

## Our Deacon Candidate and Acolyte – Clifton Don Moore

Our St. Jerome parish community is so blessed to not only have Seminarian Kyle Nesrsta but to also have Deacon Candidate and Acolyte Don Moore. The Vocations Ministry continues its spotlight on Religious Vocations with this update on Don.

Don and his wife, Christine, have been St. Jerome parishioners since 2009. Christine is our Director of Religious Education and Don has been very active alongside her with the CCE and VBS programs. Converting to Catholicism in 1987, Don takes his faith seriously and is active in the parish in many ways. He takes the Eucharist to the ill at Providence Hospital once a month; is a reader and an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist; and has helped with the singing and trumpet playing at special Masses.



Other things to know about Don:

- \* His birthdate is July 30, 1965.
- \* He graduated from Moreno Valley High School in California; received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Embry Riddle University, Florida with a major in Professional Aeronautics, and a minor in Aviation Business Administration.
- \* He retired from the Air Force in 2005 as a Master Sergeant, having traveled to over 26 countries, and served in Desert Storm, Desert Shield and the Persian Gulf area during the war.
- \* He and Christine have been married for 31 years, having lived in California, South Carolina, Japan, Germany, and South Dakota while in the military and then came to the Waco area. Together they have 2 sons, Martin and Michael. Michael and wife, Lora have 4 children: Christine 8, Michael 6, Mia 4 and Shawn 2.
- \* Don has been employed with Blackhawk Modifications near the Waco Airport for 6 years, where he has traveled to 14 countries and numerous states.
- \* He takes the opportunity to evangelize everywhere he goes.

Don began praying about the Diaconate in 2002 in South Dakota at his last military station and answered the call while here at St. Jerome parish. He joined the diaconate class in January of 2014 and is currently in his fifth and last year of classes of diaconal formation. The Diaconate program has three stages of preparation before ordination as a Permanent Deacon:

- o Aspirant – taking college courses at the Pastoral Center with a class of 50 men and their wives every other weekend.
- o Candidate – during this time he was installed as a Reader; completed an 18 month internship about the various aspects of parish life; observed the sacraments of Marriage, Baptism and Holy Eucharist; and assisted at Funerals.
- o Acolyte – he became an Acolyte this past March and can now assist the priest at Mass, purify vessels when a deacon is not present, and he can expose the Eucharist for Adoration.

The last rite of formation is Ordination as a Permanent Deacon. Hopefully all will continue as planned as Don is scheduled to be ordained on March 30, 2019.

Don asks that we all keep him and his family in our prayers to help him to continue this formation, to discern the will of God and to have the courage to carry out God's will. If you have any questions about the Diaconate formation process or would like more info about becoming a Permanent Deacon, feel free to contact Don. He is always happy to share his love of Christ and his Catholic faith as well as information about his journey. He can be reached by phone or email at:

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