

Serra Club of Pittsburgh



NEWS



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, November 12

Memorial Mass
Sts. Simon & Jude
Mass 11:30, Followed by Lunch

Sunday, December 12

Annual Christmas Party, 6 PM
St. Paul Seminary

Friday, January 21, 2011

Luncheon Meeting at Rico's

Friday, February 18

Luncheon Meeting at Rico's

Wednesday, March 16

Dinner Meeting at Scoglio's

Wednesday, April 20

Dinner Meeting at Scoglio's

Wednesday, May 18

Dinner Meeting at Scoglio's

Wednesday, June 22

Dinner Meeting at Scoglio's

Memorial Mass

On Friday, November 12, the Serra Club will hold its annual Memorial Mass and luncheon for deceased members. The mass and luncheon will be held at Sts. Simon and Jude Church, 1607 Greentree Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220. Mass will begin at 11:30 a.m. Our Chaplain, Fr. Joe Freedy, will be the celebrant. Lunch will be served in the church hall after Mass. †

Serra Club Christmas Party

The Pittsburgh Serra Club Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, December 12 at the Seminary at 6:00 pm. A catered dinner buffet will be served. The Bishop, seminarians and some of the retired priests will join in the festivities. Invitations with further details of the party, will be mailed later this month. †

Msgr. Keefer Award Dinner

At the Serra meeting on Wednesday, September 15, 2010, the Monsignor Keefer Award was presented to Joe Koepfinger, the District Governor for



John Pillar presents the Msgr. Oliver Keefer award to Joe Koepfinger

District 21. Joe has been a Serran for nearly 40 years and was selected by the Board of Trustees for the award because of his leadership and his dedication to the goals and the mission of Serra. Joe has held many offices in the Pittsburgh Serra Club including Club President. As District Governor, he has visited clubs in the Pittsburgh, Erie and Buffalo Dioceses to encourage Serrans in their efforts to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Like Monsignor Keefer, Joe is a hands-on, can-do leader and well deserving of the Monsignor Keefer Award. †

In Our Prayers

Please pray for the repose of their souls:

Mal Pancoast

Pray for the sick:

Cliff Berschneider

Bob Dougher

Regina Kelly

Christina and

Ernest Tegge

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 Meeting

The Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 23 at **St. Mary of the Mount Rectory** on Mt. Washington beginning at noon. The rectory is next to the Church. †

Quote for the Month

True peace is born of doing the will of God, and bearing with patience the sufferings of this life, and does not come from following one's own whim or selfish desire, for this always brings, not peace and serenity, but disorder and discontent.

— *Blessed Pope John XXIII*

October Meeting

“Serrans, like rescuers of miners, work together to achieve goal.”

— Very Rev. Fr. Harry Bielewicz, V.E.

Father Harry Bielewicz, Vicar for Clergy, compared Serrans who work to foster vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, to the rescuers of Chilean miners trapped for two months more than 2000 feet beneath the surface of the earth. Both groups, he said, work(ed) together to accomplish their goal.

Speaking at the October 13 meeting of the Pittsburgh Serra Club at Scoglio's Restaurant, Father Bielewicz thanked Serrans for all they do to foster, encourage and support vocations in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

“You, as Serrans, have received a call to foster, encourage and support vocations,” he said, “and, like the people of Chile, you are working together to accomplish your mission.”

Similarly, Father Bielewicz said “At the age of 16, Blessed Junipero Serra answered his call by saying yes to his mission of following Christ. In the process of doing so,” Father Serra “traveled by foot many times the El Camino Real—a 70 mile road between San Diego and Sonoma, California. It was a trip that saw him traveling some 24,000 miles in his work. Fr. Bielewicz said this was Father Serra's way of saying yes to Christ's call to action.

Father Bielewicz concluded his comments with the following prayer:

Walk with Blessed Junipero Serra as he traces our Lord's footsteps in search of workers for the vineyard. Holy Spirit, you are the love and light of the world. Continue to give all Serrans the courage and generosity to respond ardently to your call.

With one voice now, all Serrans say, “Here I am Lord.” Fire each of us with renewed spirit and enthusiasm to work for vocations for our Church. Deepen our commitment to the Serran Mission that we may, indeed walk in his steps on our journey. Father, we ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord, through the intercession of Blessed Junipero Serra and Mary, the Mother of the Church and religious vocations. Amen. †

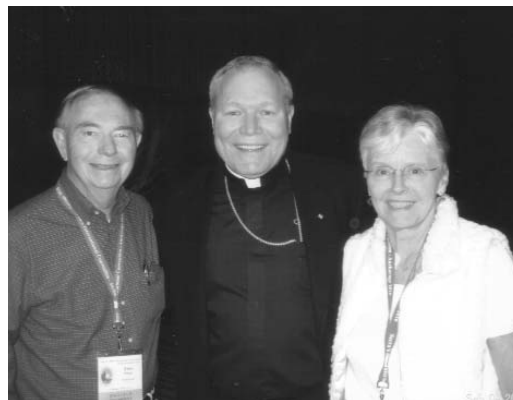
Miraculous Medal

At the conclusion of the October 13 Dinner Meeting, a Miraculous Medal embossed on a one ounce pure silver round was donated as a door prize. The Medal was officially minted on June 24, 2010. It was Blessed by Father James McDonough at St. Mary of the Mount Church on September 26, 2010 with the Holy Water from the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, Jerusalem.

At the request of Serran Earla Jean Graner we prayed for her grandson who laid in a German Hospital after recently being wounded in Afghanistan. Invited Seminarian Patrick Schoenweis drew the winning number—Earla Jean Graner. She said that it will be sent to her grandson. Coincidence!!
Interested in the medal - see Jack Warwick. †

Serra International Convention

The Serra International Convention was held in Anchorage on September 3-5, 2010. Serrans from 12 countries attended. The principal speakers were Cardinal George of Chicago and Bishop Edward Burns of the Juneau Diocese who previously was Rector of St. Paul's Seminary in Pittsburgh. Bishop Burns gave one of the keynote addresses, conducted a seminar for Serran Chaplains and Seminarians, and was the homilist at the Sunday closing mass. The convention attendance suffered this year due to the inability of Serrans from many countries to obtain visas. This was particularly true of the Serrans from Africa. The new president of SI is Tomi Asunuga, of Nigeria, a popular, articulate and dedicated Serran who has been on the Serra Board for many years. Many Serrans from his country who wanted to attend were denied visas. Tomi and his family were in attendance. Bishop Burns sends his regards to all Serrans in Pittsburgh and wants you to know that he is doing well in Juneau and enjoying his work there. The Diocese of Juneau is about the size of the State of Florida and has a total of 9 priests. Bishop Burns asks all Serrans to continue to pray for vocations. †



John and Jane Pillar with Bishop Ed Burns at the International Serra Convention in Anchorage, Alaska.

Membership - Now at 100

The following nine members were approved by the Board of Trustees at the September and October 2010 meetings. A formal installation ceremony will be held during the Memorial Mass at Sts. Simon & Jude Church on November 12.

Christopher J. Chapman — St. Bernard Parish

Virginia M. Fischer — St. Paul Cathedral

Earla Jean Graner — St. Mary of the Mount Parish

Joan M. Head — St. Valentine Parish

Lois A. Keller — St. Mary of the Mount Parish

Alicia Joy Mack — St. Valentine Parish

Andrea M. Molyneaux — St. Louise de Marillac Parish

Patrick J. Molyneaux — St. Louise de Marillac Parish

Natalie F. O'Loughlin — St. Valentine Parish

New members are always welcome. For information on membership, contact Brian Hardy, Membership Chair at 412-486-1341 or 412-562-9117. Membership applications are always 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 each active and retired priest 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. †



Serra Club of Pittsburgh
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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

Member News

Christopher Chapman, director of the Office for Secondary School Catechesis and Faith Formation, has been named an associate director in the Department for Youth and Young Adult Ministry. He will direct the young adult ministry program. †

Tax Information - Dues are Deductible

The Serra Club of Pittsburgh dues that members are assessed and paid may be claimed as a "charitable deduction" for federal income tax purposes. Our Club is covered under Serra International's group exemption number (1059) as tax exempt 501(c)(3) clubs by the U.S. Treasury Department. Our Treasurer will mail proof of payment letters to all members in January. REMINDER: submit your dues payment before December 31, 2010 to obtain this tax deduction. †

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. †