

## *From the Deacon's Wife . . . .*

The topic for today is "What is the role of the deacon?" Before we get into that, I need to clarify that there are two kinds of deacons: transitional deacons and permanent deacons. The transitional deacon is a step on the way to ordination as a priest. The seminarians we have at Holy Name each summer will be ordained as transitional deacons, and then later, when they complete their studies, ordained as priests.

The permanent deacon is one who is called to serve God's people **permanently as a deacon**. It is not anticipated that he will become a priest. The Bishops Committee on the Permanent Diaconate (National Conference of Catholic Bishops) says:

"The ordained deacon's responsibility is not simply to see for himself the extent of others' needs or to hear for himself the depths of their want, but to help us, the Church, to see through his eyes and hear through his ears – and to perceive not only the needs of others, but our own resources and opportunities for responding to them."

What this really means is that the job of the Deacon is to serve those among us in need and lead the community in addressing those needs. It is really just an extension of the role the original deacons were called to fill. If you recall, it was to take care of the widows and orphans to free the apostles to dedicate their time to "prayer and the preaching of the word."

As baptized persons, our role is to serve God by serving our families, our neighbors, our parish family, and all God's people in the little everyday ways, and sometimes in big ways. We must all follow the lead of Father Frank and Deacon Kevin to care for those who are less fortunate than us, or in need in any way. **ONE BIG WAY WE DO THIS IS BY SUPPORTING OUR PARISH SCHOOL.** Most parishes support their school, but I have been amazed at the dedication of Holy Namers! Remember the importance of volunteering your time to help directly in the school or to help raise money to keep the school operating. The school needs us to financially support it throughout the year. We can help make Harvest – our major fundraiser of the year – a success by donating items for auction or by attending the dinner and bidding in the auction. Please do whatever you can to support the school and the children we serve through the school.

P.S. If you want an inside scoop on which Harvest item to bid, check this out:

### *The College World Series 2010 Package!*

The package includes two tickets to a Championship Game (directly behind home plate), transportation to and from the game, and tailgating with the Deacon and his wife. This will be the last Men's College World Series at historic Rosenblatt Stadium, and a chance to relax with world-class tailgaters Deacon Kevin and his wife Liz Joyce – **Priceless!**