

# NADD NEWS

AUTUMN, 2006

## NADD: A Community of Leaders

Like many other Catholics since the election of Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger to the Chair of Peter as Pope Benedict XVI, I have sought out some of his writings in an attempt to better acquaint myself with the thoughts he has expressed during an illustrious ministry as priest, theologian, and witness to the power of God working in the Church. It has been especially enlightening to discover his frequent expressions of the People of God as *communio*, particularly those words which may be readily applied to the mission for which the National Association of Diaconate Directors exists.

Having experienced in September the very first gathering of our new Board of Directors, both by way of preparing for and chairing its sessions, I am attempting to direct my immediate reflections on those specific tasks within the parameters of what I have also recently learned from a selective sampling of the Holy Father's writings. He has often relied on the use of *communio* or "communion" in especially addressing the connective aspects of the Holy Eucharist, the fellowship inherent to a Christian assembly, and the mission of Christians at various times and in different places. In a passage I felt especially illuminating, he wrote:

"Only a power and a love . . . stronger than all our own initiatives can

build up a fruitful and reliable community and impart to it the impetus of a fruitful mission. . . . The love of Christ . . . awakens our love and heals our love: the Eucharist is the foundation of community as it is of mission, day by day."

[Ignatius Press: *Pilgrim Fellowship of Faith*, 2005, p. 89]

Whatever our initiatives may be on behalf of the mission of NADD, we acknowledge each is only as promising as our reliance on the love Christ extends to each of us and our ability to personally and collectively pursue the duties to which we have been called by our bishops. With that explicit understanding, your Board of Directors has commenced its work.

We were blessed at our recent meeting to enter our discussions each day following the celebration of Mass together at St. Stephen Protomartyr Church in Des Plaines, IL and praying the Liturgy of the Hours. Daily Mass has become and must continue to be integral to the Board's formal deliberations. Five priorities appropriate to

our mission were accepted by the Board for 2006-2007 in order to:

*Effectively implement the Association's new Constitution and By-laws.*

*Maintain the association's financial integrity.*

*Improve communications within and beyond the Association membership.*

*Actualize a successful national convention in Los Angeles. Completely inaugurate the Association's New Directors' Institute plan.*

No particular order was set for the priorities since it was agreed these would collectively comprise the Board's essential focus of governance throughout this year.

Consistent with the transition plan that accompanied the association's adoption of the new Constitution and By-laws during the 2006 convention in Denver, the Board is in agreement that some time will be required to orient itself to its governance responsibilities and to eventually consider and approve updated policies and procedures to support the work of the Executive Committee, the standing and special committees, and the Executive Director. With an increased use of Board, Executive Committee, and committee conference calls, greater reliance on e-mail, and



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Chairman	1
New Directors' Institute	2
Dues Increase Notice	2
From the Exec. Director for the Secretariat/BCD	4

by other means, the Board's governance role should be facilitated in positive ways. One key decision made during the meeting will lead to more rapid distribution and review of meeting minutes with eventual dissemination by the Regional Representatives to the members in each region.

Maintaining the association's financial integrity is a continuing aim of the Board of Directors, with particular responsibilities assigned to the Secretary-Treasurer, the Finance Committee, and the Executive Director. A proposed budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year was reviewed and approved,

*Cont'd on page 3*

## NADD New Directors' Institute

Deacon Daniel L. Peterson, Vice-Chairman

**THE Question:** How do I get to the place of being able to say to my bishop, "They are worthy..."

We have held two successful Institute sessions, the first being a prototype session at Convention 2005 in New Orleans and the latest being the pilot held during Convention 2006 in Denver.

There have been a series of meetings of the committee, held at the Pontifical College Josephinum (PCJ), in which much discussion took place regarding not only these advance sessions, but also what the curriculum would look like and who would be teaching at the first full session. The Institute continues to be a work in progress and we have another meeting scheduled at the PCJ later this month for the committee to continue its study.

As it is currently envisioned, the 2007 Institute will consist of a full day on Wednesday, April 18, at Convention 2007 in Los Angeles. The layout of this day will remain the same or very similar to the pilot session. The majority of the Institute will be held during the summer, on Monday-Thursday, June 11-14, 2007 at the Jessing Center at PCJ. Attendees and faculty would arrive on Sunday, June 10 and attendees would stay at a hotel across the street from the college. The 2007 Institute will come to a close on Sunday, April 20, 2008 at Convention 2008 in Orlando (the Summit). It will be a one-day wrap-up session describing the process overview, report from participants on a practicum project and ample time for questions and answers.

**Institute Structure:** The Institute will be built on the structure of the National Directory and will consist of the following:

**Day 1** will take place at the NADD April convention following last year's pilot session. Much of the theological underpinning of what it takes to be a good director is covered on this day.

**Days 2-5** would be held at the Jessing Center at PCJ. The four days will include liturgy together, lecture, group discussion, practica, and working through actual case studies. There will be a Sunday evening "orientation" session before Day 2 begins on Monday. The main content of the days, with emphasis on the Human, Spiritual, Intellectual and Pastoral dimensions, will consist of the following:

- Day 2 – Inquiry, discernment, and selection
- Day 3 – Aspirancy path
- Day 4 – Candidacy path
- Day 5 – Post-Ordination path

Ministry and life topics will also be covered. They will

include, but will not be limited to relationships (fraternal and priestly), wives and family, Canon law, history of renewal and how to move forward.

**Day 6** would be held at the subsequent NADD April convention and include an assessment and evaluation of session, report on practicum project and wrap-up.

### Comments:

Between Day 5 and Day 6 (9 months duration) students will be asked to complete the practicum project of creating or updating the deacon manual within their (arch)diocese to be in substantial compliance with the National Directory. They will also select or be assigned a mentor and be given access to the instructors via email and computer bulletin board during this period.

**Admissions:** There will be a formal application process to register for the New Directors' Institute. This will include:

- Application
  - Name, title, address, full/part time director
  - How long have you served in the director position?
  - What is your full time work?
  - Where were you formed (what seminary, program, or school)?
  - Email address
- Curriculum Vitae (educational background) of each attendee
- Top 10 things attendee wants to learn (interest, topics, questions, concerns)
- What attendee hopes to take away from the session

### Costs:

It is estimated that the cost of tuition for the New Directors' Institute will be \$1,850 per person. Tuition will include admission to days 2 and 6 held at back-to-back NADD conventions (some food and breaks are included, but transportation to the conventions and rooms are not). It is assumed you will be attending the conventions whether or not you attend the Institute. For the resident portion of the program at PCJ in Columbus, OH (days 2-5), room (at a hotel adjacent to PCJ) and all meals are included. Transportation to/from Columbus is on your own. A credit will be given to those who do not require accommodations in Columbus. If your (arch) diocese is unable to afford full tuition, we hope to offer a limited number of scholarships.

We ask for your continued prayers as the planning continues for the debut of this groundbreaking New Directors' Institute at Convention 2007 in Los Angeles!

### Dues Increase Notice

A dues increase was approved by membership in 2006 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007. Please use the following amounts in budgeting for next year:

- First voting (diocesan) membership: \$500.00 (was \$425)
- Second (or additional) voting memberships: \$125.00 each (was \$100)
- Associate (non-voting) memberships: \$100.00 each (was \$75)

Pro-forma invoices will be sent to the primary member of each diocese by June 1, 2007.

## Many Faces in God's House

**NADD Convention 2007  
Los Angeles, CA  
April 18-21**

Registration materials will be mailed in early  
January — Watch our web site for details

## NADD: A Community of Leaders

*Cont'd from page 1*

with formatting modifications, for eventual presentation at next year's convention in Los Angeles. The Board was particularly cognizant of the membership dues increase, effective July 1, 2007, approved by the membership last April and its duty to formulate projected budgetary considerations for the future. Discussion also led to the formulation of proposals by the Finance Committee to be considered when the Board begins its review of a new policies and procedures manual later this year. Although not yet a Board agenda item, the idea for exploring potential outside funding sources that may be supportive of the association's programmatic endeavors is surfacing again.

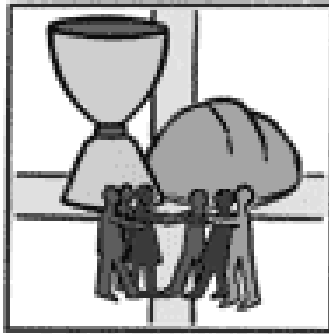
The Executive Director will bear much of the weight of responsibility for improving and expanding the Association's communications with the membership and with organizations vital to the continuing development of NADD. First among these is the Bishops' Committee on the Diaconate. NADD's Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Executive Director are now meeting with the BCD and its staff at the time of the two yearly meetings of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. NADD's accumulated experiences in the Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership project during the past several years has increased the importance of communication with all our partners in this effort, leading to the collaborative fruition of "Summit '08" and that year's national convention. NADD's relationship with particular associations of deacons continues to be maintained primarily through BCD auspices; however, the Board anticipates examining means by which such communication might be enhanced.

A substantial amount of time was devoted by the Board to proposed arrangements for next year's convention with the theme of "*Many Faces in God's House*" to be held on April 18-21, 2007 in Los Angeles. We will be blessed in having a location so accessible to Queen of the Angels Cathedral for our liturgical celebrations and in the projected availability of chosen speakers, numerous workshops and various interest group sessions, and the convenience of sightseeing in the greater Los Angeles area before and after the usual convention timetable. Cardinal Roger Mahoney, Archbishop of Los Angeles, Bishop Gabino Zavala, auxiliary of Los Angeles, Bishop Jaime Soto, auxiliary of the Diocese of Orange, and Bishop Gerald Barnes of San Bernardino are all on the program. Also, a Mass for the Third Sunday of Easter will be conveniently scheduled on Saturday afternoon of the convention for those who will be traveling that night and the next day.

Please refer elsewhere in this newsletter to the article on the *New Directors' Institute* by Deacon Daniel Peterson, NADD's Vice-Chairman, for details on the very substantial preparation and progress being made in our association's effort to fully deliver the inaugural *Institute* schedule in 2007 and 2008. This collaboration with the Pontifical College Josephinum is bearing much fruit and the anticipated first harvest should be gratifying

in all respects. As dioceses re-structure diaconate formation, ministry, and life processes in response to the new *National Directory*, and as other dioceses resume programs following a lengthy suspension or begin initial implementation of diaconate programs, new staff are being appointed. The essential thrust of the *New Directors' Institute* is to equip newer staff with practical information designed to be of great help to them in their respective locales by providing a year-long process of professional development.

The responsibilities of our Nominations and Elections, Resolutions, Finance, Professional Resources, and New Directors' Institute committees have been readily assumed. In each committee, a member of the Board of Directors serves as chair. Other Board members and other NADD members are also serving as needed. Please refer to the Constitution and By-laws for the purview of each committee. The Nominations and Elections Committee is seeking nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman (to be elected to a term of two years at the 2007 convention). The Resolutions Committee is receptive to proposed resolutions. The Finance Committee met for the first time while in Des Plaines and has made several procedural recommendations. The Professional Resources (ad hoc) Committee is at the early stage of formulating a potential continuing formation experience proposal. The New Directors' Institute (ad hoc) Committee has recently met again at the Pontifical College Josephinum to continue organizing the first formal year of operation.



The Executive Committee, in periodic contact by telephone and via email, is scheduled to meet again on January 11-13, 2007, in Phoenix AZ. The next meeting of the entire Board of Directors is to be held on April 17, 2007 in Los Angeles the day before the formal opening of our annual convention. Matters recommended for the Board's consideration may be directed to your Regional Representative, to the Chairman of the appropriate committee, or to our Executive Director.

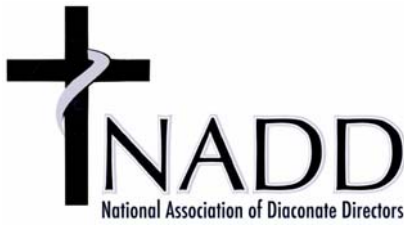
I want to thank you especially for your commitment to the mission of NADD and for the personal support you provide to your regional representative and the nationally elected officers of the association. The entire Board wants to encourage your participation in regional meetings and conferences as the means of developing cohesion among the directors within each region and in bringing to national attention both the successes and the needs of the permanent diaconate throughout the Church.

As we prayerfully adjourned the Board of Directors meeting last month, we agreed: "We have been firmly planted, fertilized and well-watered, so as to produce good fruit!" We know the same is very true for each member of this association as we have been entrusted with this particular leadership role. Let us continue to rely on the love of Christ and on one another for the benefit of the diaconate in the United States.

*St. Lawrence, deacon and martyr, pray for us!*

Deacon J. S. Anzalone, Chairman





**The National Association of  
Diaconate Directors**

2136 12th Street - Suite 105  
Rockford, IL 61104  
Ph: 815-965-2100  
Fax: 815-965-1569  
Email: naddinfo@nadd.org

**Our new email address  
for  
general inquiries is:**

**NOTE:** Effective immediately there is a new username for access to the NADD Member's Only web site. Please watch your email as it will be published in the next eLetter. If you need access sooner, please call the office. The password is unchanged

**NADD CALENDAR**

1/11/07-1/13/07	Exec. Committee meeting w/ 2007 Convention Chair	Franciscan Renewal Center - Scottsdale, AZ
4/16/07-4/17/07-4/18/07-4/18/07-4/21/07-4/22/07	Exec. Committee & Board Arrive Exec. Comm. & Board Meet Pre-Convention Workshops / New Directors' Institute Convention 2007 Departure	Omni Hotel Los Angeles, CA
6/7/07-6/9/07	Exec. Committee Meeting	Pontifical College Josephinum - Columbus, OH
9/13/07-9/15/07	Exec. Committee and Board Meet	St. Mary Seminary - Houston, TX

**NEW WEB ADDRESS  
WWW.NADD.ORG**

**We're On the Web!**  
**www.nadd.org**

**Update from the Secretariat for  
the Diaconate**

Deacon William T. Ditewig

In my last update, I mentioned the massive restructuring underway here at the USCCB. Within the last couple of weeks, a statement was released to the press, so I feel freer to share some of the details of the restructuring, as it currently stands, and how it may affect this office.

As I wrote in the last update, "This will be the most substantive and sweeping change ever made to the Conference, and it involves a considerable realignment, including the loss of dozens of positions. The goal is to find ways of doing things more efficiently, and perhaps not doing certain things in the future that have been done in the past." In November, the bishops of the United States will be voting on a package of proposals that will reduce the number of committees, task forces, and other groupings of bishops from 68 to 38. The number of staff positions will be cut accordingly, generally by attrition and retirement. If the bishops approve this plan, it will go into effect relatively quickly, in order for us to begin the budgetary process for the new structure. If the bishops do NOT approve the plan, we do not know exactly what will happen, other than the process of restructuring will continue, but at a different pace. I think most of us here right now are expecting that the proposal will pass, but as we all know, trying to anticipate what any voting body will do is never a sure thing!

Let's assume that the package is approved as written. If that's the case, six committees will be combined into one. The six committees are: Priestly Life and Ministry, Diaconate, Ministry and Life of Bishops, Priestly Formation, Vocations, and Consecrated Life. The new Committee would be the Committee on Clergy and Consecrated Life. Until recently, the four committees of Priestly Life and Ministry, Diaconate, Priestly Formation, and Vocations were staffed by three executive directors and three administrative assistants (six people). The new Committee on Clergy and Consecrated Life would be served by an Executive Director for the Secretariat for Clergy and Consecrated Life, an Associate Director of the Secretariat, and two administrative assistants (four people). As you can see, we will have less people to do the work that we were doing BEFORE the scope of the office was increased; now, those people will have

significantly MORE to do. In short, six committees will be subsumed into one, with a staff of six reduced to four. In addition, since the proposal also includes plans for a Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis, I may remain responsible for that office as well, at least on an interim basis.

What is happening here at the Conference, of course, is little different from what has been happening on diocesan staffs for some time now. In many ways, the re-visioning and the re-structuring going on here is the same kind of process which many of you have already gone through, or are still going through. As I wrote to you before, "Whatever happens, the diaconate in the United States will continue to be a major responsibility and obligation of the bishops, who take the whole of ordained ministry as a critical component of their own mission." What the restructuring will mean in practical terms, if it is approved as presented, will take some time to sort out. It may mean that our travel to visit dioceses and formation programs may have to be severely curtailed; it may mean that staff availability in support of various other projects will also be reduced.

Certainly, our priorities will begin with those tasks which we are required to perform by a mandate from the Holy See. This would include, of course, working on updates and changes to the *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States*. As you recall, the official *recognitio* for that document was for five years, and the clock began ticking in October 2004 when the *recognitio* was granted. Therefore, as I have asked before, as you work through the implementation of the new *Directory*, please keep good notes and feel free to forward your recommendations to me. Since we are already nearly halfway through the period of the official approval period, the Committee (however it is named and structured) will be working on that issue in the near future.

I ask that you keep the Conference in your prayers as we go through this restructuring. Just as has happened in your own dioceses, these things impact real people, with families and needs. Many of our colleagues have already left the Conference without replacement, and a number of similar moves are expected in the near future. Let us all pray for each other.