



SERRA CLUB OF DUPAGE COUNTY

THE SERRA NEWS – Diocese of Joliet – Illinois / August 2006

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

5 SA

The officers meeting will be held at St. Procopius Abbey beginning with 7 am mass. Meeting will conclude by 9:30 am for those attending the funeral of Joe Baier.

14 MO

Annual Seminarian Sendoff Dinner at Benedictine University. See details below.

SEPTEMBER

8 SA

The officers meeting will be held at Visitation Church beginning with 8:15 am mass. Members welcome.

18 MO

Annual rosary and dinner meeting at Morning Star Catholic Books and Gifts in Lombard.

FUNERAL ON SATURDAY AUGUST 5 FOR SERRAN JOE BAIER

Serran Joe Baier passed away on July 27 at a nursing home in Elgin. He is survived by his son Jim. Joe served as a past president of the Serra Club of DuPage County. He introduced Ron Beaumont to the Serra Club who later succeeded him as president. Additional information will appear in the Chicago Tribune on Wednesday or Thursday. Visitation is at Williams-Kampp Funeral home at 430 East Roosevelt Road in Wheaton, phone 668 0016. Please remember Joe in your prayers.

ANNUAL SEMINARIAN SENDOFF DINNER – RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Date: Monday August 14, 2006. Hospitality 5:45 PM - Dinner 7:00 PM

Location: Krasa Center at Benedictine University, Maple Road & College Road, Lisle.

Reservations: Contact Ron Beaumont at rbboards@aol.com or phone 630 858 4646 today.

Dress: Business casual, casual for children.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS SERRANS WHO ARE ILL

Marge Hangsterfer, Fred Pidgeon father of Matt Pidgeon, Bernadette McGowan, Jim & Rita O'Toole, Lydia Overton and Jane Whalen

VOCATIONS AND OUR SERRA CLUB

As the new vocations vice president for our Serra Club, I must admit that my job in assisting both Bishop J. Peter Sartain and Father Burke is going to be exciting to say the least. Both times that I have been in the presence of Bishop Sartain his message included religious vocations and how important that issue is to him. The same is true with Fr. Burke, his goals are challenging and will redefine the Bishop's words using disciple Peter's fishing net to gather lot's of good people to serve the Lord.

In addition to Fr. Burke's goals, some new ideas have emerged from our own George Carr. He has formed a Vocations Committee at his parish church and has gathered a group of multi talented individuals to explore various ways to educate parishioners, young and old on the importance of vocations. I will endeavor to create a template of George's program and see if we can promote it beginning with DuPage County. With the support of our Bishop and vocation director and pastors a vocation committee program is doable providing we have a template. Serran's and readers who may have any additional ideas or can assist us in developing the vocations Committee template can call me, Bob Loffredi at 630-571-1010.

WELCOME JIM ROGERS NEW MEMBER OF THE SERRA CLUB

I have been married for 33 years to my wife Elaine and have raised three fabulous children who are now grown up. Melanie, 31, is a middle school social worker in the Minooka School District. Carrie, 27, is a special education teacher in Carol Stream and Tim, 24, is a carpenter working hard building houses. We are very proud of our family that includes our first grand child, Gabriele, 7 months and her father Eric, married to Melanie, also a carpenter.

My wife and I were raised in Cleveland, Ohio where I graduated from John Carroll University and was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Army and served a tour in Vietnam. Ryder Transportation Services has been my employer for the past thirty three years where I have been primarily involved in sales and management.

We have moved several times around the U.S. with three years in London, England. It has been a very nice career which I plan on continuing for the foreseeable future.

When we lived in Indiana I experienced a Christ Renews His Parish Weekend (CRHP) and again ten years later in Naperville at my current parish, St. Raphael. This event has made a strong spiritual impact on my life leading me to becoming very active in the Knights of Columbus, to my parish vocations committee and now Serra!! What next? I now look forward to my association with Serra !!

SERRA REGIONS 6 & 7 CONFERENCE AT NOTRE DAME OCTOBER 27-29.

Please contact Ron Beaumont at rrboards@aol.com or phone 630 858 4646 for a copy of the agenda and program. The conference will be held at Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame, Indiana. Plan now to attend and support the 8 state regions. **There are 105 Serran's registered. Are you one of them?**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO A SEMINARIAN STUDYING FOR THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET

Theodore Jacus is in his third year of theology at Sacred Heart Seminary at Hales Corners, WI. Ted's birthday is on the 11th.

Matthew Nathan - Second year Theology at Mundelein Seminary

I finished my first year of theology at Mundelein Seminary. This summer I went to Mexico for 6 weeks to learn Spanish and will finish the rest of the summer at St. Mary's parish in West Chicago, also learning Spanish. **Matthew's birthday is on the 9th and his pen pal is Hangsterfer**

Matthew Pratscher - Third year Theology at Mundelein

My twin sister Genevieve and I were born on August 4, 1982 to Dan and Christine Pratscher. We also have two younger brothers: Josh, who is 23 years old, and Jake, who is 15. We have been living in Romeoville since 1990, and so our parish is St. Andrew's, which is where I went to grade school. I attended high school at Joliet Catholic Academy, and it was in my sophomore year that I began to discern a calling to the priesthood.

Being active in the youth ministry with leading a weekly bible study, helping with retreats, going on mission trips and attending Mass helped me to open my heart to the priesthood.

I attended St. John Vianney College Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota from 2000 to 2004 and then entered Mundelein Seminary. I am about to begin my third year in theology there.

This summer has been a blessing for me. After completing a 3 month internship at St. Dominic's Catholic Church in Bolingbrook in May, I continued to reside there and serve the parish for another 3 months. It has been a great experience, and so I look forward to continuing with formation for the priesthood with all seriousness and joy this fall. **Matthew's birthday is on the 4th and his pen pal is Alex Pawlowicz**

J. Juan Torres - Second year theology at Sacred Heart Seminary, Hales Corners, WI

My name is J. Juan Torres, I am the third of four children, and I was born in San Luis Potosi, Mexico on August 3rd 1977. In Mexico I did ministry work with a youth group, Bible classes, CCD, and was a Minister of the Eucharistic.

I came to the United States because my spiritual director invited me to be a priest for this country, ten years ago. I learned English and I completed undergraduate studies at Seton Hall University in New

Jersey. In 2002 I then joined the Joliet Diocese. I took some classes in Organizational Leadership. This summer I am working at St. Theresa's Parish in Kankakee instructing Spanish parishioners. I will be returning to Sacred Heart School Seminary for my second year Theology studies.

Juan's birthday is on the 3rd and his pen pal is Len Felder.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO A RELIGIOUS STUDYING FOR THE PRIESTHOOD

Joseph Prieboy, OSA Washington Theological Union (D.C.)

On August 7th, 2005, I professed my first vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience with the Order of St. Augustine. Two other men professed with me; all of us are members of the Midwest Province of the Order, which is based in Olympia Fields, Illinois. Soon after that, I moved to Washington DC to the national Augustinian house of formation for the purpose of beginning my graduate-level studies in theology at Washington Theological Union. Eight students in various stages of formation live at the national house of formation. The students come from all parts of the United States, as well as from Nigeria and The Dominican Republic. During the school year, I took courses in church history, systematics, liturgy, scripture, pastoral theology and Hebrew, among other things.

This summer I have been taking part in a chaplaincy training program at St. Elizabeths Hospital in Washington DC. St. Elizabeths is entirely a psychiatric hospital, and so I have been learning more about ministering to people with mental illnesses. I do individual visits with the patients, and I also conduct spirituality groups for the patients.

In August, I will renew my vows to the Order for one year, and once the school year begins, I will spend another year studying theology. I am looking forward to continuing my journey with the Order and, most importantly, with the Lord.

Joseph's birthday is on the 4th and his pen pals are George and Joanne Carr

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS - CLERGY - DIOCESE OF JOLIET

3 Rev. Sundar Raj Kocherla	Notre Dame, Clarendon Hills
7 Rev. John Dombrowski, OFM	St. John the Baptist, Joliet
7 Rev. J. Agustin Ruiz	St. Alexis, Bensenville
9 Rev. James Michaletz, CSV	Maternity BVM, Bourbonnais
11 Rev. William Sullivan, OSA	St. Jude, New Lenox
13 Rev. Thomas Schutter	St. Luke, Carol Stream
14 Most Rev. Roger L. Kaffer	Retired Auxiliary Bishop of Joliet
14 Rev. F. Lee Ryan	St. Edmund, Watseka
15 Rev. Andrew Buczyna	St. John Vianney, Lockport
15 Rev. William E. Donnelly	St. Isaac Jogues, Hinsdale
15 Rev. Michael Pennock	Assumption, Coal City
15 Rev. Jeffery Stoneberg	St. Ann, Channahon
16 Rev. Peter Jankowski	St. Patrick, Joliet
16 Rev. Michael Lane	St. Jude, Joliet
18 Rev. Mathew Edassery	St. Mary Nativity, Joliet
18 Rev. Christopher Floss	Visitation, Elmhurst
19 Rev. Michael Komechak, OSB	St. Procopius Abbey, Lisle
20 Rev. Hugh Fullmer	Our Lady of Mercy, Aurora
20 Rev. John McGeean	St. Joseph, Manhattan
21 Rev. Martin Gabel	St. Charles Borromeo, Bensenville
22 Rev. Ivan Dobnikar, OSB	St. Procopius Abbey, Lisle
22 Rev. Robert Flaherty, O. Carm.	St. Patrick's Residence, Naperville
23 Rev. James Nowak	Sts. Peter & Paul, Naperville
25 Rev. Richard Best	Retired-Mantellate Convent, Plainfield
25 Rev. Slawomir Ignasik	St. John the Baptist, Winfield
26 Rev. Marek Jurzyk	St. Joseph, Addison
27 Rev. John Balluff	Immaculate Conception, Gilman
28 Rev. William Carlin, O.Carm.	Retired-Joliet

31 Rev. Dennis Lewandowski
31 Rev. Mark Menezes

St. Francis Xavier, Plainfield
St. Boniface, Monee

OBJECTIVES OF SERRA INTERNATIONAL

To foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood in the Catholic Church as a particular vocation to service, and to support priests in their sacred ministry.

To encourage and affirm vocations to consecrated religious life in the Catholic Church; and

To assist its members to recognize and respond in their own lives to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

THE SERRA NEWS

The Serra News is distributed monthly by the Serra Club of DuPage County. Contact Ron Beaumont at rrboards@aol.com or phone 630 858 4646 to be removed from the mailing list. The website address is www.vocations.com/dupageserra.