

Serra Club of Pittsburgh



NEWS



JULY / AUGUST 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, July 21

Annual Holy Hour, 6:30 PM
St. Paul Seminary,
Picnic Dinner
Bishop David Zubik

Tuesday, August 24

Ordinati Dinner
LeMont Restaurant

September & October

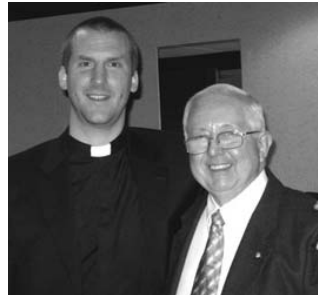
Dinner meetings

Sunday, December 12

Annual Christmas Party, 6 PM
St. Paul Seminary

Chaplain Appointment

At the June Trustees meeting, it was announced that Fr. Joseph Freedy had been named Chaplain of the Pittsburgh Serra Club by the Vicar of the Clergy of the Diocese, Very Rev. Harry Bielewicz, with the approval of Bishop David Zubik.



*Fr. Joseph Freedy with
Chuck Muzik.*

Father Freedy was welcomed at the meeting and he expressed a desire to work closely and provide ministry for our club.

The years that Fr. Joseph Mele served the Club as Chaplain saw a significant growth in membership. He provided extraordinary guidance in our work and prayers in promoting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The Board of Trustees, as well as all members, thank Fr. Mele for his efforts and service to the Pittsburgh Serra Club. †

July Holy Hour

The Annual Holy Hour will be held on July 21, 2010 at St. Paul Seminary, Noblestown Road. Bishop David Zubik will preside at the Holy Hour. A picnic dinner will be provided in the newly built pavilion after the service. Please return your reservations as soon as possible, †

Ordinati Dinner in August

On Tuesday, August 24, the annual Ordinati Dinner will be held at the LeMont Restaurant on Mt. Washington. The three newly ordained priests, their parents, and pastors will be honored. Bishop David Zubik will be the principal speaker for the evening. All members will be receiving invitations by mail later this month.

This will be the first year that advertising will appear in the program. Information relating to the placement of ads will be included in your invitation. Proceeds from the ads will help pay for the invited guests. †

June Meeting Wrap-Up

At our June meeting, Deacon Stephen Byers spoke to our club about the history of the diaconate, what deacons do and their roll in today's church.

Deacon Byers is the first full time Director of the Diaconate in the Pittsburgh Diocese. He assumed this position in the

Continued on next page.

In Our Prayers

Please pray for the repose of their souls:

William J. Caridi
Patricia Moriarity
Cuozzo
Anthony August Mele

Pray for the sick:

Elise Bennett
Cliff Berschneider
Bob Dougher
Mal Pancoast
Christopher Warwick

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

Board Meetings

The Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, July 22 and August 24 at **St. Mary of the Mount Rectory** on Mt. Washington beginning at 12 noon. The rectory is next to the Church. †

Thought for the Month

What is important is not what happens to us, but how we respond to what happens to us..

— Jean-Paul Sartre,
French existentialist writer
(1905-1980)

June Meeting Wrap-Up *Continued from front page* Diocese in November 2009. He has been married for 33 years; and he and his wife, Anita, have two children: Christopher, 30 and Sara, 27.



Deacon Stephen Byers

Deacon Byers was ordained to the permanent diaconate on June 26, 1999, and was assigned to his home parish, St. Bonaventure in Glenshaw. Since his ordination, the primary focus of his ministry has been the diocesan Marriage Preparation Program, which serves approximately 400 engaged couples each year.

In his talk, Deacon Byers noted that during the first 600 years of the Church the deacons were a strong and influential order in the Church, serving as administrators and managers of temporal affairs for their Bishops. A few deacons (Callistus I, Gregory the Great) were actually elected Pope in the early Church.

After the year 600, as the Church grew and began to spread away from the cities where the bishops and their deacons were located, the need for more priests to administer the sacraments in these places also grew. As a result, priests assumed the administrative duties along with their sacramental responsibilities. Eventually, the influence of deacons diminished, and the diaconate was reduced to the final order a man received before becoming a priest.

The Second Vatican Council restored the diaconate as a permanent order in the Church and opened the order to married men. Since then the order has grown to over 17,000 deacons in the United States, 81% of which are in active ministry; 92% of the deacons are married and 90% are 50 or older. The Archdiocese of Chicago has the most permanent deacons (646) followed by Trenton (442) and Galveston-Houston (383).

The Diocese of Pittsburgh currently has 33 active deacons and two classes of men in formation—46 in a class to be ordained in June 2011 and 23 in a class scheduled for a June 2013 ordination.

Deacons serve in the ministries of the liturgy, of the word and of charity.

- ◆ Liturgy—Deacons can assist at Mass, preside at baptisms, weddings outside of Mass, funeral/burial services, benediction, Stations, etc.
- ◆ Word—Deacons proclaim the Gospel and occasionally preach.
- ◆ Charity—Deacon assignments include ministry in prisons, health care institutions, youth work, persons with disabilities work and many facets of parish ministry.

Although a deacon can perform some of the functions performed by priests, a deacon cannot say Mass nor grant absolution. These can only be performed by priests.

Deacon Byers emphasized that the diaconate should not be thought of as a substitute for the priesthood, no matter how severe the priest shortage might become. The answer to the priest shortage is to work for and pray for vocations and ordain more priests. In this regard, Deacon Byers encouraged our club to continue to work for and pray for vocations. †

Large Turnout for Dinner Meeting

On May 20, more than 60 Serrans and guests attended the Serra Dinner Meeting at Scoglio's in Greentree. Fr. Joseph Freedy, Director of Vocations, presided over the installation of fourteen new members. This installation class was one of the largest for the Pittsburgh Club. Fr. Freedy was also the guest speaker for the evening. Serran Earl Price was on hand to receive his 25 year pin. Earl joined the Serra Club in 1985. †



New members at the May meeting.

Member News

William J. Caridi, brother of Serran **Violet Gallo** died on Monday June 7, 2010. His nephew is Father Michael Caridi, pastor of St. Louise de Marillac.

Elise Bennett recently spent three weeks in the hospital recovering from pneumonia and a platelet problem. She is now recuperating at home.

Serran **Nancy Thomas** was featured in the *Pittsburgh Catholic Magazine* for her devotion to St. Therese, the Little Flower.

Carl Eck has been named to the Serra Board of Trustees effective July 1, 2010.

Serran **Mary K. McDonald** has been elected to the Allegheny County Bar Association Board of Governors.

Membership

Serrans are always searching for new members. For information on membership, contact Brian Hardy, Membership Chair at 412-486-1341 or 412-562-9117. Brian will always have membership applications at the monthly luncheons. Please add the following new members to your yearbook:

Victoria D. Hess

(Peter) St. Mary of Mount
2450 Maryland Dr. Pittsburgh, PA 15241
412-835-1690
vhess@verizon.net

Brian Golias

(Jennifer) St. Killian Parish
346 Warrick Dr Mars PA 16046
724-776-9016
Partner, Dinsmore & Shohl, Attorneys at Law
Suite 2800, One Oxford Ctr. Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-288-5885
brian.golias@dinslaw.com †



Jack Warwick presents Earl Price with his 25-year pin.



Marlene & Bob Sacco, Jane and Carl Eck



Gretchen & Michael Troiano, Dr. Don Huber and Jim Pschirer



1-John Hauser, Owen Gavigan and Brian Hardy



2- Dr. Roger and Rose Vega



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

“ The answer to the priest shortage is to work for and pray for more vocations and ordain more priests. ”

— Deacon Stephen Byers



New Serra Chaplain Fr. Joseph Freedy chats with Ann Galletta and Dick Ponzio.

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 will carry past newsletters for your reference.

The main page will list all current activities of the club.†

Yearbook Corrections

Please make the following changes in your 2009-2011 Year Book. These represent all e-mail address changes since the printing of the Year Book.

Nunzio Galletta nunziog81@comcast.net

Scott Hardy scott.hardy@ogletreedeakins.com †



1-Audree and Richard Swartzlander



2-Serrans Ray Golebie, Bob Dougher and George Wasson.