



NADD E-Newsletter December 2009 Volume 7 Issue 4

Slate of Speakers and Presenters Announced for 2010 NADD Convention

The 2010 convention planning team, lead by Deacon John Sicilia, announces an outstanding slate of speakers and presenters that we can look forward to hearing next April in Spokane. Highlighting the theme, "The Deacon as Sacramental Servant," convention participants will have opportunities for continued learning, formation and exchange of ideas through keynote addresses, workshops and interest sessions.

The opening keynote address will be given by **Reverend W. Shawn McKnight, S.T.D.**, the incoming Executive Director of the Secretariat for Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations (CCLV). Fr. McKnight is noted for his study of the diaconate and his participation as a presenter in the 2007 and 2009 New Directors' Institutes. His keynote address is titled: "Deacons: Unique Ministers of Communion."

The second keynote address will be provided by the **Most Reverend Octavio Cisneros, D.D.**, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn and CCLV episcopal liaison to NADD. Bishop Cisneros participated in all convention activities in Chicago and his presence in Spokane will afford participants many opportunities to interact with him. Bishop Cisneros' keynote is titled: "The Deacon and the New Roman Missal," which will be presented as part of the Gala Awards Banquet at the close of the convention.

Reverend Monsignor Christopher M. Schreck Ph.D., S.T.D. is the presenter for the Director's Workshop. As Executive Director for the Institute for the Formation & Ministry of the Permanent Diaconate at the Pontifical College Josephinum, Msgr. Schreck is uniquely qualified to lead workshop participants through the workshop "Essentials of Continuing Formation: Principles and Practices." The Directors' Workshop is an extra-cost option for convention participants.

Three additional workshops are included in the convention registration fee: "Prayer: The First Foundation of Ministry" will be presented by **Deacon Eric Meisjord, M.A.** The second workshop is "The Challenges of Serving the Multicultural Community" with **Deacon Gonzalo "Chalo" Martinez, M.A.** The third is "Diaconal Service of Charity, the Word and the Liturgy to Traditional Catholics" with **Rev. Eugene Tracy, C.P.A., M.B.A., S.T.B.** These three workshops will be offered twice during the convention so that participants can attend more than one.

Spouses attending the Wives' Workshop will be delighted to know that the presenter is **Chaplain Rae Pistone, R.N., M.P.S.** Chaplain Pistone is highly regarded within NADD and among the national deacon community for the more than 90 retreats and workshops that she and her late husband, John, provided over the last several years. NADD is pleased to continue working with Chaplain Pistone in this special role. The title of her workshop is, "Who Do You Say That I Am?" The Wives Workshop is an extra-cost option.

Three “Interest Sessions” will be offered on the final day of the convention. “What are we doing about mentoring?” is presented by **Deacon Sam Anzalone, Ph.D.** The second is: “The Deacon as Parish Life Coordinator” (relating to Canon 517.2) will be presented by **Deacon Gerald DuPont, M.A.** And the third Interest Session is “The Coordinator of Pastoral Field Education,” presented by **Deacon Tom Lang.** Related presentations were offered last year in Chicago and received outstanding reviews for content and for the opportunity to share experiences with other participants. Here is your chance to engage with other formation directors on timely topics affecting the diaconate!

Bishops to Receive Letter Promoting NADD Convention

In cooperation with Reverend David L. Toups, acting director of the Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, NADD has arranged to have a letter promoting the NADD convention posted on the “Bishops Only” website in January. The letter appears on CCLV letterhead and is co-signed by Cardinal Sean O’Malley, CCLV Chairman, and by Bishop Octavio Cisneros, episcopal contact to NADD.

The letter builds on the bishops’ familiarity with the New Directors’ Institute and explains how NDI participants will be presenting projects pertaining to diaconal formation in Spokane. It explains that attendance will allow convention participants to “witness the work of their peers and to discover the many ways that NADD supports its members who are charged with implementing the *National Directory*.”

General information is provided about the convention with notes that Fr. W. Shawn McKnight and Bishop Octavio Cisneros will be keynote presenters and that there will be several other workshops and interest sessions. The letter concludes, “We ask that you consider the value of this event and then encourage the diaconal formation personnel from your diocese to attend the NADD convention.”

NADD thanks Fr. Toups for his help in gaining approval of the letter and for arranging its timely posting.

Two Ways to Register for Convention 2010

There will be two ways to register for the 2010 NADD Convention: online and on paper. The printed convention brochure will be mailed in January – it has a printed registration form on the back cover which can be detached and mailed. A link from the NADD home page also enables online registrations beginning in January.

Your payment method dictates which registration type is best for you. While NADD formerly had the ability to process credit card numbers, our conversion to PayPal no longer allows our office to process credit card charges. If you want to pay for convention registration using a credit card, you must use the online form and enter your credit card yourself through PayPal™.

If you plan to pay by check, you can use either the online form (PayPal accepts checks too) or by mailing the printed registration form with a check to the NADD office.

Merry Christmas from NADD!

The NADD office extends our wishes that you and your families will have a blessed and joyous Christmas season.

Deacon Tom Dubois

Jeannette Nini