

Serra Club of Indianapolis – 4th Quarter 2016 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

January

- 6 **Mass for Vocations**, 7:30 AM at Our Lady of the Greenwood
- 16 **Club Dinner Meeting**, 6 PM at Fatima Retreat House – Fr Matt Tucci will discuss his vocation story.
- 18 **Board of Trustees Meeting**, 12:30 PM at the Catholic Center

February

- 3 **Mass for Vocations**, 8 AM at St Monica
- 15 **Board of Trustees Meeting**, 12:30 PM at Catholic Center
- 20 **Club Dinner Meeting**, 6 PM at Fatima Retreat House – Speaker TBD

March

- 3 **Mass for Vocations**, 8 AM at St Lawrence

TBD Read and Judge Essays, at Catholic Center

- 15 **Board of Trustees Meeting**, 12:30 PM at the Catholic Center
- 20 **Club Dinner Meeting**, 6 PM at Fatima Retreat House – Fr Eric Augenstein will give an update on priestly vocations in the Archdiocese.



**Tom and Gayle Spencer In Rome
with Joseph Cardinal Tobin**

Club Events in the 4th Quarter 2016

Mass for Vocations at St Susanna – Oct 6.

8 Serrans attended a school Mass celebrated by Fr Glenn O'Connor, who shared his vocation story. After Mass, Mike Kirk explained the role of the Serra Club and encouraged the children to consider life as religious and talk with their parents and Fr O'Connor and not to be afraid. A nice social event was then held with several parishioners after Mass.

Club Dinner Meeting at Fatima – Oct 17

22 Serrans attended the October dinner meeting to hear Dr Mark Reasoner compare the role of priests in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Board of Trustees Meeting – Oct 19

Andy Miller from the Archdiocesan Office of Vocations updated the board on the activities sponsored by the office for National Vocations Awareness Week. Mike Kirk will obtain and provide books and book hooks to give as “thank you” gifts to presenters at club dinner meetings. The club donated \$1000 to Our Lady of Grace Monastery to support their Mary and Martha Celebration. 2017 objectives for club Finance and Operations were reviewed.

Mass for Vocations at Cardinal Ritter High School – Nov 11

16 Serrans and guests attended a Mass for Vocations and for Veterans at Cardinal Ritter High School. Recently ordained, Fr Matt Tucci was the celebrant. A nice social gathering was held following the Mass.

Board of Trustees Meeting – Nov 16

Overviews of 2017 club objectives were presented for programs, vocation outreach, membership, and communications. The club website is being transitioned to an *e-Catholic* framework, but can

Serra Club of Indianapolis – 4th Quarter 2016 Newsletter

still be found at serraindy.org. Suzy McLaughlin and John Ryan will recruit a facilitator for development of a 5 year plan for the club. Mike Kirk organized staffing for the Serra Club booth at the Indiana Catholic Men's Conference.

Vocation Pilgrimages for 8th Graders – Nov 17

28 8th grade boys from 10 parishes made a vocation pilgrimage to Bishop Brute College Seminary and 40 8th grade girls from 7 parishes to Our Lady of Grace Monastery. Serra club chaperones were Carl McClelland, Tim Kelker, Maurice Nickels, Bill Sherman, Debbie Timko and Deacon Mike Slinger.

Club Dinner Meeting at Fatima – Nov 28

Several new members attended a Member Orientation presentation by Tom Spencer. A nice dinner was enjoyed by 35 Serrans and guests. Club chaplain, Fr James Bonke explained the effects of losing our Archbishop and the process for assignment and the role of an administrator until a new Archbishop is installed. Fr Eric Augenstein, Andy Miller, and Tom Spencer shared their experiences when they attended the installation of Joseph Cardinal Tobin at the consistory in Rome. Then Fr Eric and Andy reported on the status of implementation and the role of Parish Vocation Advocates. With a goal of having 1 advocate in each parish, there are now 17 assigned, some of which are Serrans.

Mass for Vocations at Holy Spirit – Dec 2

15 Serrans and guests attended a Mass for Vocations with 8th graders from the school. The celebrant was Msgr Paul Koetter who had only recently shared his vocation story with the students. Mike Hirsch explained the role of the Serra Club and advised that students should not reject any call from God, and suggested that they should discuss vocations with their parents and teachers. After Mass, a nice social event was held with parish members and staff and Serrans.

Seminarian Dinner – Dec 19

152 RSVP's were received for this year's seminarian dinner at Fatima Retreat House. 46 Serrans and 85 guests actually attended. It was another great dinner and evening with seminarians, their families, priests, fellow Serrans, and Cardinal Joseph Tobin. Marilyn Ellis handled invitations and RSVP's. Kevin O'Brien was a great organizer and MC. President-Elect Suzy McLaughlin explained the role of the Serra club and invited interested parents of seminarians to consider membership. Fr Eric Augenstein introduced each seminarian, who, in turn, introduced his parents and other companions with him at the dinner. Cardinal Tobin addressed the group with pertinent stories and thanked the Serra Club for our vocation efforts. The event concluded with Evening Prayers in the chapel.



Cardinal Joseph Tobin addressing attendees at the 2016 Serra Club Seminarian Dinner.