

Serra Club of Pittsburgh



NEWS



MAY / JUNE 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15, 2011

The Vatican has declared the 48th World Day of Pray for Vocations to be celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Easter.

Wednesday, May 18

Dinner Meeting at Scoglio's
Speaker - Fr. Joseph Mele

Wednesday, June 22

Dinner Meeting at Scoglio's

Wednesday, July 20

Holy Hour at St. Paul Seminary
at 6:30 PM

College Connection Program

Serran Chris Chapman is now receiving the data from the Catholic High Schools in the Diocese to implement this important program. It unites college students with the Catholic faith on campuses. The program is designed to connect incoming college freshmen with the Catholic presence on or near their campus, with the goal of helping the students stay active in their faith.

Questions were raised: What about Catholic students that attend non-Catholic High Schools? How will they be connected to the Catholic faith on campuses? The College Connection Program now permits individual requests. Any member with a son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter entering college as freshman this fall, and not attending a Catholic High School that has the Program, can make this happen by contacting Jack Warwick 412-381-8228 for details. †

April Meeting Recap

"The Joy of Forgiveness" was the title of the talk given by the speaker, Ms. Angela Gaughan, a youth minister at St. Bernard Church in Mt. Lebanon at our April dinner meeting. Ms. Gaughan spoke of the cleansing effect of forgiveness, and how her life was changed by letting go of a resentment encountered early in her teens when a beloved aunt choose a divorce to settle a marriage problem. She held this in her mind into her own married life. It was not until she spoke to her growing family about forgiving others who offend them that she came to terms with forgiving her aunt. This forgiving act brought her great joy!

She stated that during this season of Lent we heard much about confessing our sins and penance. She believes that it is a dangerous slope not to forgive. Jesus died for us, yet hanging on the cross forgave his enemies. Is it not then right for us to forgive those who offend us. Before she died Ms. Gaughan's mother, said, "Forgiveness Frees Us To Live." Ms. Gaughan concluded with her favorite prayer and led us in recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Fr. Joseph Freedy, our Chaplain, spoke briefly and asked us to pray, over the next three weeks, for seminarians who have to make serious vocational decisions. He also told us that Bishop Zubik will take the seminarians to World Youth Day this August in Spain, as he did two years ago to Australia.

Sponsors or small contributors were requested to help defray the cost of \$2,000 per student. The meeting concluded with prayer. †

In Our Prayers

Pray for the repose of his soul:

Thomas Donnelly

Pray for the sick:

Cliff Berschneider

Bob Dougher

Regina Kelly

Rosemary Merriman

Christina and

Ernest Tegge

Rosemary Merriman

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, May 24 and June 28 at **St. Mary of the Mount Rectory** on Mt. Washington beginning at noon. The rectory is next to the Church. †

Jerusalem 2011

From Serra International Executive Director, John W. Woodward

In this joyful season of Advent, I have some very good news to share with you! At the meeting in Chicago this past weekend, Serra's international board of trustees voted to approve Jerusalem as the site of our 2011 international convention. For many Serrans throughout the world, having Serra's 69th international convention in Jerusalem from 14-17 July 2011 will create a wonderful opportunity for them to make their first pilgrimage to the Holy Land where they can literally "walk in the footsteps of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." †

Jerusalem 2011 Travel Details for Serrans

Dick Ponzio's travel bureau, Ponzio International, has put together a very interesting and exciting trip to Jerusalem for the Serra International Convention, July 9-18, 2011. The trip includes a six day Holy Land Tour ending with the three day Convention. Our Chaplain Father Joe Freedy will be the Spiritual Director on the tour. For Information Contact: Ponzio International Travel at 412-571-1111. Flyers for the trip were on the tables at our February luncheon/meeting and will also be distributed at our March dinner/meeting. †

March Meeting

Thirty-two Serrans and guests attended the evening meeting on March 16 at Scoglio's in Parkway Center. Serra Chaplain Father Freedy enriched us with a showing of a very moving and powerful vocation video, *Fishers of Men*.

Father Freedy is expecting seven to ten new seminarians over the next few years and then is projecting a further increase in vocations in future years. He is basing this on the success of his presentations in the schools of the Diocese.

Father Freedy then introduced Seminarian Anthony Sciarappa who related his experiences on the road to his "calling." Anthony is from Saints John



Seminarian Anthony Sciarappa

and Paul Parish in Franklin Park and was helped along the way by the priests and the youth group at the parish. He is in his third year at the Seminary and his presentation revealed the confidence and education he is receiving during his formation. All Serrans wish him well on his journey.

Fr. Freedy again asked us to pray and/or sacrifice every Thursday for Vocations. Serrans were asked to write what they will do for vocations every Thursday. The slips were collected and given to Father who will offer them on the altar during daily Mass. †

Member News

Mary K. McDonald was elected to the Seton-LaSalle Alumni Hall of Fame by the Alumni Advisory Committee of Seton-LaSalle and Elizabeth Seton High Schools. She is currently chair-elect of the Allegheny County Bar Association Family Law Section and has also been elected to the Allegheny Bar Assn. Board Of Governors.

We are sorry to report the passing of Serran **Thomas J. Donnelly** on February 26, 2011. Tom was 85 and died from complications of Parkinson's disease. He was a generous and active supporter of many religious institutions, and was the former Chairman of the Board of Carlow University. Tom was a member of Serra for 37 years. Remember Tom in your prayers. †

Membership

The following new members will be inducted at the May meeting:

BENJAMIN P. BARCASKEY
(Andrea) St. Mary's- Sewickley
2019 Big Sewickley Creek Road
Sewickley PA 15143
724-251-9035
bbarcaskey@yahoo.com

MIKE H. HOFFMAN
St. Bernard
124 Rock Haven Lane
Pittsburgh PA 15228
412-563-0106
michael.h.hoffman@fmr.com

CATHERINE M. HOWE
(James) Sts. Simon & Jude
133 Black Oak Drive
Pittsburgh PA 15220
412-276-5192

JAMES J. HOWE
(Catherine) Sts. Simon & Jude
133 Black Oak Drive
Pittsburgh PA 15220
412-376-5192
Jim.howe@tudi.com

MARGARET M. KOEPFINGER
St. Philips
1009 Silver Lane
McKees Rocks, PA 15136
412-400-8588
mkoepfinger@gmail.com

ROBERT MACK (2011)
(Dr. Alicia) St. Valentine
130 Saxony Drive
Upper St. Clair, PA 15241
412-595-7053

ARLENE Z. SOKOLOW (2011)
(Barry) St. Nicholas Croation Church
101 Schenley Rd.
Pittsburgh PA 15217
412-682-5187
arleneza@aol.com

DR. AUDREY A. ZELKOVIC (2011)
Medical Director, UPMC Health Plan
112 Washington Pl.
Pittsburgh PA 15219
8034 Oxbrige Dr.
Pittsburgh PA 15237
412-367-1040 †

New Members

Serrans are always searching for new members. For information on membership, contact Brian Hardy, Membership Chair at 412-486-1341 or 412-562-9117. There will 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. The card we send was specifically designed for our club last year by Ray Golebie's daughter-in-law, Susan Golebie. Currently there are 350 priests on our card list. Occasionally we receive notes back from the priests expressing their appreciation for our remembering them. †

Thought for the Month

Devote your first and principal care to cleansing your own conscience. Let cleansing the conscience of others come later. For how can one be of use to others who takes no care for oneself?

— Francis Xavier



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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

Updating the Membership Book

It's time to update the Membership Booklet. The form for updating your information is included in this newsletter. **Complete and return the form ONLY if the current information needs to be changed.** Changes are due by June 20, 2011.

A Serra Prayer for Vocations

Prayer Before the Rosary

Queen of the Holy Rosary, you have come to our hearts and inspired us to love and pray for our current priests in their sacred ministry. You have also asked so graciously for our hearts to pray for a fostering and promotion of vocations to the ministerial priesthood in the Catholic Church and to encourage and affirm vocations to consecrated religious life in the Catholic Church. Inspire our hearts with a sincere love of this devotion, in order that by meditating on the Mysteries of our Redemption which are recalled in it, we may obtain peace for the world, a deepening awareness to all men and women of their vocational call, and a further recognition and responsiveness in our own lives to our Father's call to holiness, recognizing His intention for us to truly "live" Jesus Christ in our daily lives, through the precious Breath and Fire of the Holy Spirit.

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. †