

## Pastor's Corner

St. Francis Xavier Parishioner to be ordained Transitional Deacon May 22



St. Francis Xavier Parishioner **Jody DiMaggio** will be ordained a “Transitional” Deacon next Saturday, May 22, at St. Louis Cathedral. Due to Covid, attending the ordination is by invitation only. A “Transitional” Deacon is not a “Permanent” Deacon but a deacon on the way to priesthood. Jody will serve his first Mass as a Deacon here at St. Francis on Sunday, May 22, at 12 noon. Everyone is invited to attend that Mass and the reception which follows in St. Joseph Hall. His mom, Vita, will put on a spread.

Here is a brief bio written by Jody himself: "I went to St. Benilde for Grammar School, Brother Martin for High School and Tulane for my Undergraduate degree. I later went to Penn State and got an MBA. My family had a catering business that I was very involved in for most of my life. I felt the call to priesthood much earlier in life, and I did the silliest thing...I ran from it! I sort of ‘hid out from God's call’ in the family business for several decades. But the pull towards priesthood was always there. It would not go away. I finally contacted the Vocations Office of the Archdiocese and discerned for a few years with a discernment group and finally overcame my fears and entered Seminary. I only wish I would have done this sooner. This is my 5th year in Seminary and I am very excited about becoming a Deacon this May, and God willing, a Priest next year."

Please pray for Jody as he takes this final giant step on the way to becoming a priest. If your schedule permits, come to his first Mass as a Deacon at 12 noon on May 22 then join the celebratory reception after Mass.

God bless,  
Fr. Joe