

Serra Club of Indianapolis – 1st Quarter 2016 Newsletter

Club Events in the 1st Quarter 2016

Upcoming Events – (Put on your calendar)

April

- **12 – Essay Contest Winners Luncheon** at Fatima Retreat House, starting at noon.
- **16 – Spring Leadership Conference** at St Mary's Cathedral in Lafayette, IN.
- **17 – World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Archdiocesan Mass for Vocations at Our Lady of the Greenwood**, 6 PM.
- **20 – Board of Trustees Meeting**, CYO Office, 1:30 PM
- **25 – Cookout with seminarians at Bishop Brute College Seminary**, 5:15 PM.
- **27 – Mass for Vocations at Scecina High School**, 9:30 AM

May

- **6 – Mass for Vocations**, St John the Evangelist, 6:30 PM
- **16 – Serra Club Dinner Meeting**, 6 PM at Fatima Retreat House. “The Year of Mercy and Immigration and Refugees” by Heidi Smith.
- **18 – Board of Trustees Meeting**, CYO Office, 1:30 PM

June

- **TBD – Mass for Vocations**
- **14-17 – Bishop Brute Days**, summer camp for 13-17 year old boys.
- **15 – Board of Trustees Meeting**, CYO Office, 1:30 PM
- **25 – Ordination of new Archdiocesan priests**, St Peter and Paul Cathedral
- **29 – Membership Drive**, Venue TBD
- **30 (through July 3) – Serra International Convention**, St Louis, MO

Mass for Vocations – January 8

15 Serrans and guests attended a school Mass at St Mark's celebrated by Fr Todd Riebe and assisted by permanent Deacon Tom Horn and transitional Deacon Nicolas Ajpacaja, who will be ordained on June 25, 2016. Fr Todd welcomed the Serra Club, and Art Berkemeier talked about vocations and the Serra Club. A large group of St Mark parishioners joined Serrans for coffee and donuts following Mass. St Mark parish administrative assistant, Chris Guedel, described current efforts by the St Mark Vocation Committee and joint activities with St Barnabas and St Roch to maintain a culture of vocations in the parishes.

Dinner Meeting – January 18

28 Serrans and guests heard a presentation on the “The Year of Mercy and The Eucharist” by Serran Richard Grebenc which was followed by relevant and profound discussion by attendees regarding the meaning of and examples of real mercy. Bill Snyder distributed updated handbook documents: 31 Club, Seminarian Birthdays, and Seminarian Assignments. Electronic copies were sent the next day to all Serrans.

Board of Trustees Meeting – January 20

Trustee Mike Kirk has assumed the role of coordinating the scheduling of Masses for vocations with the trustees, who will continue to provide coffee and donuts for the socials following Mass. It was reaffirmed that speakers at club dinner meetings should not be expected to pay for their dinners. Dave Fink has paid Serra International dues.

Serra Club of Indianapolis – 1st Quarter 2016 Newsletter

Mass for Vocations – February 3

Approximately 25 Serrans attended an all school Mass for vocations at St Anthony's on the west side of Indianapolis. Fr John McCaslin was the celebrant, and Mike Kirk discussed vocations and the Serra Club with the students.

Board of Trustees Meeting – February 17

The 2016 budget was approved knowing that there are adequate excess operating funds to offset the deficit. A motion was approved to donate \$1500 from the club endowment to the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations. At a request from Fr Chris Wadleton, a motion was approved to donate \$500 to support a pilgrimage to Saint Meinrad for 8th grade students from St Philip and Holy Cross schools.

Dinner Meeting – February 22

Following a New Member Orientation session taught by Tom Spencer and a very nice fried chicken dinner served by the cooks and staff at Fatima Retreat House, Fr Eric Augenstein, Director of the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations, and Andy Miller, Associate Director, presented the status of vocations in the Archdiocese to 39 attendees. Fr Eric talked about the status of goals from 2015 and the new goals for 2016, some of which include involvement and support from the Serra Club. Andy discussed the forthcoming implementation of Parish Vocation Advocate program, which will hopefully identify one advocate in each parish in the Archdiocese.

Mass for Vocations – March 3, 2016

About 14 Serrans attended an all school Mass for vocations at St Luke celebrated by Fr Jegan Peter. After Mass, Kevin O'Brien talked to the students and attendees about his family's association with St Luke, the history of St Junipero Serra, and the mission of the Serra Club; Kevin asked that everyone pray for vocations. Afterward, Fr Peter and a teacher, Franciscan Sr Cristobella(?), who are from different states in India, presented their vocation stories to Serrans at a coffee and donut social gathering.

Dinner Meeting – March 14

Fr Pat Beidelman, Archdiocesan executive director for Spiritual Life and Worship, presented the meaning and impact of Pope Francis' proclamation of the Jubilee Year of Mercy and what opportunities exist in our Archdiocese as a result.

Board of Trustees Meeting – March 16

Larry and Nancy O'Bryan were approved as new members of the club. Carl McClelland announced the winners of the Essay Contest:

- 7th Grade - Anna Isler - St. Anthony of Padua - Clarksville, IN
- 8th Grade - Molly Gregg - St. Nicholas - Sunman, IN
- 9th Grade - Ashley Freiburger - Bishop Chatard - Indianapolis, IN
- 10th Grade - T J Mann - Bishop Chatard - Indianapolis, IN
- 11th Grade - Bayley Wade - Our Lady of Providence - New Albany, IN
- 12th Grade - Mike Rushka - Cathedral High School, Indianapolis

The winners will read their essays and receive their awards at a noon luncheon on April 12, 2016 at Fatima Retreat House.