



Serra Club News

Meetings are held the first and third Friday of each month at noon at WesBanco Arena

A publication of the Wheeling Serra Club

April, 2011

Schedule of Meetings

NOTE: Friday, April 1st we will be meeting at 12:05 pm at St. Joseph Cathedral for another Mass for Vocations. **There will be no luncheon that day.**

Friday, April 15th we will have our regular meeting at 12 noon at WesBanco Arena. Given the Lenten season the program will be the recitation of the Stations of the Cross.

Report on Bishop's Burse Luncheon

The Bishop's Burse Mass and Luncheon that was held on Sunday, March 6th was a prayerful, inspiring and enjoyable event. The Burse is a time when we come together with our Bishop, Bishop Michael J. Bransfield, our priests and religious and our fellow Serrans and friends of Serra to provide spiritual, emotional and financial support for the education of the future priests.

Our keynote speaker, Father Paul Hudock, director of the diocesan Office of Vocations, spoke of our shared identity, community and mission. He noted that all people, priests, religious and laity, have the same identity as sons and daughters of God. We also live in the same communities of parishes, service agencies, educational programs, families and "communion of Saints." In addition we have the same mission to establish the Kingdom of God in our midst. In addition to encouraging vocations, he emphasized the importance of each person living their own vocation of call to holiness. Thank you, Father Paul, for your talk and for your service.

Our past President and main organizer of the Burse event, Gary Mulhern, expresses a special thank you to the following people for making the 42nd Annual Bishop's Burse a success: Most Reverend Michael Bransfield, Father Paul Hudock, Monsignor Kevin Quirk, Monsignor Eugene Ostrowski, Mr. Chad Carter, Mrs. Katie Shaffer, Mrs. Kim Stillion, Mr. Rocco

Basil, Mrs. Karen Muenze, Ms. Pat Templeton, Mr. Jack O'Leary, Mrs. Nancy Ellen O'Leary, Mr. Brann Altmeyer, Mr. Gene Fahey, Mr. Larry Bandi, and Dr. Frank Carenbauer III. A special thank you as well to Chris Freeman, CFP who provided corporate sponsorship from Raymond James Financial.

Thanks also to Gary himself for his able leadership in organizing this event.

Thanks to our guest speakers

For the second year in a row, Dawn Noble came to speak with us about our local community participation in the upcoming National Day of Prayer. The mission of the National Day of Prayer Task Force is to mobilize prayer in America and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture. This year's theme is, "A Mighty Fortress is our God."

This annual observance was established in 1952 by the US Congress and was signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. Our Catholic diocese participates in this worthy event. This year we will be represented by Monsignor Frederick Annie and Father Dennis Schuelkens. The event will be held at the Heritage Port on Thursday May 5th at 6:30 pm. I hope you are able to attend. Thanks to Dawn for her presentation, and thanks to Joe Front for inviting her.

Our March 18th speaker was Father Anthony Cincinnati, Vicar for Clergy, who repeated a wonderfully instructive presentation that he delivered to a group of prospective priests on a recent day of discernment. The topic was "the call of the prophet." He presented this topic in a way that we could not help but apply it to ourselves.

Father emphasized that not only do we all have the same call through our Baptism to holiness and service that the prophets were called to, but that we also have the same sense of unworthiness, insecurity and fear that the prophets experienced. As was true for the prophets, we are expected to trust in God's

direction and support and to remember the answer that God gave to the prophets when they had their doubts, "It was not you who chose me, it was I who chose you."

Thank you, Father Tony, for the talk and for your service.

Special Parish Mass for Vocations

Our current President, Jack O'Leary, continues the practice of having Wheeling Serra club sponsor Masses for vocations to the priesthood and religious life at the various parishes. Again, you are encouraged to attend and to include your family and friends.

The schedule for the remaining Mass for vocations is:

Friday - April 1, 2011 – 12:05 pm. at Cathedral of St. Joseph.

Condolences

The members of Serra express our condolences to our faithful member Bob Schmitt, at the recent loss of his beloved wife Dorothy. Our prayers are with you Bob. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord.

Prayer for Vocations

God of My Life
An Augustinian Prayer for Vocational
Discernment

God of my life,
I give you thanks and praise that I have life,
and that my life is filled with touches of your love.

You have given me a heart that wants to be
happy,
and You have placed in me a desire to make a
difference.

Quiet the fears and distractions of my heart long
enough
for me to listen to the movement of Your Spirit,
to hear your gentle invitation.

Reveal to me the choices that will make me
happy.
Help me to discover my identity.

Let me understand how best to use the gifts
You have so lovingly lavished upon me
in preparation for our journey together.

And give me the courage to choose You
as You have chosen me.

Lord, let me know myself and let me know You.
In this is my happiness.

31 Club and Eucharistic Adoration programs

Contact Joe Pangilinan to sign up to
attend a daily Mass at your parish to pray for
vocations and/or to attend Eucharist Adoration at
Saint Michael parish. Joe can be reached at 304-
277-3150 (home), 740-391-9465 (cell) or at
joeypang@aol.com

Website

Remember to visit the wonderful website
our Diocese has developed promoting vocations
to the priesthood. www.wvpriests.org It is
artistically designed and very informative.

This site is a very important part of the
recruitment process because studies have
indicated that the internet is where most
candidates learn about vocations programs.
Make sure you take the time to view it yourself.

Links for more information about Serra

Wheeling Serra
www.wheelingserra.org

USA Council of Serra International
www.serraus.org

Serra International
www.serra.org

Please continue to pray and take action to
encourage new vocations and to support our
current priests and religious.