

# NADD NEWS

## The National Directory – A Signpost for Diaconate Renewal

### Convention 2006

Deacon Al Sandoval

How long has it been since you were ordained? It has been 37 years since the restoration of the diaconate in the Church Universal and in the Archdiocese of Denver the first deacons were ordained 31 years ago. Who told you how to be a deacon? A few years ago I was consumed with the thought that we needed a renewal of the ministry of the deacon. I called together a group of deacons to dialog on this issue. They concurred and this began a process of examining the state of diaconate ministry in the Archdiocese of Denver. We concluded that we needed to re-light the fire of our relationship with Christ; that we needed to develop a solid prayer foundation. This led to adding spiritual formation days to our continuing formation of

deacons and then this past September all of the deacons in the Archdiocese were asked to attend a retreat, “A Call to Holiness” which one deacon expressed as “the best retreat I have ever had.”

Providentially, the NADD Executive Board last year asked the Denver Archdiocese to host the NADD Convention in April of 2006. At the time Hawaii was also being considered. Well, Denver won out! Located at the base of the Rocky Mountains, Denver is one of America’s most beautiful cities and one of the most fun. Blessed with 300 days of sunshine a year, Denver is a lively city with a great love of the outdoors. It is a place where you experience the grandeur of God’s creation. Although the place of the convention is important, God will speak to us in a very special way during the “time”

of the convention. It occurs during the octave of Easter; experiencing the Resurrection of Christ. We also will be on a journey towards the first Sunday of Easter, which the Church celebrates as “Divine Mercy Sunday.”

This is especially significant since deacons are ministers of  
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- Nomination Form (full members)

- Christmas Sale Order Form



Deacons Sam Anzalone; George Tierney; Dan Peterson; Al Sandoval; Math Prom and Tim McAuliffe at the September 2005 Board Meeting

### From the President-Elect

Deacon Sam Anzalone

During the recent meeting of the Executive Board and the Regional Representatives I had the privilege of presenting a written proposal outlining a distinctive style of New Directors’ Workshop for our Denver convention next April.

As we are all aware, President Dan Peterson is leading a team effort to design and deliver a New Directors’ Institute that will become an annual summer experience at the Pontifical College Josephinum beginning in 2007.

Between now and then we intend to continue the workshop for new directors in conjunction with our annual meetings.

The pre-convention workshop in Denver in 2006 will bring focus to “Assessing Readiness for Admission into the Aspirant and Candidate Paths of Formation” as we examine specific

cognitive and non-cognitive ways to assess readiness levels with the human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral dimensions that are prime responsibilities of diaconate staff. The impetus for this approach is our obligation as directors to convey to the local bishop “a judgment of suitability” for the admission to candidacy of particular individuals, as called for in the new National Directory.

In looking ahead, we envision the 2007 pre-convention workshop at our convention in Los Angeles will address assessing readiness for the Ordination and Post-Ordination Path as called for by the new Model Standards.

Our Executive Board, in consultation with the Regional Representatives, has endorsed this approach and planning is well underway to complete our preparations. We trust you will anticipate participating in this workshop as you plan your itinerary for the 2006 convention in Denver.

[See the entire newsletter in the Member’s Only Area](#)