

Roman Catholic Womenpriests

The following women will be ordained priests and deacons in Pittsburgh on July 31, 2006:

Priests:

Eileen McCafferty DiFranco, M.A.Ed., RN, is a writer, a registered nurse that works at a busy urban high school and teaches nursing part time at a local university. Eileen was active in her parish community for many years and is currently involved in building an intentional church community in the Philadelphia area. She is a core member of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Women's Ordination Conference. Eileen and her husband, Larry have a daughter and three sons. EMDiFranco@aol.com

Olivia Doko MA, OSB, Cam. Oblate, is the founder and director of Olive Tree Ministries through which she provides spiritual retreats and workshops. She has a private Holy Listening practice, offering directed retreats and spiritual direction, with a focus on contemplative prayer, to individuals and small groups. Qualified as a pastoral consultant through Loyola University, New Orleans, Olivia also holds an MA in Adult Christian Community Development from Regis University, Denver. She and her husband, Slavo, have been married 43 years. mdoko@dslextreme.com

Joan Clark Houk, M.Div., is a careful and cheerful listener to the movement of the Holy Spirit in the world and in her life. She and her husband, John, are life partners and occasional partners in ministry. They have raised six children, and recently were blessed with their fifth grandchild. Joan's ministries, that began over 30 years ago, include Catechesis, Sacramental preparation, youth ministry, adult education, and Pastoral Director of two parishes without priest pastors. Her education includes a BA in Education from St. Martin's College, an MS in Conflict Management from George Mason University, and a M.Div. from the University of Notre Dame. jhoukmdiv@earthlink.net

Bridget Mary Meehan, D.Min., a Sister for Christian Community, has fifteen years of experience in parish ministry. Irish-born Meehan is author of fifteen books including *The Healing Power of Prayer* (translated in seven languages) and award-winner *Praying with Visionary Women*. Dr. Meehan is currently Dean of the Doctor of Ministry Program for Global Ministries University, and producer of the award-winning television program, *GodTalk TV*, www.godtalktv.org

Rebecca McGuyver is a university biology teacher, a professional science writer, and an invited speaker on the bio-theology of sex and gender. Her ministries include teaching, writing, public speaking, and internet-based theological communications -- particularly in the areas of scripture, church documents (including the Documents of Vatican II), and bio-theology. A grandmother, a divorcee, and an avid tennis player, Rebecca McGuyver shares her home with her three dachshunds. Biotheologian@aol.com

Dana Reynolds, BA, is an author, a spiritual director, and co-founder of Mosaics, women's spirituality center in Monterey, California. Central to her ministry is her work as a volunteer hospice chaplain. She is a student of iconography and a certified labyrinth facilitator. She has a BS in Religious Studies and a Certificate of completion from the Hesychia School of Spiritual Direction. Dana is the mother of an adult daughter and son and a grandmother. She lives with her husband of 39 years, Don, in Carmel, California. Visit her web-sites at www.sacredimagination.com and www.mosaicsforwomen.com. Email: dana@sacredimagination.com

Kathleen Strack, M.Div., Candidate: Doctor of Psychology has been a lay minister in parishes and other settings for over 20 years. Ms. Strack's current ministries include service as a counselor in a mental health agency and in a public school, personal life coaching and spiritual direction. Ms. Strack has worked for the ordination of women for several years. Her hobbies include jewelry design and art. She has a daughter and four grandchildren and lives in California. katstrackmdiv@sbcglobal.net

Kathy Sullivan Vandenberg, MS, M.Div., is a feminist theologian, clinical therapist, and trauma specialist. She is presently doing counseling with the disenfranchised. Ms Vandenberg's current ministries include counseling, adjunct graduate educator, and hospital chaplain. For the past 30 years she was active

in several ministries in her parish. She has two grown daughters and one grandson. Kathy has been active in the women's ordination movement for over thirty years. Pastorksv@aol.com

Deacons:

Cheryl Bristol, lesbian by birth, Catholic by choice, has felt called to ministry for 25 years. Born on an apple farm north of Detroit, worked as a Paralegal while raising her son, Richard. Living in Jerusalem from 1999-2002 deepened her interest in justice and interfaith relations. In 2005 Cheryl served as a delegate to the United Nations Non Governmental Organization Conference. She is currently a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, rights activist working with Catholics and other groups to end intolerance and religion abuse. Other ministries include chaplaincy, playing the harp, and performing Holy Unions. cherylbristol@yahoo.com

Juanita Cordero has an MA in Human Development and is a nurse. She currently teaches at De Anza College in California. Her present ministries include teaching, alternative healing, and forming a new Catholic Community in San Jose. Juanita and her husband, Don have raised five children and have been involved in liturgy and music planning for more than 30 years. joredroc@sbcglobal.net

Mary Ellen Robertson, BA in Theology, RN, Dominican Associate, ministers through spiritual direction, retreat work, collage art, poetry, publishing a spirituality reflection letter, *The Spiritual Connection* by subscription, past hospital chaplain (4 yrs), and presently a hospice chaplain. She has authored two books, *Meditations for Working Women* and *Meditations for Working Men*, owned and managed a motel for 17 years and written various articles including business, personal interviews and spirituality. She is a mother of three adult daughters (including twins), grandmother of six and lives with her husband, John of 39 years in Michigan. Merojckc@aol.com

Janice Sevre-Duszynska is co-chair of the Ministry of Irritation of the Women's Ordination Conference, the oldest and largest organization working for women's ordination into a renewed priestly ministry in the Catholic Church. Janice has been actively involved for many years in peaceful vigils to promote peace and justice issues. In May, 2006, Janice joined with other activists on a 75 mile walk through the Sonora desert to witness to the plight of undocumented immigrants in the U.S.. "I'm going to experience it so I'll be able to talk for them and be a voice for them," she said. Janice lives in Kentucky and can be reached at rhythmsofthedance@msn.com

The following ordinations will take place on Lake Constance on June 24, 2006 on Lake Constance between Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Priests:

Regina Nicolosi, MA, was born in a small town on the Rhine River. She was a teacher in Germany before she came to the USA. She and her husband Charles, a radiologist and deacon, raised four children. Regina participated fully in Charles' preparation to the diaconate. She earned her Masters Degree in Pastoral Studies, worked as a chaplain in both a correctional facility for boys and in a drug and alcohol recovery unit, and as housing manager for seniors. Her present ministry is as a chaplain in a nursing home. Regina and Charles have been married for 36 years. They live in Red Wing, MN and have one grandson. crnicolosi@yahoo.com

Jane Via has a B.A. in Spanish Language and Literature from Purdue University, a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from Marquette University and a J.D. from the University of San Diego. She is a county prosecutor in San Diego, California and teaches Religious Studies part time. She is the convener of a small church community, whenever possible a participant in CTA and has been active in her local parish community and is active in an eucumenical Christian Community. Jane was born in St. Louis, Mo. in 1947. She shares her life with her husband of many years and their 2 sons.

Anonymous A woman who must remain anonymous who is from the East Coast will be ordained to the diaconate in Switzerland in June.