

# The PeliDeacon

*a newsletter about deacons  
in The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana*



**Special Edition**  
**Deacon Conference**  
**June 3, 2023**

**Program Inside**

Vol. 2023, No. 7  
May 25, 2023

## ***The Spirit of Frances-Joseph Gaudet***

**The Ven. Charles deGravelles, Archdeacon**

This special edition of The PeliDeacon focuses on the upcoming Deacons Conference, Saturday, June 3, our first under the episcopate of Bishop Shannon Duckworth. Earlier this year, when diocesan clergy met together, the Bishop shared with us her desire to spotlight the life and work of The Blessed Frances Joseph-Gaudet, Louisiana's own saint whose work in education and prison reform was prodigious, especially for a woman of color in the 19th Century.

Our conference will start with prayer at the Gaudet chapel, St. Luke's New Orleans, There we will learn more about Gaudet and hear from our keynote speaker, a prison reformer who was himself incarcerated at 16 years old. We'll then move to St. Anna's New Orleans, a church whose priest and deacons have reached out to serve the young people of their communities in the years following Hurricane Katrina to the present day.

I look forward to being with you all.

## Spring Deacons Conference

Saturday, June 3, 2023

### PROGRAM



**St. Luke's Episcopal Church, New Orleans**  
1222 N Dorgenois St, New Orleans, LA 70119

**9:00 – 9:30** - Coffee, fresh fruit, breakfast pastries – Large Conference Room

**9:30 – 9:45** - Welcome and Introduction—*The Ven. Charles deGravelles, Archdeacon*  
Opening Prayers and Reflection – *Deacon Cindy Obier*

**9:45 -- 10:30 – The Life and Legacy of The Blessed Frances Joseph-Gaudet**

*Trevor-David Bryan*, St. Luke's Senior Warden and Treasurer.

*Dr. Rosanne Adderley*, Associate Professor of History, Tulane University

**10:30 – 11:15 – Keynote - The Parole Project: Second Chances for the Incarcerated**

*Matthew Pineda*, Community Engagement Coordinator for The Parole Project

**St. Anna's Episcopal Church, New Orleans**  
1313 Esplanade Ave, New Orleans, LA 70116

**11:15 – 1:30 – Lunch with Check-In**

You're invited to get take-out from Lil Dizzy's, 1500 Esplanade (menu on Page 5)  
and bring it to St. Anna's where we will eat together.

Deacon "check-in" will be led by *Deacon Jay Albert*

**1:30 – 2:30 – The *Diakonea* of St. Anna's Episcopal Church**

St. Anna's, a community resource and anchor in the post-Katrina era and beyond

*Father William, "Bill" Terry*, Rector

*Deacon Luigi Mandile*, St. Anna Parish Administrator

*Karen Judge*, Dodwell House

*Cavin Davis*, Director, Anna's Place

**2:30 – 3:00 – Louisiana Deacon Awards 2023**

**3:00 – 3:30--Reflection on the State of the Diaconate**

Closing Prayer – *Deacon Pat Lyle*

## Deacon Conference Keynoter, Once a Juvenile Lifer, Now a Prison Reformer



Louisiana Parole Project Community Engagement Coordinator Matthew Pineda brings a special kind of enthusiasm to work with him each day, harboring high hopes and great expectations for the clients he assists with their transition from prison to modern society.

It is a journey he knows well, having served 35 years on a life sentence that he received at age 16. While in prison Matthew earned over 80 credit hours in a specialized business degree program through Ohio University and International Correspondence Schools. He also completed vocational certifications in welding and residential carpentry.

Matthew earned a Distinguished Toastmaster designation from Toastmasters International and spent 12 years as a member of Jaycees receiving its highest honor given to a member, a JCI (Junior Chamber International) Senatorship granting him a lifetime membership. He served as a 12-step study group facilitator, is a certified substance abuse peer counselor for Celebrate Recovery, and is an RCIA Catholic Catechism facilitator.

He attributes his growth, maturity, and his freedom to his faith in God. With a strong religious upbringing and lots of support from his family during his incarceration, Matthew believes that none of his accomplishments and achievements would be possible had it not been for his God-given talents and experiences inside the Department of Corrections.

## Tulane History Professor To Speak on Life and Legacy of the Blessed Frances Joseph-Gaudet

Dr. Laura Rosanne Adderley, professor of history and a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church New Orleans, will address the Deacon Conference on the life and legacy of Frances Joseph-Gaudet. Dr. Adderley specializes in the History of the African Diaspora; the Atlantic Slave Trade, Black Enslavement in the Americas, Caribbean History, and African-American History.



Her current book project is entitled *Practicing Emancipation: Slave Ship Survivors, Atlantic Abolition, and the Everyday Politics of Freedom*.



### **Preparing for the Conference**

Deacons Mike Hackett, Charmaine Kathmann and Archdeacon Charles deGravelles met with Mother Jane-Allison Wiggin at St. Luke's and Deacon Luigi Mandile at St. Anna's to prepare for the upcoming Deacon's Conference.

Mother Jane-Allison gave us valuable background information about Frances Joseph-Gaudet from the Gaudet Chapel of St. Luke's. Luigi gave Charmaine, Mike and Charlie a tour of St. Anna's Dodwell House, currently under renovation.




# Lunch

After we leave St. Luke's, deacons will stop by Lil Dizzy's, 1500 Esplanade, order take-out, and then go to St. Anna's for lunch and a round-table discussion led by Deacon Jay Albert.



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**Lil Dizzy's Cafe**  
A Baquet Family Restaurant

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### SOUPS & Salads

- Gumbo ..... \$ 9.25
- Fried Shrimp Salad ..... \$16.25

### FRIED CHICKEN

- 2 pieces w/side ..... \$ 9.25
- 4pc w/side ..... \$12.25
- 8pc w/side ..... \$17.50

### PO-BOYS

- Shrimp ..... \$13.25
- Baquet Hot sausage ..... \$10.25
- Catfish ..... \$13.25

### SEAFOOD PLATES & PLATTERS

(Choice of 2 sides)

- Shrimp ..... \$17.25
- Catfish ..... \$15.25
- Shrimp and Catfish ..... \$19.25

### SIDE ITEMS

- Macaroni and Cheese ..... \$6.00
- Dirty Rice ..... \$6.00
- Potato Salad ..... \$4.00
- String Beans..... \$4.00
- Southern Greens ..... \$5.00
- Candied yams ..... \$5.00
- Fries ..... \$4.00
- Side Salad..... \$4.00

### DAILY SPECIALS

**MONDAY**

- Red Beans and Rice ..... \$ 8.25
- w/ Smoked or Hot Sausage ..... \$10.25
- w/ 2pc Fried Chicken ..... \$13.25

**TUESDAY**

- White Beans and Rice ..... \$ 8.25
- w/ Hot or Smoked Sausage..... \$10.25
- w/ 2pc Fried Chicken ..... \$13.25
- Stuffed Bell Peppers w/ 2 sides..... \$14.25

**WEDNESDAY**

- Stuffed Bell Peppers w/ 2 sides ..... \$14.25
- Jambalaya w/2 pc Fried Chicken ..... \$15.25

**THURSDAY**

- Smothered Okra w/ Rice with Fried Chicken ..... \$15.25
- Smothered Okra w/ Rice ..... \$11.25

**FRIDAY**

- Catfish Jourdain - Shrimp/crabmeat lemon butter sauce (Fried Catfish w/ choice of any 2 sides)..... \$19.50

**SATURDAY**

- Smothered Pork Chops w/ Rice and Choice of any 2 sides .. \$14.25
- Catfish and Grits ..... \$12.25.
- Shrimp Grillade..... \$15.25

### BEVERAGES

- Water \$2.00
- Soda/Tea \$2.50
- Beer \$5.00
- Element Lemonade (Strawberry or Pineapple) \$2.75

### DESSERT

- Bread Pudding \$4.00

### COCKTAILS

- Da Dizzy - Vodka Strawberry Lemonade \$10.00
- Da Treme -Whiskey Peach Tea \$10.00

1500 Esplanade Avenue | New Orleans, LA 70116 | 504-766-8687 | [www.lildizzyscafe.net](http://www.lildizzyscafe.net)

## A Pentecost Message from Archdeacon Charlie

Years ago, one of the little ones in our family was getting baptized at Trinity Episcopal in Baton Rouge. Our family gathered in full force. Before the service started, the rector, Father David Coughlin, met with the family to give us a better understanding of what was about to happen. He talked about how this sacrament of the Church, Holy Baptism, was going to infuse the beautiful baby with God's Holy Spirit, fully initiating him into "Christ's Body the Church."



I don't remember which little one it was being baptized that day, but I'll never forget one thing that Father Coughlin said. After having talked about God, the Trinity, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, he paused for a minute and looked at us. "You do believe this, right? If we don't believe this, what are we doing here?"

As we approach the Feast of the Pentecost, we remember that long-ago day when, after Jesus had died and risen, the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, manifesting both audially ("like the rush of a violent wind") and visually ("divided tongues, as of fire").

I ask you to consider the same question Fr. Coughlin asked us back at that baptism: do we believe this? Do we believe the Holy Spirit, one of the three "persons" of the living God, is active and alive today—in our church, in our families, in our souls?

I'll be pondering this question in my sermon on Sunday, and I encourage you to meditate on those times when you have in some way perceived the presence of the Holy Spirit. Wherever you will be worshipping this Sunday, bring with you the memories of those precious encounters and give thanks for the wonder of a life in God. In the peace and power of God's Holy Spirit, Charlie



### The PeliDeacon

*a newsletter for and about the deacons*

The PeliDeacon is an official publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana.  
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Our Vision: The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana is one church, faithful to our Lord Jesus, united in mission, reaching out through service and proclamation to all for whom Christ died. We live in joyous expectation of God's transforming power, compassion, and mercy in our lives.

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