

MLI New Directory Discussion 6-19-23

The National Directory for the Formation and Ministry of the Permanent Deacon, Second Edition was ratified to be used in the United States in June 2022.

It had many updates not only for the Office of the Permanent Diaconate but also for the Formation of Deacons. Discuss and share information on a few sections that seemed to impact the Diaconate not so much as additions, but updates for the betterment of the Deacons, Aspirants, Candidates and Wives who serve the people of God through this Ordained ministry.

We won't cover all of the details but would like to discuss three or four that seemed to have more of an impact on the Diaconate.

- Aspirancy - Now 2 years #212 Norms
 - Does not include Information and Inquiry stage or the application process

Discussion

- Post ordination formation - has been expanded to five years from three.

Discussion

- Retreat or Day of Reflection for Aspirants/Candidates and Wives prior to Candidacy, Lector and Acolyte.
 - The New Directory calls for a retreat day prior to Candidacy, Lector and Acolyte for the men and their wives.

Discussion

- Retirement of Deacon – Age.

- The directory states that a policy should be in place # 111

Discussion

- Role of wives? #81
 - The new directory has over 50 references to involvement of wives both during formation and after ordination.

Discussion

- Language
 - Vernacular

Does your program offer opportunities for formation in other languages?