



# 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

October, 2011

## Schedule of Meetings

Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. We are honored to have our own Bishop Michael J. Bransfield - Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston, as our guest speaker. – Prayer leader – Joe Pangilinan

Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> - Gabriel Project speaker - Prayer leader - David Singer

## Thank You, Guest Speakers

Thank you, Patrick McCarthy, our Director of Religious Vocations Awareness for his inspiring presentation on his own personal calling and for updating us on the recent vocation awareness efforts. The basic question he asks himself and he encourages others to ask of themselves is “where does my heart’s deepest desire meet with the worlds needs?” He talked about his own experiences with seminary and with dating and how that led him to his current role in the Catholic Church. Patrick works with Bishop Bransfield and Fr. Paul planning vocation awareness programs reaching out to individuals from 6<sup>th</sup> grade up to adults of various age, through class presentations, retreats and visits to the seminaries. He encourages others to ask, “where does God want me to serve?”

One particularly memorable experience he had was the World Youth day trip to Madrid, Spain. He said it was amazing to kneel down with 3 million other people in a field to attend the Eucharist offered by Pope Benedict XVI.

Patrick reports that we currently have eight men in seminary and two transitional deacons. He asked that we keep them in our prayers. Thank you, Patrick, for your work and your witness.

Thank you, Rev. Mr. George Smoulder, our Ordained Deacon and the Executive Director of the United Way of the Upper Ohio Valley for his challenging presentation regarding abortion. The basic question he asked of himself and he encourages others to ask of themselves is “what are you going to do about it?” He shared his own

personal experience of his response to this question. It started with him feeling a need to write a letter regarding his opposition to “the killing of unborn children.” This led to him immediately being shuttled to Washington D.C. to talk to our State Senators. He noted he was terrified but did what he felt he needed to do.

George advised that we pray for an end to abortion, that we become more knowledgeable, that we stop blaming other people and look to what we can do, and advocate in a way that doesn’t unnecessarily antagonize others. He also said that if you advocate for the unborn, you need to be ready to become unpopular. Thank you, George, for your work and your witness.

## Upcoming Events:

### Mass for Vocations

The next Masses for Vocations will be held on:  
October 25<sup>th</sup> 7pm at St. Vincents Church  
November 17<sup>th</sup> 7pm at Corpus Christi

I hope you are able to attend along with your family and friends.

### Rosary Rally

Jeff Smay reports that the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Rosary Rally for Vocations will be held on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in the Cathedral of St. Joseph. The service is a joint Serra Club/Central Catholic High School project. He encourages us to attend and to bring family members and friends. A reception with refreshments will follow in the Great Hall at Central

### Prayer for Vocations

Gracious God, you are the giver of all good gifts. At this time of year we thank you for the gift of life itself, the gift of others whom we love, and most especially for the gift of your Son among us. May we hear him calling us to serve you with lives that are full of thanks.

### **31 Club and Eucharistic Adoration programs**

Contact Joe Pangilinan to sign up to attend a daily Mass at your parish to pray for vocations. Joe can be reached at 304-277-3150 (home), 740-391-9465 (cell) or at [joeypang@aol.com](mailto:joeypang@aol.com)

Contact Jack O'Leary regarding Eucharist Adoration that is held at St. Michael Parish Church. Our initial goal is to fill the 7:00pm to 8:00pm time slot although visiting any time that the Eucharist is displayed for adoration would be appreciated. The other times are Monday between 8:00 am to 11:00 pm or Tuesday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

### **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.

### **Serra address and Links**

Wheeling Serra Club  
PO Box 4  
Wheeling, WV 26003

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