



# Serra Club News

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

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**A Publication of the Wheeling Serra Club**

**August, 2011**

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## **Schedule of Meetings**

Friday, August, 5<sup>th</sup> our guest speaker will be Julie Shively, principal of Wheeling Central Catholic High School. Our prayer leader will be David Singer.

Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup> our guest speaker will be Mark Hayes, Director of Catholic Charities of West Virginia. Our prayer leader will be Eric Gadd.

Please note that the speakers for the remainder of year have been scheduled and you can view this list on our website that is being maintained by Gary Mulhern. You can access this list and other information about our club by going to [www.wheelingserra.org](http://www.wheelingserra.org) and click on events at the top of the page.

## **Upcoming Priests Picnic**

Our annual priests' picnic will be held the evening of Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> at Bethlehem Community Park. I hope you can attend. This is always an enjoyable event. Registration will be occurring soon.

## **Thank You, Guest Speakers**

According to our club President, Joe Pangilinan, our recent speaker, seminarian Matt Abbott, spoke about his discernment to become a Catholic and seminarian. He was accompanied by Pat McCarthy from our diocese. Pat also gave the introductory prayer.

Matt, who is a native of Charleston, West Virginia, is a convert to the faith. He spoke of how his parents are protestant (Baptist and Church of Christ) but stopped going to church while he was younger. Matt went to his first Catholic service during Christmas of his freshman year of high school because his girlfriend invited him. He hated it. There were too many people, incense, and it was too long. However, he went

again with her and then became interested in Catholicism. He converted in his sophomore year. From there, he went to Wheeling Jesuit University for his degree and St. Vincent's for follow up work.

Presently, Matt is spending his summer working with the poor at Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling. He soon will be going into his first year of theology at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland. Good luck to Matt. Our prayers are with you.

## **News Items and Reminders**

Bishop Schmitt continues to have health problems and was recently admitted to the Hospital.

Fr. Walter Buckius is leaving Wheeling Jesuit University for health reasons and will be joining the Jesuit retirement community in Baltimore, Maryland.

Please keep both of these dedicated and holy men, as well as all our priests and religious, in your prayers. We owe so much to all priests and religious who have dedicated their lives to serving God and mankind.

## **Prayer for Vocations**

Loving God, your Son, Jesus, has shown us that an open heart finds the way. Help me to find my way in this world.

Keep my heart open to following Jesus' way of serving others in love.

Give me the courage to accept the guidance you offer me through my family, my friends, and my parish community.

Through the Holy Spirit, you call me to a particular way of life.

If it is the way of a priest, sister, brother or deacon, then help me to walk it in joyful service to your people.

With you, my god, I know I can find my way.  
Amen.

### **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](mailto:joeypang@aol.com)

### **Priest Website**

Remember to visit the wonderful website our Diocese has developed promoting vocations to the priesthood. [www.wvpriests.org](http://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](http://www.wheelingserra.org)

USA Council of Serra International  
[www.serraus.org](http://www.serraus.org)

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