

Serra Club of Pittsburgh



NEWS



SEPTEMBER/ OCTOBER 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 21

Fr. Adam Verona
Scoglio's - 6:30 PM

Tuesday, October 18

Fr. Scott Seethaler
Scoglio's - 6:30 PM

Sunday, November 13

Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 11

Christmas Party
St. Paul's Seminary

Friday, January 20, 2012

Rico's - Noon

Friday, February 17, 2012

Rico's - Noon

Meet President Brian Hardy

Two years ago when I attended the Ordinati dinner, my first Serra Club event, I was welcomed by an amazing group of women and men. I stuck out from the rest of the guests because I was significantly younger than anyone else in the



President Brian Hardy

room. However, I have never before, or since, felt so welcomed in a group of strangers. The Serra Club is the most welcoming group of people I have ever met in one place. That is an aspect of Church that, unfortunately, too many people don't have the opportunity to experience.

There is no shortage of organizations that are looking for a commitment of our time, talent, and treasure. However, it can be difficult to find an organization that matches ones values and priorities. Instantly, I knew that the Serra Club was an organization I wanted to invest my precious time. Serrans are welcoming to strangers - even to a person generations removed; and the club's mission is to promote and support vocations

and to deepen the faith of its members through education and fellowship. Those are things I value highly.

It's been an exciting two years—under Jack Warwick's leadership membership has flourished to over 100 women and men. Chuck has done an amazing job in creating top notch programming. As president, I am committed to continue this growth (with a goal of doubling membership within the year) and to further

enhance programming by providing more opportunities to strengthen our members' faith and prayer life. We will also continue to work closely with our chaplain Fr. Joe Freedy, vocations directors from religious orders, and youth ministers to support the great work being done in the diocese. Most importantly, we will continue to pray for and with the people discerning religious life and for people who have already answered the Lord's call.

The Serra Club has done great things for the Church of Pittsburgh over the years and I am committed to continue this legacy. But I need your help. Please keep an eye out for information on opportunities on how you can become more active in supporting vocations. In the meantime, please join us at our



*Past-President Jack Warwick
with his wife Delores.*

September and October dinner meetings and bring a friend or two. If you have any suggestions or ideas for improving the Club please share them with me. †

In Our Prayers

Pray for the repose of their souls:

Regina Kelly

Pray for the sick:

Bob Dougher

Emma Golebie

If you know a member in need of our prayers, call Ray Golebie 412-531-3670 to have them added to our prayer list. †

Holy Hour

Seventy-five Serrans and guests attended the annual Holy Hour for Vocations held at St Paul Seminary on July 18, 2011. The Most Rev Bishop David Zubik presided in prayers and reflection on the reading of the Gospel "The Call of the First Disciples." (Matthew 5: 18-22)

"Come Follow Me"... As we embodied the Sacred Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, in adoration, in prayer, in quiet reflection, all He asks is for our hearts to meet in His unconditional love and awareness of this "Gift of his Love" poured out in Holy Surrender by His Sacrifice on the Cross for us. May we always be aware of the very life of God, the responsibility and the love that we share.

Bishop Zubik reflected on the first apostles called to be "Church." The Church Sharing... as we are all called to be in our own vocations as "The community of believers of one heart and one mind." As Peter and Andrew left their nets to become fishers of men, let us also leave our boats behind and be Christ to others in his sharing of the graces that we receive as we encounter in all people that we meet each day. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Church's life and ministry where our personal relationship with Jesus present in the Eucharist gives itself to a greater sense of service to all.

Sharing is a frame of mind and heart which recognizes that we all need each other. We do what Jesus did when he walked the earth and what he continues to do in the Church through the "Gifts of the Sacraments" and the graces poured out to each of us.

Bishop Zubik thanked the Serrans for their support and offered prayers for vocations and for our priests who bring Christ Holy Presence to us in the Eucharist. He announced

that we were blessed with sixteen men coming into the Seminary this year.

Thanks be to God our Father who answers our prayers through the holy Spirit to open the hearts of these who are blessed to hear his call, "Come Follow Me" to the priesthood of Jesus our Lord and Savior reaching out to serve His Church and to serve all those in need. May we keep these men, Bishop Zubik and all seminarians and priests in our prayers.

Bishop Zubik was in the first grade when he considered becoming a priest. The foundation of his life is Jesus. A philosophy the Bishop follows in his life is, "Treat other people as if they are Christ and treat other people as if you are Christ." He shared with us his life story. And talked about his family, priests and all those who helped him to become a priest by sharing the gifts of their love of Jesus that they gave to him. And how he was blessed by becoming the Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Thank you Bishop David Zubik for all your prayers and gifts that you bring to the Church of Pittsburgh. For we truly are blessed by your gift of being Christ to us. Thank you to all of our priests for being Christ to us and for bringing to us the Eucharist. Thank you to all our seminarians by your gift of being Christ to us. May you always be blessed by the love of Christ. †



Bishop David Zubik

Thought for the Month

Divine love brings with it every good and banishes every evil.

—*St. Catherine of Genoa*

News From Australia

Jim Kolan, former member of the Serra Club of Pittsburgh, now calls Australia home. Jim keeps in touch with the club and shared news of the birth of his second son. Jim's wife Nana gave birth to Benedict Thomas Kolan at 7:05 am on Wednesday August 10, 2011. He weighed 3.07kg (6.7 pounds) and was 47cm (18.5 in) in length. It was exactly as they prayed: a perfect baby, a perfect delivery at the perfect time. Benedict joins his brother Xavier at home. †



Benedict Thomas Kolan

Member News

Serran **Regina Kelly** died on August 2nd after a long illness. In 1991, Regina became the first woman accepted as a member in the Pittsburgh Serra Club. She is survived by her siblings Fr. John Kelly, Sister Kathleen, Sister Ursulla, and Sister Elizabeth Marie. In 2003, the Father General of the Redemptorist Fathers bestowed the honor of Oblate on Regina for her efforts to assist the Redemptorist in their works of charity. On Sunday, August 7, Fr. Mele led the attending Serrans in a memorial service honoring Regina for her service as a Serran.

These is one new member since the last newsletter: **Dr. Alice M. Hirsch** is a member of St. Mary of the Mount, resides at 1 Trimont Lane, Suite 302P, Mt. Washington. She is an Educational Consultant to the University of Pittsburgh.

Sorry to report that Serran Connie Silvaggio's father passed away. Please keep him in your prayers. †

Serrans Celebrate Priests at Ordinati Dinner

"The key to the future of vocations is prayer." ~ Father Joseph Freedy

Over two hundred Serrans, priests, sisters, seminarians and guests celebrated the 62nd annual Ordinati Dinner held on August 24 at the LeMont Restaurant in Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh Serra Chapter President, Brian Hardy welcomed Bishops Zubik, Waltersheid, Winter, all seminarians, Serrans and distinguished guests who gathered to celebrate and honor the four newly ordained Diocesan priests. Bishop Waltersheid spoke of his love for the priesthood and his love for the Blessed Mother.

Featured speaker Bishop Zubik said the genuine joy of his life is to live at the seminary with the seminarians. He acknowledged Father Mele, Rector of St. Paul Seminary, for his genuine love of the priesthood. Also acknowledged were Vice Rector Father Terrence O'Connor, Father Benedetto Vaghetto, spiritual director of the seminarians, Father Nick Vascoff, Secretary, and Father Joe Freedy, Vocations Director. Bishop Zubik noted that there are now 41 seminarians, acknowledging the prayers of the faithful and the

Continued on page 5.

New Members

Serrans are always searching for new members. For information on membership, contact Ben Barcaskey, Membership Chair at 724-251-9035.

Membership applications are also available at the monthly meetings. †

Birthday Cards

Some of our members may not know that The Serra Club of Pittsburgh sends a birthday card to all active and retired priests in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Currently there are 350 priests on our card list. Occasionally we receive notes back from the priests expressing their appreciation for our remembering them. †



Chuck and Louise Muzik



Ann Galletta with Elizabeth and Robert Blume



Serra Club of Pittsburgh
2900 Noblestown Road
Pittsburgh PA 15205-4227

The Serra Club of Pittsburgh NEWS is published bi-monthly for all active members. Newsletters are mailed to members and are available at the luncheons. Articles should be sent to the editor via e-mail at rjgolebie@verizon.net or by phone at (412) 531-3670. Ideas for future articles are welcome.

Editor: Ray Golebie
Newsletter Design:
S. Golebie Visual
Communications Design

Who's In the Photo

The Ordinati Dinner photos on page six feature Serra members and other guests.

- 1- Paul & Patricia Kress with Anthony & Eva Vitullo
- 2- Violet and Robert Gallo
- 3- Bishop Zubik with Steve and Anna Oslica
- 4- Patty and Edward Heinle
- 5- Father Christopher Donley with his parents Richard and Maribeth
- 6- Gina & Eugene Doemling
- 7- Members of the Kelly family
- 8- Robert and Marie Deasy
- 9- MaryLou Doemling, Father John Rushofsky, Barbara Doerfler and seminarian Anthony Sciarappa
- 10-Roger and Rose Vega
- 11-George and Gloria Ley
- 12-Clark and Barbara Martin

Serra Websites

For easy access, put the following websites in your "Favorites" folder:

Serra Club of Pittsburgh: <http://serraclub.catholicweb.com>

District Governor: <http://Mysite.verizon.net/tjpbsp/>

The Serra Club site also includes past newsletters for your reference. The main page lists all current activities of the club. †

Thank You

The photos throughout this issue of the newsletter were taken at the Ordinati Dinner in August. Thanks to Nunzio Galletta for his outstanding work. †



Lorie Uhlmann chats with Nunzio Galletta



George Wasson and Ray Golebie

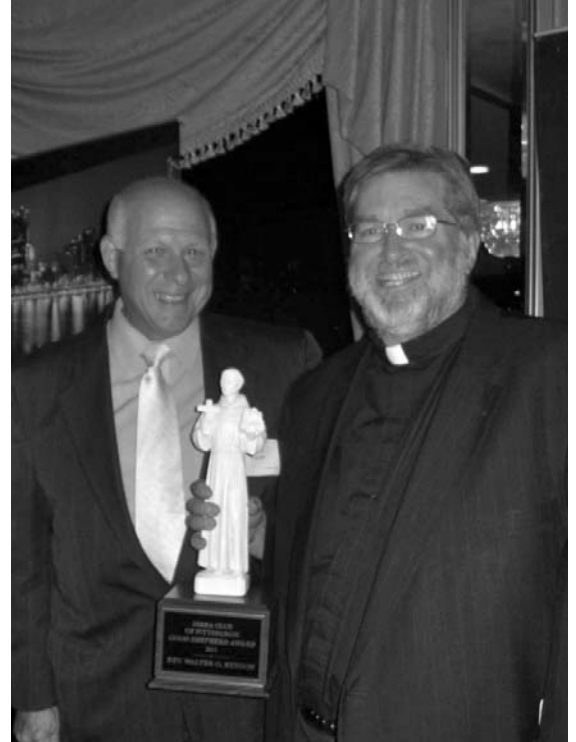
Ordinati Dinner *Continued from page 3.* true "Church Alive" spirit which is spreading across the Diocese of Pittsburgh. He introduced those who are studying at St. Paul's seminary this fall, each giving a "fun fact" about himself, a pleasant reminder of the true person behind each seminarian and the unique personalities of each of these tremendous men. Seminarians have a rich array of talents including but not limited to music, martial arts, military background, bartending, sales, and theatre. Serrans and guests gave a standing ovation to the seminarians.

Bishop Zubik then introduced the four newly ordained priests: Fathers Christopher Donley, Michael Peck, Michael Roche and Adam Verona who spoke briefly of their love in celebrating the sacraments and how every morning it is a blessing for them to celebrate the Eucharist and that the priesthood is awesome. Father Michael Roche expressed his joy of the priesthood and encouraged new seminarians saying "it is definitely worth it!" Father Verona stated that "the mass is the highlight of his priesthood" and asked Serrans to "pray that he can be a humble and holy priest."

Gregory Falvo presented the 2011 Serra Good Shepherd Award to Father Walter Rydzon for his service as Chaplain to the deaf community. A true leader with a strong work ethic, Father Rydzon commented "If you treat people nice, they will follow you. If you treat people nice and do a lot of work, they will follow you!" Father Walter shared that he was given a rich gift of faith in his earlier years. He received it in abundance, noting that he cannot express in words how happy he is to be a priest. He spoke about Saint Justin's his home parish where on any given Sunday 60-120 deaf parishioners give praise to God with their hands. Four parishioners are both deaf and blind. They pray the Our Father, some use their hands, some use their voice. Father Rydzon reminded us that the deaf have never had the blessing of hearing the beauty of the rainfall. In closing, Father taught all present how sing with their hands: "The Spirit is Moving all Over the Land."

Jack Warwick, immediate past president, was presented with a special plaque from Tom Politylo, Regional Director, for helping to develop the largest club in the USA Council of Serra International. Membership is now more than one hundred.

Bishop Zubik asked each of the seminarians present to introduce themselves and speak briefly about something interesting in their life. He said we now have 41 seminarians. He introduced Father Joe Freedy and edified his year as Chaplain to the Serra Club of Pittsburgh. Father Joe is doing terrific work in helping people understand the work of vocations. Bishop Zubik stated "I see it in the eyes and hearts of people." Father Joe said that the key to the future of vocations is prayer. And we are to encourage family members to vocations. Bishop Zubik closed with a blessing and all stood and sang Salve Regina at his request. †



Gregory Falvo presents the Good Shepherd Award to Father Walter Rydzon.



Tom Politylo presented Jack Warwick with a special plaque for his work in growing the club to more than 100 members.

Photos from the 2011 Ordinati Dinner

Please refer to the back cover of the newsletter for the list of who's who in these Ordinati Dinner photos.

