

Welcome Deacon Novella Lawrence

On Sunday, October 30, 2011, Deacon Novella Lawrence was officially welcomed to Church of the Ascension. A liturgy of welcome was recited during the church service and Deacon Novella was honored at the brunch that followed.

Deacon Novella first came to the Church of the Ascension in 1980. She was amazed by the Spirit of warmth and love of the clergy and parishioners. Early on she began to be involved in Outreach and encouraged several members of the parish to provide meals and to sleep overnight in the newly formed Project Hospitality shelters. Other Outreach start-ups were Pastoral Care to the sick and Lakeside Manor Home for Adults. The spiritual aspects of the church were High Mass, Cursillo and Prayer Group. Novella was nourished by this parish and eventually was called to the Diaconate in 1992, ordained in 1997. There is a chair dedicated to her Mother, Pauline Brown and a set of Vestments. Deacon Novella baptized her granddaughter, Amina Novella at this church. Her Mother is buried in the Columbarium. In 2000 she accepted a call for St. Paul's Church in Darien, CT, where she has served as assistant clergy for 12 years. She views this call to return to Ascension by Fr. Richard as a part of the Lord's plan. She is delighted to reunite with old friends and to make new ones there.

Beginning Tuesday, November 15, from 7:00pm to 8:15pm, Deacon Novella and Fr. Richard will be presenting a special series that will be both exciting and spiritually uplifting. The new **Tuesday Evening Deacon's Forum** will be in the form of a Video Presentation/Dramatization of the Book of Acts from the Scriptures. The series continues for five weeks, ending on Tuesday, December 13.