



**D**eacon Stephen Najarian was born and raised in Northeast Minneapolis. He graduated from DeLaSalle High School, received the B.A. degree from Marquette University, the M.D. degree from the University of Minnesota, and then completed eight years of post-doctoral fellowship at both the University of Minnesota and the Mayo Clinic. He was certified by the American Board of Surgery and practiced General, Thoracic, and Vascular Surgery in St. Paul for nearly twenty years, serving at different times as Chief of Surgery at both United Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul. He remains a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He also holds the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry from the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity of the University of St. Thomas. Deacon Najarian gave up the practice of medicine upon his ordination in 2003 as a deacon of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis and has been in full-time ecclesial ministry since that time. He serves on the staff of the Church of St. Charles Borromeo in Minneapolis where he is engaged in the full-range of diaconal duties. From 2005-2012, he was on the diaconal formation team for the Diocese of La Crosse and for the past several years has also been an instructor in the deacon formation program for the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. From 1995-2005, he served on the Archbishop's Bio-Medical Ethics Committee. From 2010-2012, he was the Associate Director of Pastoral Formation at the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity and from 2010 to the present he has served on the faculty of the St. Paul Seminary teaching Pastoral Theology, the Sacrament of Marriage, and Biomedical Ethics.