

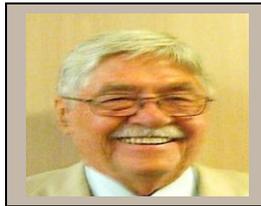
A Voice for Vocations

March 2014

Serra Club City of Orange
Region 11, District 127, Charter 643



District Doings **Wally Drazba**



Officer Roster 2012 – 2014

President	Maureen Neglia
President Elect	Matt Ivary
Treasurer	Joe Neglia
Programs	Jim Briscoe
Vocations	Wally Drazba
Hospitality	Joan Amort Paul Amort
Membership	Beverly Truzzolino
Communications	Nancy Ivary
Newsletter	Anne Champagne
Recording Secretary	Janie Hanson
Corresponding Secretary	Carol Cagle
Sergeant-at-Arms	Joe Costanza
Trustees:	Theresa Morris Terry Toner Bob De Feo Stan Espenship
Chaplain:	
	Fr. Felix Just, SJ
Spiritual Advisor:	
	Sr. Nadine McGuiness, CSJ

District 127 Governor:
Wally Drazba

Upcoming Events

Mar 4: MEETING
"Fat Tuesday" potluck
Lenten Reflection
Sr. Nadine McGuiness, CSJ
Mar 12,19,26:
Wednesdays 9-11:30am
Pope Francis' Apostolic
Exhortation:
"The Joy of the Gospel"
Sr. Nadine McGuiness, CSJ
Mar 18: MEETING
Adoration
Mar 22: 8am to 1pm
Day of Reflection
Held at St Cecilia Church
Father Bob Stephan

Mar 23: 8:15am St Joseph's
Bus Trip to St John's
Seminary, Camarillo
May 4, 2014: Hearts on Fire
Spring Gala

Ordination **to the Diaconate**

This past month we had one major event, the ordination of Will Goldin to the transitional diaconate. Will was trained as an opera singer, and some of his friends were at the reception to entertain us with their wonderful voices. If you have never attended an ordination, please do come to one soon. You're missing one of the joys of our Serra work.

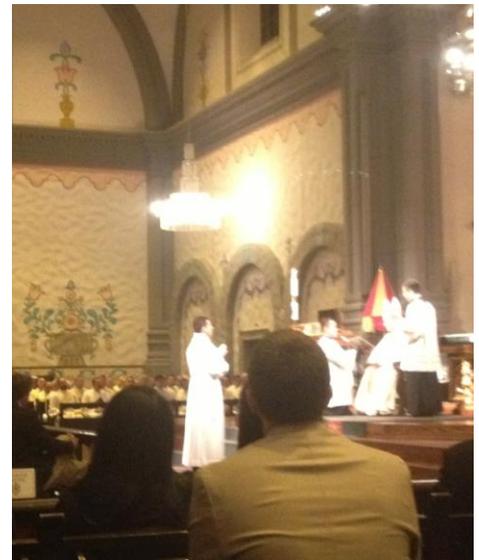
We have two events coming up. . . On March 22 Fr Bob Stephan SJ will be presenting our annual Day of Reflection. For more information on the event go to www.serraoc.org and click on the Current Events on the home page. A full biography and information on the day are there. For those without computers, the morning starts with 8am Mass at St Cecilia, followed by a continental breakfast, Father's talks, and finishes with lunch. Cost is \$20.00 per person.

The following day March 23, is our annual Serra Day at St. John's Seminary. Msgr Cox, the rector invites us to join the seminarians at Mass and then hosts a great lunch. We will be traveling by bus, leaving the CSJ Motherhouse at 8:30am. We return approximately at 3:30. The bus cost is \$15.00. Remember we are doing this to support the seminarians, especially if your adopted seminarian is at St. John's.



Our Mission... to foster, affirm and promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and all ministries in the Catholic Church, and through this support of all ministries, to deepen our members' personal faith lives.

William Goldin during Ordination to the Diaconate at San Juan Capistrano's Basilica with Bishop Kevin Vann presiding



Bishop Vann-mingling at reception



Club Newz

On February 4, 2014, David Hoover addressed our club with a condensed version of "St Francis Face to Face". He performed in the character of St Francis of Assisi (donning monk's habit) with his message of peace, poverty and simplicity. We journeyed with St Francis as he responded to God's request "Rebuild My church, it is falling into ruin!"

St Francis as a young man wanted meaning in his life....he became a knight, followed by a prisoner of war, and ultimately became sick for a year. He often wandered in nature during this time. After a year of failure and sickness, he began to see and he began to pray. Then he discovered the poor and saw "The Presence of Jesus" in their midst. While on trial in the town square for being mad, he proclaimed to all the townspeople, including the Bishop "I am the son of my Heavenly Father". He was now actively breaking with his past. In his travels, he met a leper on the road outside of Assisi. He wanted to get closer. He saw sorrow, humility and loneliness. He saw in the leper the same eyes of Jesus that he had viewed many times when gazing upon the San Damiano Cross. He explained that the leper embraced him and in the process had set him free for BIGGER LOVE, the love of freedom and of joy.

Later, Francis established the Community of Little Brothers. The scriptures were their rules. They ministered to the poor. They made the mystical choice of joy, love of the Gospel and they lived in communion with one another. Jesus' Message is one of peace, forgiveness, reconciliation, and non-violence. There is no way out of humanity's challenges without LOVE.

Perfect love casts out fear. When we trust Jesus, all is possible. Jesus loves "ordinary human lives". We owe, as Christians, joy to a suffering world.

FIND THE WAY!

David Hoover - addressing us as St Francis of Assisi



On February 18, David Kennedy brought his presentation to our members. He had resided in San Francisco for many years, when he discerned God's call to move to Los Angeles and to begin "working in the vineyard".

He explained that he then began to work in his very special ministry attending to the members of the Gay and Lesbian communities in Southern California. As far back as 1986, Cardinal Mahoney (then an archbishop) celebrated a Mass for those suffering from HIV/AIDS and for their caregivers. The Gay and Lesbian Outreach Ministry grew from this historic event. David's ministry explains that the "closet" is a very unhealthy place and he and others encourage and help gay and lesbian people to come out of the closet. Showing acceptance to those they are ministering to has many benefits, including preventing suicides, alcoholism, drug use, homelessness and unemployment.

Although their sexual preference was not a choice in their life, they are taught a culture of self-hate. This leaves them with no freedom to love God or anyone else for that matter.

David pointed out from our Catechism of the Catholic Church that we are advised to treat members of their community with respect. David attends and works a booth at the "gay pride" events on behalf of the Catholic Church. He assures those with questions that he is, in fact, representing the "real" Catholic Church and that they can rest assured that they will be allowed to come to Mass without hearing any hate from the pulpit. He cited scriptures from Leviticus and Romans and suggested that our Serra Club members revisit these passages from the Bible. He also cited "Always our Children" from the USCCB.

David Kennedy addressing the Serra Club members at our February 18th meeting



New Members' Biographies

Kathleen Robinson

On Oct.9, 1947, I entered the world to much love and faith. My parents were devout Catholics, whose only prayer was that I would become the Child of God I was created to be.

As a Navy Junior, I was privileged to live all over the world.

I attended Old Dominion University where I was graduated in 1968.

But the year before, 1967, I was married to the love of my life, David Walter Robinson, a very cute Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy.

We were stationed in Norfolk, Newport, and Vietnam before moving to Monterey, California, where our daughter was born. In Monterey, we also had the privilege of attending a Cursillo weekend. We have both been very active in Cursillo for almost 40 years. A few years later, in North Carolina we became active with the Society of Mary and helped to run family retreats on the North Carolina shore. Since 2000, we have been very active in leading pilgrimages to Jerusalem (in 2012 we led our 11th pilgrimage). Because of this ministry, in 2006 we were admitted into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

We were very blessed, in October, 2008, to be asked to become the American sponsor for a Seminarian from Hanoi, Quyen Van Truong, during his year in an American home.....and until he is ordained a priest in June of 2016. He has been a joy and a delight for both of us, and a real source of blessings.

Kathleen (called Kelly), our daughter, is married and living with her husband and daughter (another Kathleen, called Kay) in Oregon, and I frequently go up for visits.

I currently work part time for Weight Watchers, and my hobbies are reading, playing the guitar, music (I am blessed to cantor at Holy Family Cathedral for daily Mass 4 days a week) and machine embroidery, with a special emphasis on making Vestments for priests. I have made over 400 vestments for priests all over the world. I also work with a Rabbi on making Tallis' for Bar and Bat Mitzvahs.

Magdalena Santiago

At the present time, I am a resident of San Fernando Valley and a parishioner of Our Lady of the Valley Church in Canoga Park.

I was born in the Philippines. My early years of Catholic education was under the auspices of the Belgian Sisters, the Immaculate Heart Missionary Congregation.

After graduating from college at the University of the Philippines (U.P.), I came to the United States having been accepted for institutional management internship at Cook County Hospital in Chicago where I became a staff member. Then, I went on to Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas for my post graduate studies. Having been gone longer than my family expected, I went home to join them.

It was after I received the approval of my immigrant's visa that I decided to establish residence in California. I worked at USC Medical Center, St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica, Kaiser Permanente in Harbor City. My career ladder led me to Children's Hospital of Los Angeles where I spent most of my professional life. In 2010, after attending the Pentecost retreat, Fr. Felix introduced me to the Loyola Institute for Spirituality, LIS. The rest is history. I volunteer Tuesdays and Thursdays, a true privilege and a gift from God.

Now double thankful for the blessing of being counted as a member of the Serra Club to join in the ministry of promoting vocations to the priesthood, religious life and the diaconate, I pray for God's continued blessings to deepen my spiritual life's journey in faith.

Letting a creative vision shape our lives

We are all born, and we live our lives, in the middle of what is happening in the larger world around us. Fr. Jean Pierre Medaille travelled as a missionary in central and southeastern France just as the Thirty Years War (1618-1648)—which cost the lives of more than 1/3 of the entire population of Europe—was coming to an end. The misery of continuous war, political unrest, and chronic malnutrition was a fact of life. Within this milieu of desperation and poverty, migration, violence and hopelessness, a spiritual hunger and energy emerged. In the course of his missionary travels, Fr. Medaille met a number of widows and young women who desired to give their lives wholly to God but who were either not called to the cloister, or did not have sufficient dowry to enter religious life.

To respond to the needs of these women, Fr. Medaille conceived of a "little design", that is a new form of association of women, without cloister or distinctive dress, whose members would consecrate their lives to God, live together in small groups, and unite a life of prayer with active ministry to the sick and the poor. These women would allow themselves to be filled with God, and to communicate to others the love and life they received from God. What was unique was that Fr. Medaille proposed this loving union with God to women *and* as an alternative to their experience of a society permeated by violence, suspicion and alienation. These members were to understand themselves and their purpose as extending God's loving communion to all.

The most recent constitution of the community reflects the vision of Fr. Medaille: "Our mission as Sisters of St. Joseph flows from the purpose for which the Congregation exists: We live and work that all people may be united with God and with one another. It is rooted in the mission of Christ, the same mission which continually unfolds in the Church, "that all may be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you. I pray that all may be one in us. (Art. 12) In the writings of his Superiors about Fr. Medaille, he was viewed as deep, passionate, intelligent, determined, caring and sensitive. These attributes reflect a dedication to mediation, reflection and self-awareness before God. A common thread throughout the writings of Fr. Medaille was the invitation to respond to God with generosity, and to support and improve all in their lives with the same spiritual joy which they received in being focused on union of themselves with God and with one another. In today's language, we reflect this vision when we pray:

- I believe in my power to transform indifference into love.
- I believe I have an amazing gift to keep hope alive in the face of despair.
- I believe I have the remarkable skill of deleting bitterness from my life.
- I believe I have the strength of will to be peace in a world of violence.
- I believe in my miraculous capacity for unconditional love.

Pray Always



Vocation Prayer

O God, Father of all Mercies, Provider of a bountiful Harvest, send your Graces upon those You have called to gather the fruits of Your labor; preserve and strengthen them in their lifelong service of you. Open the hearts of Your children that they may discern Your Holy Will; inspire in them a love and desire to surrender themselves to serving others in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ. Teach all Your faithful to follow their respective paths in life guided by Your Divine Word and Truth. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, all the Angels and Saints, humbly hear our prayers and grant Your Church's needs, through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

Ministers for Serra Masses EMs

MAR 4 Loretta Callopy,
1st Reading
Wally Drazba,
Psalm & Prayers

MAR 18 Stan Espenship,
1st Reading
Nancy Ivary,
Psalm & Prayers

APR 1 Maureen Neglia,
1st Reading
Nancy Schuba,
Psalm & Prayers

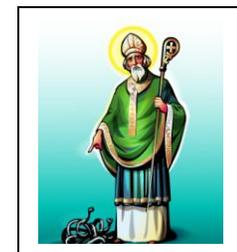


Theresa Morris, Host
Joe Neglia, Cup
Betty Padilla, Cup

Chic Ryan, Host
Raul Serna, Cup
Joan Amort, Cup

Jim Baer, Host
Patty Baer, Cup
Elena Biale, Cup

"Always forward, never back!"
Junipero Serra



Carol Cagle
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