



August 8, 2022

Brother Deacons and Wives,

“From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace, ...grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”  
John 1: 16-17.

Thank you very much for attending this year's Joint Conference at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend Indiana.

First, I want to thank Deacon Mel Tardy and his wonderful wife Annie for being such great hosts and servants of God.

It was great to see you there, and we are honored to have convened Deacon Michael Taylor and Deacon Alfred Adams as guest presenters.

I believe the conference was a success as we managed to agree on and continue efforts to keep our organization moving forward. Thanks to the work of all who were present. To recap our actions:

- ⌚ Deacons Leonard and Jerry will continue to oversee and make necessary updates to the website. They will send out updated information to us to begin making donations.
- ⌚ Deacon Al Turner and his wife, Jane will continue the work on the newsletter. Please, deacons and wives, send articles, homilies, etc. Deacon Turner email [revdeaconalt@outlook.com](mailto:revdeaconalt@outlook.com) to be placed in the November newsletter prior to October 15<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the recent newsletter can be found on our website.
- ⌚ A new deacon pin and new member packet was distributed to deacons and wives present at the meeting. The brochures in the new member packet can be reproduced and used for recruiting new members.
- ⌚ Sponsoring aspiring deacons will be planned by Deacon Michael Taylor
- ⌚ Deacon wives met through a Zoom meeting and an in-person workshop with line dancing and shared goodies.

- ⌚ A list of Regions was presented with some names of deacons in each

region. Deacons who were present from these regions:

**Region 4** – Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina

Deacons Pickett and Chambliss,

**Region 4A** – Washington D.C., Virginia, Maryland

Deacons Al Anderson and Al Turner

**Region 4B** – Virgin Island

Deacon Fludd

**Region 5** - Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee

Deacon Moore

**Region 6** - Michigan, Ohio

Deacon Washington

**Region 7** – Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin

Deacon Tardy

**Region 10** - Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma

Deacon Cumby (not present), Carol Smith (widow of Deacon –

**Region 11** – California, Hawaii

Deacons Chatman, Lamb, and Threatt (not present)

**Region 12** – Washington

Deacons Connor and Chil0

Because the lists need updating, deacons in the regions listed above will be receiving a list of only the deacons in their region. Please update the list by deleting names of deceased, confirm active and retired deacons. **Throughout the coming year**, at our monthly meetings, please keep me updated on your progress. Hopefully by our next conference (2023) a drafted directory will be published.

- 🕒 Deacon wives who were present agreed to donate \$25.00 each for the purpose of funding the project, “honoring our deceased deacons”, through a donation to Xavier University. Monetary donation to Xavier and the names of the deceased will be determined \_\_\_\_\_. In the year there are no deceased names to submit, the funds can be used for other needed purposes. All deacon wives who wish may donate to this project online which is being set up.
- 🕒 Deacon Leonard provided information from the Finance feasibility committee. Mabel Taylor, wife of Deacon Michael, committee member, provided detailed information regarding the Double Good Popcorn fundraiser. Deacon Leonard and his committee will provide more information about logistics and website updates as soon as possible.

The conference included beautiful spirit filled Masses, held at the Basilica, and Ryan Hall. The music provided at the Masses, and the Jazz concert by Deacon Mel’s brother Gregory and quartet were priceless and very memorable.

I am sure I am missing some wonderful experiences, however as we keep these beautiful inspiring memories in our hearts, let's pray in thanksgiving for a wonderful conference.

Place on your calendar, Joint Conference, Washington D.C., July TBD\_ at TBC\_, followed by the 13th National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC), to be held July 20-23, 2023 in National Harbor, Maryland.2023

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

Deacon Joseph Connor  
President  
National Association of Black Catholic Deacons