

Deacon Anthony Aspinall



National Coordinator of the Permanent Diaconate

The new Coordinator for the Permanent Diaconate is Tony Aspinall. Tony was ordained Deacon for the Diocese of Sale 14th August 1998. He is married to June on 29/3/71 and has two children and nine grandchildren.

Present Ministry:

In addition to being the Coordinator he is the Administrator of Iona/Maryknoll & Nar Nar Goon Parishes in partnership.

Education:

Tony holds a Bachelor of Theology from CTC Melbourne, and while at the Alfred Hospital Melbourne he obtained CPE, both basic and advanced. His ministry at Alfred Hospital was in the Trauma Ward and then the Psychiatric Hospital.

Appointments:

Tony's first appointment was to Narre Warren Parish where he was involved in general Parish ministry and was part time Chaplain to the Berwick Villa Maria aged care facility and the Dandenong Hospital Psychiatric wards. Later he became part time Chaplain to St Francis Xavier College Beaconsfield.

In 2003 he was transferred to Cranbourne Parish and to Full Time Chaplaincy at St Peter's College Cranbourne and Deacon of St Agatha's Parish.

Tony has also served as a member of The Professional Standards Resources Group Victoria to which he was appointed by Bishop Peter Connors and served six years.

In January 2012 he was transferred to his present Parish which has five Mass Centres and 3 primary schools. To date he has retained the Chaplaincy at St Peter's College but this is currently under review.

Tony is a member of the Diocesan Clergy Life and Ministry Committee and has served as a member of the ACCCLM. Whilst on the Council he worked with Fr Paul Cashen msc and Deacon Paul Simmons to update the guidelines for the Diaconate in Australia.

In January this year he was appointed by the ACBC as National Coordinator of the Diaconate. On his appointment Tony said "This is indeed a challenge for me and I hope to be a constructive and productive member of the diaconal community during my appointment". He continued "I feel strongly that there is a need for a clearer understanding of the possibilities of the Ministry of Deacon amongst the Clergy, including Deacons and aspirants, as well as amongst the Religious and laity. Openness and good will is always productive."

Rev Deacon Tony Aspinall

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