

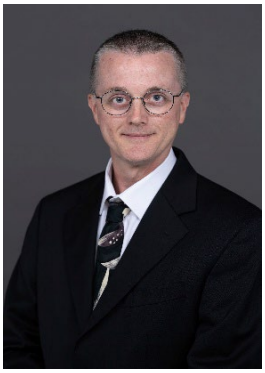
Arvin "Dixon" Braden is 50 and resides in Tampa with his wife of 21 years, Tracy. Dixon is a father to three children. He is employed by Raymond James. Dixon will be assigned to St. Lawrence Parish. When asked what he is most looking forward to, he said, "serving the people of my parish. While I am excited to proclaim the Gospel, assist at the Eucharist, and celebrate baptisms and marriages, I really look forward to being with my parish community in their everyday lives-sharing in their joys and struggles and bringing Christ's presence into those moments."



Henry Jerez is 59, resides in Land O' Lakes with his wife of 31 years, Claudia. Henry is a father to two adult children. He is employed as a HVAC Technician at a local hospital. Henry will be assigned to Corpus Christi Parish. When asked what he is most looking forward to as a deacon, he said, "There are many things to do as a servant of God, but I am open to do what He has called me to do. This is a work that is carried out day by day in obedience and prayer."



Joshua Keleske is 49, resides in Tampa with his wife of 28 years, Dawn. Joshua is a father to two adult daughters. He is an Attorney and owns his own legal practice. Joshua will be assigned to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish. When asked what he is most looking forward to as a deacon, he said, "helping draw the congregation more deeply into the beauty of the liturgy. As both servant of the Word and minister at the altar, I hope my presence and prayerful service help others encounter Christ in the liturgy and carry that encounter into their daily lives."



Neil Kennedy is 48, resides in Tampa with his wife of 19 years, Mary. Neil is a father to six children. He is employed by Christ the King Parish as an Adult Faith Formation Coordinator. Neil will be assigned to Christ the King Parish. When asked what he is most looking forward to as a deacon, he said, "I look forward to serving people in the various ways that are needed. Whether it is assisting at Mass, baptizing a child, or accompanying someone through a difficult time, every moment is a moment to minister as Christ would."



Robert Miller is 44 and resides in Dade City with his wife of 18 years, Shannon. Robert is a father to a teenage daughter. He is employed as an investigator with the FDLE. Robert will be assigned to St. Anthony of Padua Parish. When asked what he is most looking forward to as a deacon, he said, "Engaging in the faith community in a new way. In a way of understanding where the greatest needs of the community are and then being there to serve those needs."



Sam Puleo is 61 and resides in Valrico with his wife of 32 years, AnnMarie. Sam is a father to two adult sons. (Sam and AnnMarie's son, Roman, passed away in 2023). He is owner of Puleo Plumbers Plumbing Co., Inc. and A Better Lawn and Garden, Inc. Sam will be assigned to St. Francis of Assisi Parish. When asked what he is most looking forward to as a deacon, he said, "To faithfully serve the Lord's will."