



The Most Reverend
Joseph M. Siegel, D.D., STL
Bishop of the
Diocese of Evansville

Is pleased to personally invite you to
the rite of Ordination of 16 men
in the Diocese of Evansville's

PERMANENT DIACONATE PROGRAM

**Saturday, Aug. 8, 2026
10:00 a.m. CDT**

St. Benedict Cathedral
1328 Lincoln Avenue
Evansville, Indiana 47714

If you, your family and friends have never participated in
an Ordination Mass, this is a unique opportunity for you.
Please join us. All are welcome!

Permanent diaconate formation program 'very serious commitment' for candidates, families

By JOHN ROHLF
The Message assistant editor

Even though there has been a recent resurgence of
diaconate, "it goes back to Scripture," Deacon Tom
Evans, director of the permanent diaconate, said.

From 2005-2022, the Diocese of Evansville has
ordained 68 men to the permanent diaconate. The
2005 ordination, which was the first permanent
diaconate ordination in the diocese in over a
decade, ordained 26 deacons in the diocese. The
expectation is for 16 men to be ordained in August
to the permanent diaconate which would be the
most ordained in a single year since 2005. They
also held four permanent diaconate ordinations
from 2009-2022.

Deacon Tom Evans has been a deacon in the dio-
cese for the past 17 years, all at St. Matthew Parish



The Message file photo

Deacon John McMullen, assistant director of the perma-
nent diaconate, assists at the altar during the 2025 White
Mass.

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CRS receives State Department funds to 'significantly expand' humanitarian aid to Cuba

By GINA CHRISTIAN
OSV News

(OSV News) — Catholic Relief
Services is welcoming federal support
that will help "significantly expand"
humanitarian aid to Cuba, as the
Caribbean nation battles multiple crises.
CRS, the humanitarian and develop-

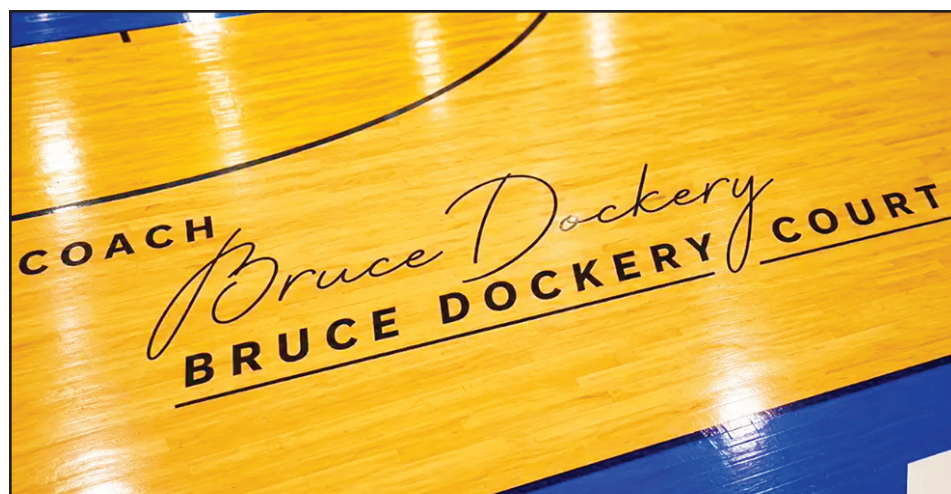
ment agency of the U.S. Conference of
Catholic Bishops, announced July 21
that it had received a \$60 million award
from the U.S. Department of State.



OSV News photo by Norlys Perez, Reuters
**Lourdes Martinez, 78, smiles after
receiving beans at a subsidized state
store in Havana March 6, donated by
Mexico. Catholic Relief Services, the
humanitarian and development
agency of the U.S. Catholic bishops,
has received \$60 million from the
U.S. State Department to expand
humanitarian assistance to vulnera-
ble families across Cuba.**

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Evansville's Reitz Memorial dedicates Bruce Dockery Court



Screenshot/X post by Reitz Memorial High School (@ReitzMemorial)

Reitz Memorial High School dedicated their basketball and volleyball court
as Bruce Dockery Court July 21 at the Robert M. Kent Athletic Center.

Special to The Message

Evansville's Reitz Memorial High
School is proud to announce the dedi-
cation of Bruce Dockery Court inside
the Robert M. Kent Athletic Center,
honoring one of the most influential
coaches and educators in the history of
Reitz Memorial athletics.

The dedication of the court was cele-
brated during the official unveiling
July 21 at the Robert M. Kent Athletic
Center at Reitz Memorial High School.
Coach Dockery, his family, school
leadership and representatives from
Liberty Federal Credit Union were in
attendance as Reitz Memorial official-
ly unveiled the newly dedicated Bruce
Dockery Court.

"Coach Dockery's legacy cannot be
measured solely by championships or

victories," Reitz Memorial President
Josh Reising said. "His greatest
accomplishment has always been the
people he helped shape. Generations
of students, coaches and families have
been positively impacted by his lead-
ership, mentorship and unwavering
commitment to Memorial. Naming
our court in his honor ensures that
future generations will understand the
standard of excellence and character
he established."

Dockery retired with 502 wins,
ranking as the sixth-winningest girls
basketball coach in Indiana history at
the time of his retirement. Dockery's
teams won a 2011 IHSAA Class 3A
state championship, eight Southern
Indiana Athletic Conference champi-
onships, 14 sectional titles, six regional

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