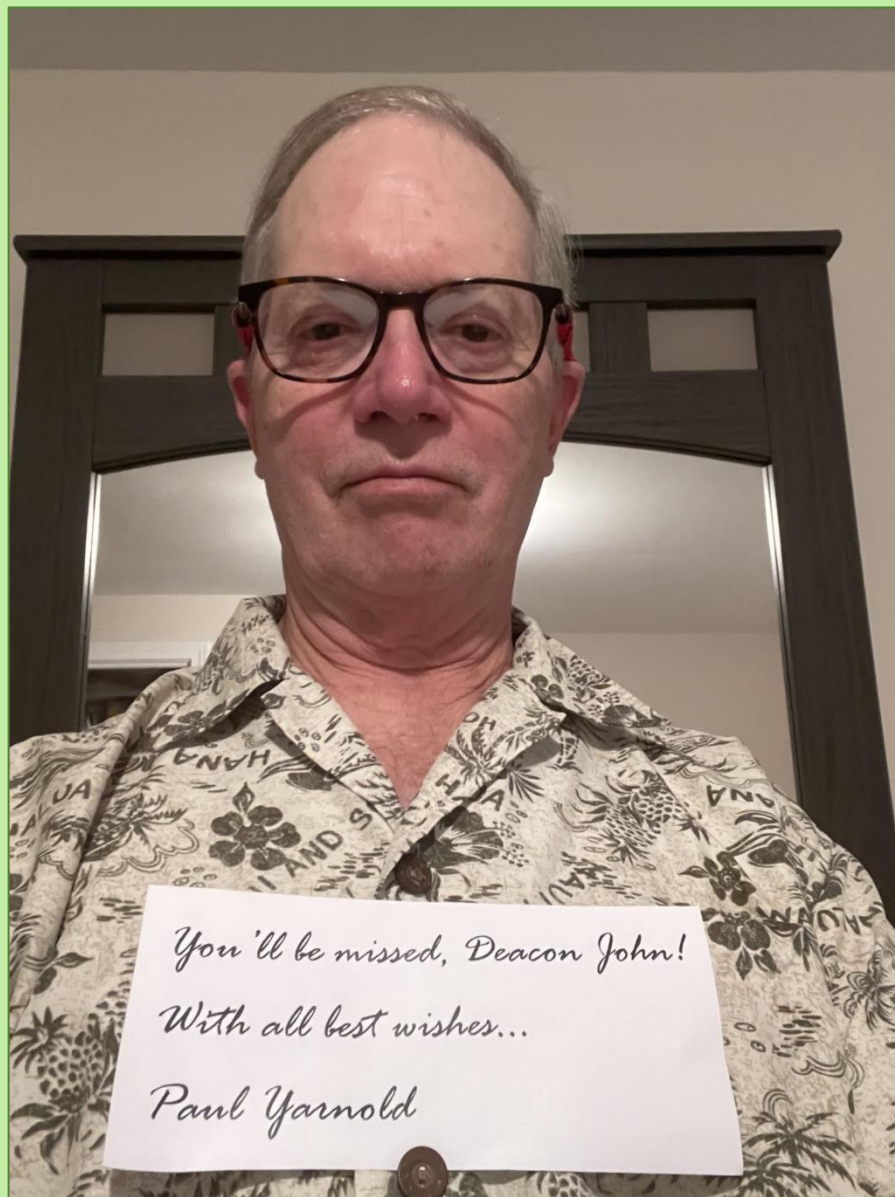
Dear Deacon John,

I am glad you were part of St. Elizabeth of the Trinity these last few years. You've been an inspiration to so many of us with your kind and giving nature. You will be missed.

The best of luck to you on the next part of your journey.

--- Mary Ellen Gold





*Best wishes to
Deacon John!
Arlene & Richard
Muench*

*Deacon John,
I will miss your homilies,
your Intentions for First
Responders, and Masses
for Candace.
~ Roxanne*

Always with a smile and a glimmer in his eye, there is a warmth that comes from John. It doesn't matter if he is preaching from the pulpit or in the pub, there is something that radiates from him that makes us feel a little more hopeful about who we are and what life is bringing us. No matter what changes are in store, it has been our good fortune to have had John be a part of our family and parish life for many years. Ole' King Solomon must have had a vision of John when he wrote, "Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart, for God has already approved what you do". Ecclesiastes 9:7. Thank you for sharing God's word with us, for your friendship, and for being an inspiration to us all.

Love,

Gerry, Janis & Kellie Rohrer



Deacon John,

Thank you for the past few years at St. Elizabeth. No matter what kind of day you were having you always greeted myself (and others) with a smile and kindness. I'm glad I got the opportunity to get to know both you and members of your family. You will absolutely be missed here (and always welcome back!), but I also understand that we have to share you with others. Best of luck in the future. I know you will touch even more lives.

Best wishes,

Rebecca Gold



Best Wishes to Deacon John Rottman!

Since first year high school, we've been "alphabetically-close". Later, we became closer in "ordained ministry".

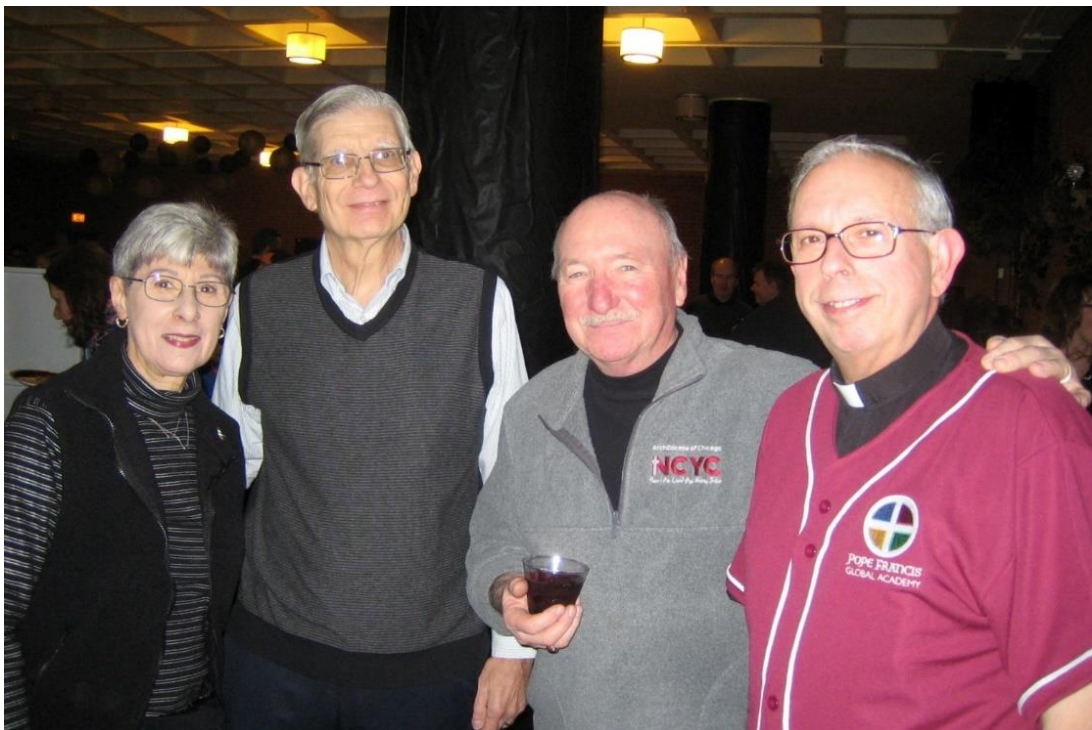
I am thankful for our friendship through St. Thecla, St. Cornelius and St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Parishes.

May your good work and ministry continue to be blessed by God!

Fr. Greg Rom



Best Wishes, Deacon John!



Deacon John,

Thank you for the words of encouragement that you always found time to share, just when I needed it ...

When I was starting out as a new catechist, and I doubted my ability to make a difference in the lives of these impressionable kids; when I stepped into my more recent role as RE coordinator, your words (and prayers!) gave me the confidence to persevere. And I am especially thankful for the time you spent with our parents and children preparing for the sacraments.

~Yours in Christ, Peggy

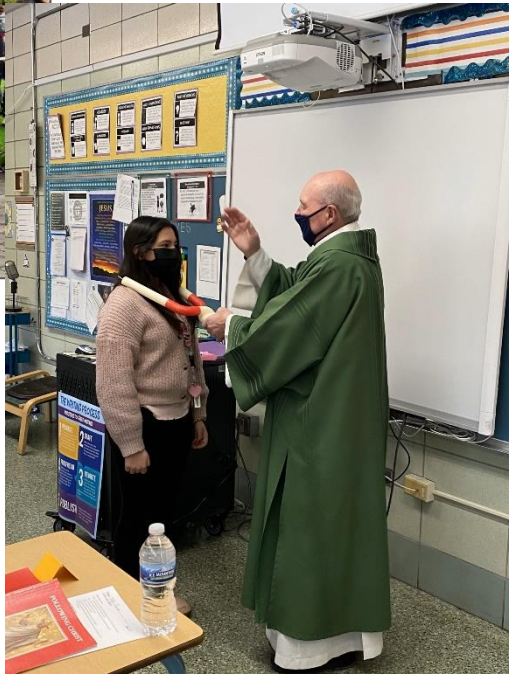


First Communion Parent Reflection 2020

**St. Cornelius
RE Program**

**Thank you,
Deacon John,
for your support!**





Thank you for getting us through the pandemic!

This is what it looked like to worship from our couch in lieu of a church pew. (I know it was Easter, but the only candle I had was a snowman!) Seeing you and Fr. Dan each week was comforting, like watching Fulton Sheen when I was a kid (on a black & white TV) - you came into our living rooms each Sunday, bringing the Word of God, and words of hope. We are grateful for our deacons & priests who made it possible for us to celebrate the Mass.

~ With gratitude, The Bradley's





*Thank you, Deacon John,
for supporting the Food Pantry*

"For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Deacon John - congrats on the next chapter and always great to see you at Mass and with HNS. Enjoy hitting the links and spending more time with the grandchildren! -

The Shallcross Family









*Best Wishes, Deacon
John ... from the
Lupinski's*







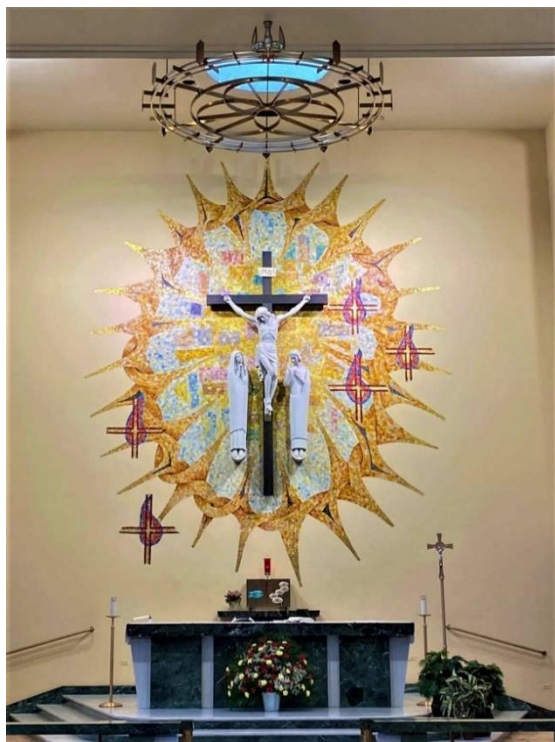


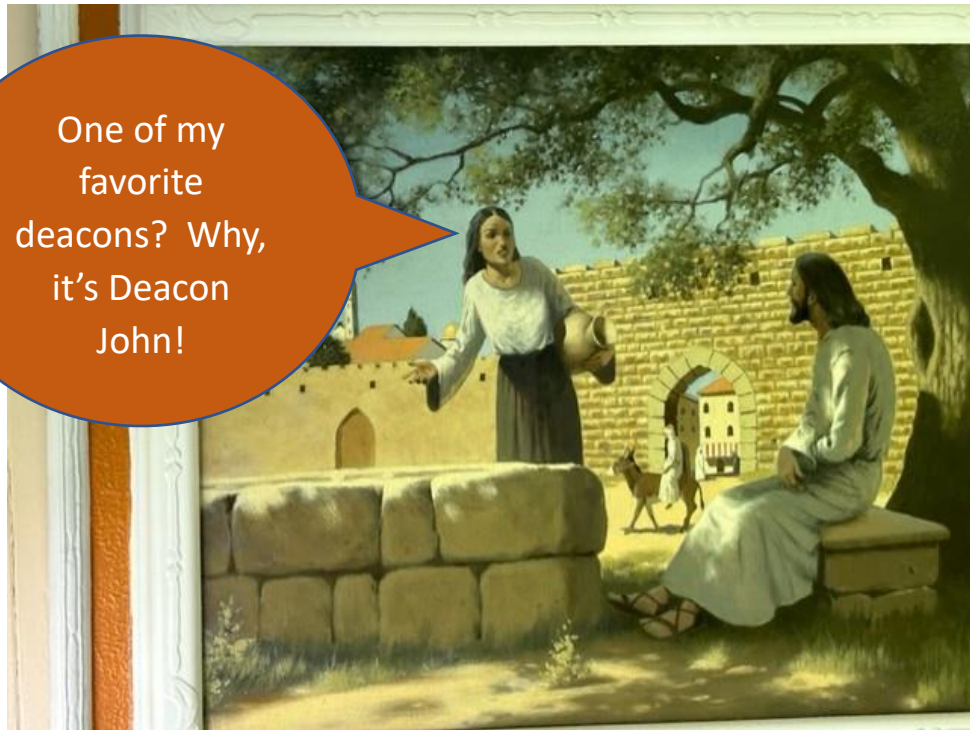




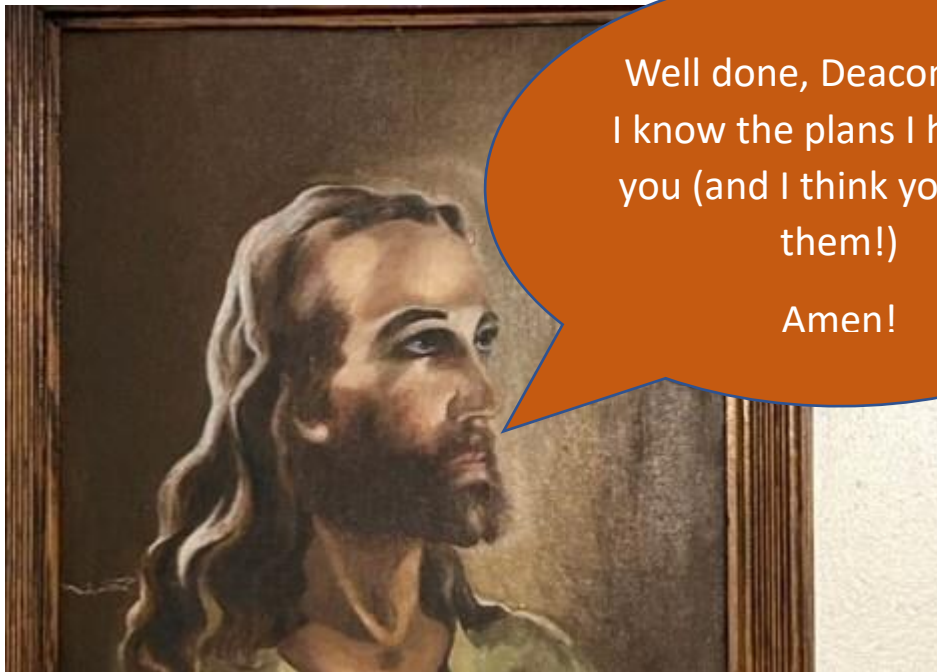
Thank you, Deacon John, for your years spent at St. Cornelius, you made a great parish even better. You are kind, helpful, and have a great sense of humor, you will be missed. Best wishes to you always. Thank you again.

Donna Lameka





One of my
favorite
deacons? Why,
it's Deacon
John!



Well done, Deacon John!
I know the plans I have for
you (and I think you'll like
them!)
Amen!

Thank you & Best Wishes, Deacon John

Deacon John,
You are an inspiration,
thank you for your
dedication!

Good Luck! Kevin, Jill, Aidan, and Andie



Dear Deacon John,

Thank you for sharing your gifts with us at St. Cornelius and St. Elizabeth of the Trinity. We feel blessed and grateful that you have been our Deacon.

Thanks for all you did for all the church ministries: the Youth Group and Holy Name Society and the Ladies Guild/Women's Group, and worship committee, and for your thoughtful presence and for sharing your wisdom at church meetings.

We are grateful for your warmth, kindness, generosity; thoughtful, accessible and inspiring homilies; and a great sense of humor.

Thanks for helping to deepen our faith lives – and for your support and understanding. You live and share your faith and are certainly God's hands and feet in the world.

We will miss you and wish you all the best in what comes next. We look forward to our paths continuing to cross. May God richly bless you.

With love,

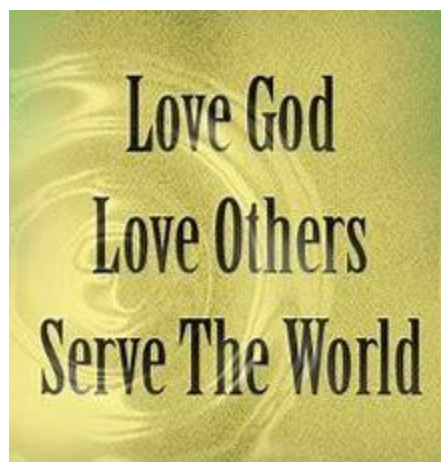
Pete, Kathleen, Margaret,
Clare, and Maeve



Deacon John:

It's always been personal (in the best way). You never fail to ask how we're doing and how's the family. And when there's a bump in our road, you offer to pray. In turn, when you converse and preach, it's personal--it comes from the heart. God bless you.

Ron & Connie Polaniecki







Until we meet again ...

