



MOST REVEREND
MICHAEL R. COTE, D.D.

December 19, 2011

Dear Deacons, Wives, and Pastors of Deacons,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the sixth annual Diaconate convocation on January 13-14, 2012 at Immaculata Retreat House in Willimantic.

On Friday evening at 6:00 PM, the convocation will begin with a Mass. A social and dinner will follow.

At the end of the evening, the deacons and their wives will stay over for a continuing education day on Saturday while the pastors will return to their parishes.

The theme of the day of continuing education is the Deacon as the Herald of the Good News. Deacon David Reynolds of the Connecticut Catholic Conference will present a workshop on the Catholic Voice and how deacons can assist in supporting the Catholic presence in Connecticut. In the afternoon, Deacons Dennis Dolan and Peter Gill will present a workshop on Thinking Outside the Pew, a practical workshop on evangelization.

Your presence is important for the success of this convocation. Every convocation is a special opportunity for the diaconate community to come together for prayer and continuing education. Pastors are encouraged to attend on Friday night. Deacons and their wives should plan on attending the entire convocation. Any pastors or associates who wish to come back for the Saturday program are invited to attend.

Please return the enclosed registration form to Deacon Berstene at the Chancery by January 6th. Deacons, their wives and pastors are guests of the Diocese at this meeting. Funding for the annual convocation comes from the Deacon Convocation Fund which is supported by your parishes. If you have any questions, please call Deacon Berstene at the Chancery. I look forward to spending this time with you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

[signed - Most Reverend Michael Cote, DD]

Bishop of Norwich