

# Serra Club of St. Petersburg

On the Internet at: "<http://serraclubstpete.com>"



**August 2005**

*"Always go forward, never look back"*

## Dates to Remember:

- **Tuesday, August 16, 7:00 p.m. Regular Monthly Meeting, St. Jude's Pastoral Center.**  
Program: Fr. Richard Zielinski.
- **Wednesday, August 24, 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour. St. Jude's Chapel.**
- **Tuesday, September 20, 7:00 p.m. Regular Monthly Meeting, St. Jude's Pastoral Center,**  
Program: TBA
- **Wednesday, September 28, 5:30 p.m. Mass with Vocation Directors, Sacred Heart Church, 509 Florida Avenue, Tampa.**

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## Annual Banquet Ends Successful Serra Year

A final act of the 2004-2005 Serra Year was the annual banquet held at the beautiful Yacht Club on Tuesday, June 14. The evening, a festive one, went as planned, but there were a few surprises.

For example, it turned out our chaplain, Fr Anthony Coppola, was unable to attend, but we were pleased to have with us, Fr Robert Gibbons, newly appointed vicar general of the diocese, to perform some of the chaplain's duties.

Also, our officer roster was incomplete with the absence of a candidate to take the post of secretary, but Jan Davy stepped forward to accept the post just prior to the installation of officers. So we now go into our new year with a full slate of officers.

Kathy Bolich completed her first year of service as president, but was re-installed for a second term. In her president's report she noted the activities of the past year, but called on members for a renewal of their commitment to Serra for the year ahead

## Serra Banquet - Continued

We were pleased to host twelve seminarians and enjoyed deepening our relationship with them during the reception and dinner. Several guests were also present, and we hope to see them at regular meetings throughout the year.

Highlight of the evening was the installation of officers, which was conducted by Vocations Director Fr Len Plazewski. Chairman of arrangements for the banquet was Jan Davy, and we are grateful to Mary Mallette for arranging for the use of the Yacht Club, even though she was unable to attend because of her temporary disability. Acting as master of ceremonies was Serran Norm Dusseault.

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## Programs for Upcoming Serra Club Meeting

For our Aug 16 meeting we will have as our speaker, Fr. Richard Zelinski, who is making an encore appearance following his memorable slide-illustrated talk at our April meeting.

Fr. Zielinski, who is currently parochial vicar at St Anne's Parish in Ruskin, has prepared a slide presentation on the subject of marriage and we are pleased that he has accepted our invitation to present it us.

Program VP Jim Prior has also been busy making contacts for speakers for future meetings. Among those he is talking to is Fr Tom Tobin, newly ordained priest at St Jude's, for a program on late vocations, Sr. Karen Burns, OSF, for a program on vocations for women in religious life, and Fr Anthony Fortunato, a popular Mercedarian priest at St Jude's. Dates are not fully confirmed for these programs, but will be announced shortly.



## The Fruits of our Labors

It's always wonderful to see one's prayers answered, and this year we were doubly rewarded. As President Kathy Bolich mentioned in her June/July 2005 **Kathy's Korner**, Bishop Robert Lynch ordained two new priests for the Diocese of St. Petersburg on May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2005 in the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle. Fr. Mike Morris who was assigned to Espiritu Santo Parish in Safety Harbor, and Fr. Tom Tobin who was assigned to the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle here in St. Petersburg. May God protect and guide them.



Fr. Mike Morris



Fr. Tom Tobin

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## Kathy's Korner

Even though we had no meeting during the month of July, your board has been busy looking ahead to the coming year. Maureen Ahern and I visited Bishop Lynch and asked for his help in helping us to build membership in the south Pinellas deanery parishes. He was very interested in the work that Serra was doing and pledged his support. He has already sent a letter to South Pinellas Deanery pastors requesting that they appoint members to Serra, and he offered to let us use the pastoral center for our orientation program, and, if his schedule allows, to attend. In our board meeting of August 4<sup>th</sup>, we discussed strategies to follow up with the pastors, and to take advantage of the Bishop's offer to help. You'll hear more about this at our meeting, but keep Oct 18 free to help us host new members.

Another big event on our calendar is the national meeting of Diocesan Vocation Directors which will be held in at the downtown Hyatt in Tampa on September 23 - 29. Fr Len will be calling on Serra to help as greeters and other staff work so please hold these dates and volunteer if you can.

## Kathy's Korner - Continued

Also our Sept Holy Hour at St Jude's will not be held, but Fr Len has asked us to attend a special Mass at Sacred Heart Church in Tampa on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30PM. This Mass is to be held as part of the Vocations Directors Convention.

Our first meeting of the new Serra year will be held on Aug 16, and you will be asked what committee you wish to serve on this year. It's a good idea to change committees from year to year, but remember that Vocations is the one which needs the most help. We have a new officer in charge of Vocations this year, Denise Reilly. Denise has a very busy job in real estate, as well as family responsibilities, so let's rally round and give her a hand.

Our seminary fund is receiving a boost from two sources. The St Vincent De Paul Conference at St Vincent De Paul Parish is making a donation of \$5,000 to be used to support seminarians,. Another parish Our Lady of Fatima in Inverness, wants to donate to our seminary fund to help support one of its parishioners, Walter "Butch" Dugan, a new seminarian.

We were all saddened by the passing this summer of two of our long time members, Prosper Boudart and Liz Shea. Prosper and his wife Lee handled our S.O.S packages and were regular attendees and volunteers. Prosper and Liz will be missed. Keep Them in your prayers. Our condolences and prayers go out to their families.

Lastly, we celebrate the fact that that Mary Mallette, my Mom, is doing well after her extensive knee surgery this summer. She has avoided complications and infections, and is getting along well with a cane. Look for her at our next meeting. And continue to pray for her recovery. See you on August 16th. *...Kathy*



Seminarians at Installation Dinner

