



SERVING PRIEST AND RELIGIOUS SINCE 1935

VOLUME 4, JANUARY, 2008

Serra South NEWS

SERRA CLUB OF SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY

SERRAN PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

**Board Meetings
Third Monday
of the Month
Regular Meeting
3rd Monday
of the Month**

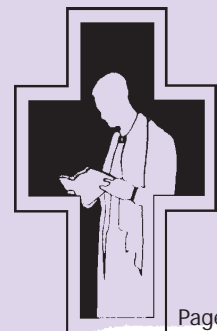
"Always to go forward

Never to turn back"

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner *
but rather that he be converted and live * grant
we beseech you * through the
intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin *
Saint Joseph, her spouse * Blessed Junipero
Serra * and all the saints * an increase of labor-
ers for Your Church * fellow laborers with Christ
to spend and consume themselves for souls *
through the same Jesus Christ * Your Son *
who lives and reigns with You * In the unity of
the Holy Spirit * God forever * and ever. Amen



**FOSTERING
VOCATIONS
TO
THE
PRIESTHOOD
AND
THE
RELIGIOUS
LIFE**



Serra Club of South Orange County Serra South News

SERRA CLUB OF SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Chris Mino	949-218-1733
PRESIDENT-ELECT	John DiMare	949-499-6685
CHAPLAIN	Fr. Phil Hart	
VP-PROGRAMS	Ted Wilson	949-240-8747
VP-VOCATIONS	Rob Wagner	949-842-2277
VP-MEMBERSHIP	Mary McDonald	949-842-3643
VP-COMMUNICATIONS	Teri Harkins	369-6460
BULLETIN EDITOR	Chris Mino	949-218-1733
TREASURER	Joe DeRitis	949-716-6525
SECRETARY	Johanna DeRitis	949-716-6525
TRUSTEES	Paulette Greenwald	498-0617
	Deana Progar	949-768-8858
	Bob Taylor	949-481-6150
DISTRICT GOVERNOR	Wally Drazba	714-532-4640

CALENDAR

January 2008

January 21	Board meeting	St. Edward
January 21	Regular meeting	St. Edward

Future Events

February 18	Regular meeting	St. Edward
Sunday March 9	Bus Trip to Seminary in Camarillo	
Saturday March 15	Day of Recollection at CCJ, Orange	
October 2009	Regional Convention hosted by Orange County	

Meeting Schedule

The following is the suggested future meeting schedule.
Our Mass will be at 6:30 pm when at Serra Chapel followed by a program
Otherwise will be at St. Edward for 5:30 PM Mass followed by a program at St. Edward Knight Hall main room.

March 17	Regular meeting	St. Edward
April 21	Regular meeting	St. Edward
May TDA	Officer's Installation	SJC
June 16	Regular meeting	St. Edward
July 21	Regular meeting	St. Edward
August 18	Regular meeting	St. Edward

To find out more News about Serra in Orange County visit the website: www.serraoc.org



AMERICA OUR PRIDE



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - JANUARY 2008

A HEALTHY, BLESSED, AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 8 is also the date for our quarterly District Meeting. The Presidents of each club meet with our new District Chaplain, Fr. John Neneman and District Governor; Wally Drazba at St. Cecilia's to plan for upcoming activities.

By the time you get this newsletter, the Altar Servers' Recognition Mass and Reception, honoring all the children (and the parents) who have committed themselves to serving God, the Priests and the People of God, will be over and hopefully many of you will have enjoyed seeing the multitude of children whom God has called to serve Him. That was **January 12** at St. Columbian's Church in Garden Grove. The Serra Clubs of Orange County act as host for the reception following the Mass. Members are asked to spend two hours on that morning either setting up, or serving and cleaning up. Punch and a Massive Amount of Cookies are served.

January 21 is our Board Meeting at St Edward before our general meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend and to give their input on our activities.

January 21 is also the day for our monthly General Meeting. Mass at 5:30 PM in St. Edward's Church followed by our dinner meeting in the hall.. Ask your relatives and friends to join us and find out what we are all about. The normal \$10.00 dinner fee is waived for all our guests.

Our Christmas Party was a wonderful affair. Starting with Mass celebrated by Fr. Phil Hart and then the great food and fellowship that followed. Our thanks to Bob and Toni Taylor for their wonderful home hospitality, and to all of you for your participation. Welcome back Judy Heald and Praix

Special days to remember:

February 4th. - is World Day of Prayer for the Consecrated Life. Please remember to pray for all of those who are consecrated to the service of the Lord.

March 9, Sunday - We carpool or go on a bus to St. John's Seminary in Camarillo to visit the Seminarians. Plan to spend the day visiting them; it is a very spirit uplifting gesture knowing that we care about them. Please make every effort to attend.

March 15, Saturday - is our Day of Reflection at the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse. It is well worthwhile the time for us to contemplate and review where we have been and where the Lord is leading us; please plan to attend this retreat. Fr. Chris Heath will be the spiritual Director that day.

The month of March is a month when we see spring peeking in and new life begins to emerge; this is the time when our slate of officers will be taking place. Please pray about our Club on this special month so that we may receive graces from our Good Shepherd.

So many times we are caught up with concerns for the future of our Churches and about how we are in need of more priests throughout the world. As I was thinking about what the future holds for us and the next generations, I was reminded to stop and smell the roses! The sweetness thereof was the realization of how blessed we all are at this very present time. I could almost hear God saying to us, "Look! Look and see the shepherds I have sent you". And I did see that our Creator has sent us a trinity Frs. Steve, Joe, Chris and Avelino. The same is true of all the other Churches in our Deanery. They each have their pastor and associate pastors. There is so much treasure to be found in all of them; and they each give of the gifts that the Holy Spirit has bestowed on them. You have only to meditate for a little while on each one of them; there will

continued on page 4

continued from page 3

emerge a glowing image of their genuine spirit of love and charism, for they have sacrificed so much to be priests to follow our Good Lord

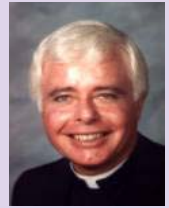
Speaking about our sanctification; "The third beatitude, **blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted**, is characterized by the luminous explosion of the gift of knowledge. Under the influence of this gift the soul attains a new vision of life, discovers the profound sense of things on earth, and beholds with astonished eyes its own depths laid bare. As it bathes in this light it is deeply stirred. Tears come – tears crystalline as the light, bitter as pain, and gentle as messengers of love, which produce in the soul the miracle of consolation. Terrestrial things take divers forms according to the light that colors them. In the deceitful light of the world they are clothed with fictitious charms that captivate the poor human heart and produce in it what the Scriptures call the "witchery of paltry things." When the light of God begins to shine in a soul, illusion vanishes, and things, divested of their gaudy trappings, present only their native nothingness to eyes illuminated by the Spirit. The soul knows creatures as they are: empty, incapable of satisfying its desires; and undeceived, it detaches itself from them, at first with resignation because it had loved them, then with joy because it realizes they are worthless. God, it is true, is pleased to pour out on the souls He loves an ineffable sweetness and joy immeasurably superior to earthly joys, which in spiritual language, is called divine consolation. When the earth is sinning beneath its feet the soul calls upon God with the irresistible language of tears, and God responds lovingly to its pressing cry, and makes the Gift of Himself, who is the fundamental, the only consolation."

May you and your family experience the divine consolation of our Lord... Let's keep that spirit up at all of our meetings in the New Year! It is your club! Be active and make it grow...

Chris Mino



MSGR WILBUR DAVIS MESSAGE January 2008



As previously announced Msgr. Wilbur Davis has retired from being the Vocations Director for the Diocese of Orange. Fr. John Nenemas will take his place and I am sure he will keeps us updated on Vocations.

Welcome to the Orange county Serra family Fr. John. Plese see his picture.



Prayer Corner

Please Pray for All Our Serrans,
especially –

Jessica Michel
Trinidad Ortega
Carl Kacher, R.I.P.
Msgr. John F. Sammon, R.I.P.



Serra Club of West Orange County

Monday January 14, 2008

Dear Chris,

I want to thank all the members of your club that helped make the reception for the Altar server's reception a great success. Everything went smooth and we were able to serve over a thousand Altar servers and relatives in just over an hour. We had over 30 Serrans in attendance to set-up serve and clean up. Again please convey our club's thanks to your members that helped,

Ernie Ramirez, President West Orange County Club

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ernie".

PS- All the information and inventories is updated and in the district manual.

CC Joe Sullivan

Program VP Corner

Our speaker this month will be our own Youth Director Elena Ortiz. Elena has been a parishioner of St. Edward since 1997 and the High School Youth Minister since 2006. She graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville with a degree in Social Work and has a passion for missionary work.

She would like to address God's Revelation of Vocations in our High School Youth: Discernment with Less Stress and More Peace.

Peace of Christ, Elena

Yed Wilson
Program Director

From: USA Council of Serra International [serraus@serraus.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2007 1:37 PM
To: chrismino@cox.net
Subject: Serra International Dialogue Report

Date: December 12, 2007 To: Serra Club President From: Ernest Doclar, USA Council of Serra International President Subject: Serra International Dialogue Report Dear Christopher Many of you have eagerly awaited the results of the meeting to discuss the proposals regarding restructuring. That meeting was held in Omaha on December 3 and 4, and I am delighted to report to all of our USA Council Serrans that we arrived at an agreement that should please all of us. Please study the terms of the agreement printed below. If you have questions about it, please send an e-mail to the Chicago USAC office, to my attention. http://www.serraus.org/resources/pdf/si_omaha/omaha_agreement.pdf http://www.serra.org/media/SI_Pres_Omaha_03_12_07.pdf (A letter to Serra Council Presidents from Lloyd Crockett, President, Serra International) To all of you who prayed for a peaceful, just resolution of our difficulties regarding the restructuring proposals, thank you and thank God. Mary, Mother of vocations, pray for us. Ernest P. Doclar President, USA Council of Serra International Sincerely, The USA Council of Serra International

Pray! Invite! Encourage! Affirm! Vocations Text & Design © 1997-2007 USA Council of Serra International All rights reserved. | Last Modified: June 20, 2007 USA Council of Serra International | 65 E Wacker Place, Suite 802 | Chicago, Illinois 60601 Phone: 1-888-777-6681 | 1-312-201-6549 | Fax: 1-888-777-6803 | 1-312-201-6548 Web site: <http://www.serraus.org/> E-mail: serraus@serraus.org



Serra International

Episcopal Adviser
His Eminence Justin Cardinal Rigali
Archbishop of Philadelphia
Pennsylvania, United States

President
Lloyd P. Crockett
Serra Club of Williamson County
Tennessee, United States

President Elect
Cosare Gambanella
Serra Club of Palermo
Italy

Vice President
John M. (Tom) Ascanga
Serra Club of Lagos
Nigeria

Vice President
Alejandro Carbajal
Serra Club of Tlaxcala
Mexico

Vice President
Fred McNair
Serra Club of Austin
Texas, United States

Vice President
Darryl A. Ross
Serra Club of St. Louis
Missouri, United States

Secretary
Cynthia M. Bell
Serra Club of Green Bay
Wisconsin, United States

Treasurer
John Baycroft
Serra Club of Toronto West
Canada

Past President
Robert T. Wright
Serra Club of Reading
Pennsylvania, United States

Trustees
Emilio Artiglieri
Serra Club of Genova
Italy

Flavio Carvalho
Serra Club of Rio de Janeiro
Brazil

Gary Davis
Serra Club of St. Paul
Minnesota, United States

Janet Dell Freeman
Serra Club of Tiffin
Ohio, United States

Joseph Danahue
Serra Club of NW Metro Denver
Colorado, United States

Robert Goldsmith
Serra Club of Southern Maryland
Maryland, United States

Don Herman
Serra Club of North San Diego
California, United States

Joseph Kregiel
Serra Club of North Metro Atlanta
Georgia, United States

João Rodini Luiz
Serra Club of Ribeirão Preto
Brazil

Neo Mendes
Serra Club of Dhaka
Bangladesh

James O'Harelon
Serra Club of Portland
Oregon, United States

Alberto Pietra
Serra Club of Padua
Italy

Jorge M. Steverlynek
Serra Club of Buenos Aires
Argentina

Thomas A. Wang
Serra Club of Hong Kong
P.R.C.

Executive Director
John W. Woodward

December 9, 2007

Dear Council Presidents:

It is with great pleasure that I forward to you my message to the Serra International Executive Committee and the full Board on the outcome of the Dialogue Session held in Omaha, Nebraska, U.S.A., December 3-4, 2007 concerning the future structure of Serra. I believe my messages below and the attachments will fully explain the outcome of the meeting. The Agreement reached will be submitted to the full Board of Trustees at its March 2008 meeting for its consideration.

I believe the Dialogue Session was a milestone for Serra under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and hopefully, if the Board approves, it will be the turning point to restore peace and unity to our beloved organization and allow us to get back to our mission of encouraging vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Religious Life.

Please give a special thanks and a prayer to Cardinal Rigali (Serra's Episcopal Advisor), Archbishop Curtiss (Serra's former Episcopal Advisor) and Bishop Cupich (Episcopal Advisor to Serra's National Council for the United States) whose presence, prayers and support made this accord possible.

If you have any questions concerning the outcome of the Session or if you have any comments you would like to submit, please feel free to contact me or any other member of the International Board.

With all good wishes for His peace and joy, I am

Sincerely in Serra,

Lloyd P. Crockett
President, Serra International

70 East Lake Street, Suite 1210
Chicago, Illinois 60601 U.S.A.

Telephone: 312-419-7411
Fax: 312-419-8077

Website: www.serra.org
E-mail: serra@serra.org

Vocations Corner

THE ELECTION OF A NEW POPE

Deacon Steve Doktorczyk was completing his studies at the North American College in Rome when Pope John Paul II died and Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger was elected Pope. He is a native of Huntington Beach and a parishioner at St. Bonaventure. He was ordained by Bishop Tod Brown in June of 2005. Here is his view of what transpired taken from a letter he wrote home.

"On Sunday April 17 the cardinals headed down to the Vatican's Domus Sanctae Marthae where they would live during the conclave. So many of the cardinals stayed at our seminary for two weeks prior." On Monday, April 18th, our entire seminary community filed down to St. Peter's for the Mass *Eligendo Papa*, ("for the election of the pope") which opened the conclave. The main celebrant was Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, Dean of the College of Cardinals and prefect of the Congregation for the doctrine of the Faith."

"At 4:30 PM, that same day, we watched CNN's coverage of the cardinals entrance into the Sistine Chapel. It was quite a solemn event, and, as are most of the

papal liturgies, it included a professional choir. The cardinals were accompanied by the Litany of the Saints, beautifully sung in Latin. Once the cardinals arrived, the *Veni Creator Spiritus* was sung. The cardinals then swore on the book of the Gospels not only to secrecy, but that whoever was elected Roman Pontiff "will commit himself faithfully carrying out the Petrine Office of the Universal Church."

"Only one vote was held that evening, and at 8:02 PM, what appeared to be white smoke was coming from the chimney over the Sistine Chapel. There was confusion, but shortly thereafter, clearly black smoke was visible." "After my afternoon class was over on the 19th, I headed over" to St. Peter's with a Benedictine classmate. At about 5:30 PM, scarcely 10 minutes away from St. Peter's, two different people on bikes nearly ran us over shouting, "Habemus Papam" (we have a Pope). Could it be true?...Sure enough I could see white smoke coming from the chimney. At 6:42 Cardinal Medina Estivez saluted the crowds in four languages. The crowd was cheering. He then said slowly, "Joseph." The crowd was silent....He then added, "Cardinal." Another pause. Finally, "Ratzinger." The crowd went wild cheering, yelling, and screaming. He received a long ovation when

continued on page 9

Page 8

continued from page 8

he appeared on the balcony. He said in his greeting, "the cardinals have elected me a simple, humble worker in God's vineyard." "The Lord knows how to work and to act, and I ask you for your prayers." He asked the Blessed Mother for her prayers as well... He blessed the people with the traditional *urbe et orbi* (to the city and the world) blessings."

"It appears that the decision was reached on the fourth ballot. At least 2/3 of the cardinals believe the Holy Spirit was leading them to select Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, a man not unfamiliar with Rome and the Vatican... That a decision was reached so quickly shows that the cardinals believe he is the one God wants to be successor to Peter."

Cardinal Ratzinger, up to a few weeks ago, would regularly walk from his apartment which is on one side of the piazza, through the piazza until he arrived at his office at the CDF. He is a true gentleman, taking the time to greet people and answer questions. He's not afraid to be tough when he needs to be, which is what his former position required. He realizes the grave responsibility he has for the care of souls and loves the Church very much. He also needs everyone's prayers and support."

Editor's Note - Fr. Steve Returned to Rome after his ordination for Advanced Studies. He is now Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in La Habra.

Joe DeRitis



SOUTH COUNTY NEWS

January, 2008 - Volume 4, Issue 1
Serra Club of South Orange County



- 1) Our speaker for this month is Elena Ortiz
- 2) Regular meeting at Saint Edward.

"HAPPY
NEW YEAR"

Blessed are they who hear the Word of
God and keep it.

(Luke 11: 28)



Serra Club of
South Orange County
P.O. Box 6837
Laguna Niguel, CA
92607-6837

To find out more News about Serra in Orange County
visit the website: www.serraoc.org

