

## Diaconate Vocations Encouraged

by Deacon Joe Sandrini,  
Director of Diaconal Formation

Has the thought of becoming a permanent deacon ever crossed your mind? Have you been encouraged to consider this vocation? Well, now is the time to check it out and learn more! The Diocese of Cheyenne has begun a time of diaconal inquiry to encourage and inform men who may be called to this unique ministry.

The purpose of the period of inquiry is to provide information about the permanent diaconate and the process of becoming a deacon to those God may be calling. It is the first phase in the selection and training of the next class of men to be ordained permanent deacons in our diocese. The inquiry phase is a time for these men and their families to intentionally explore the possibility of such a call and learn what the life and ministry of a deacon entails together with the process that leads to ordination. This is also an opportunity for pastors and parishioners to think about whom from their parish might be called to be a deacon, and encourage them to look into it.

To help men (and the spouses of those who are married) better understand the diaconate and requirements for becoming a deacon, informational meetings followed by lunch will be held throughout the diocese in the coming year. Those interested in the permanent diaconate should attend one of these meetings, which will be conducted by Deacon Joe Sandrini, Director of Diaconal Formation, with the help of other deacons and their wives.

The meetings will discuss the vocation and essentials of diaconal ministry plus, cover the formation program along with requirements for admission. An information

packet and preliminary application form will be provided to those who feel they are ready to advance further in their discernment of a call to diaconal ministry. Spouses should plan on attending these meetings together, as husband and wife must jointly decide if a man is to venture down the path of becoming a deacon.



Deacon Dan Kostelc of Pinedale assists with holy oils during the Chrism Mass

### Dates and Locations of Diaconal Inquiry Meetings - all begin at 10:00 AM

**Cheyenne:** January 30, 2016  
Saint Mary's Cathedral, Hartman Hall

**Gillette:** February 6, 2016  
Saint Matthew's, Family Life Center

**Thermopolis:** February 20, 2016  
St. Francis, St. John Paul II Center

**Rock Springs:** February 27, 2016  
St. Cyril & Methodius Lounge

**Casper:** March 5, 2016  
Saint Anthony's  
Shepherd's Staff meeting room



Deacon Vernon Dobelmann address the Right to Life March in Cheyenne.

If you have questions, or would like more information about becoming a permanent deacon, please check out the diocesan website and contact Deacon Joe Sandrini, at (307) 275-0641, or e-mail: [jsandrini@dioceseofcheyenne.org](mailto:jsandrini@dioceseofcheyenne.org)