

Permanent Diaconate – Inquiry Session

The Diocese of Belleville is hosting an informational meeting for men (and their spouses) who are interested in the Permanent Diaconate. This meeting will take place on Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 10:00 AM in the Undercroft of the Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 W. Harrison Street, Belleville, IL 62220. The Office of Permanent Deacon is considering another new class of aspirants starting in the Fall of 2025.

Eligibility is extended to men who have reached the ages thirty-three (33) to fifty-six (56) by September 2025. *Men older than fifty-six may still apply but require special approval from the Deacon Formation Office and the Bishop.*

The formation process is a five-year commitment, including academic studies conducted by St. Meinrad School of Theology, spiritual direction, and learning about the deacon's role. Participants are required to attend a three-day meeting once per month over the course of the five-year program. Interested individuals should first discuss their interest with their pastor.

For those unable to attend the initial meeting, another session will be scheduled for later. This meeting is an opportunity to learn about the process and requirements for becoming a Permanent Deacon in the Diocese.

