

# Serra Club of Indianapolis – 1st Quarter 2018 Newsletter

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## Upcoming Events – (Put on your calendar)

### Apr

- 9 **Prayer services for vocations** – 6 PM at St Luke and 7 PM at St Barnabas
- 17 **Essay Contest Winners Luncheon**, 12 noon, at Fatima Retreat House
- 21 **Spring Leadership Conference** – 8 AM – 1:30 PM, St Mary Cathedral, Lafayette IN
- 23 **Cookout with Seminarians** at Bishop Brute College Seminary

### May

- 4 **Mass for Vocations** at St John the Evangelist, 6:30 PM
- 14 **Prayer services for vocations** – 6 PM at St Luke and 7 PM at St Barnabas
- 21 **Club Dinner Meeting** at Fatima Retreat House, 5:40 PM Rosary. 6 PM Dinner.

### June

- 2 **Ordination of Deacon Jeffrey DuFresne and Mass for Vocations** – 10 AM, SS Peter and Paul Cathedral
- 11 **Prayer services for vocations** – 6 PM at St Luke and 7 PM at St Barnabas
- 26-28 **Bishop Brute Days Summer Camp**
- 28 **Membership Drive** at St Augustine Home

## Club Events in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2018

### **Mass for Vocations – January 11**

12 Serrans and guests attended a Mass for vocations at SS Francis and Clare of Assisi in Greenwood. Fr Steve Gianinni celebrated the all school Mass and attended a social gathering following Mass. Zoe Cannon delivered an excellent explanation of the history and purpose of the Serra Club and the need for vocations. Nancy O'Bryan provided delicious homemade coffee cakes for the social.

### **Mass for Vocations – January 29**

10 serrans attended an all school Mass for vocations and celebration of Catholic Schools Week at Cardinal Ritter High School. The celebrant, Fr Eric Augenstein used the gospel story about Jesus removing an unclean spirit from a man who then wanted to stay with Jesus. But Jesus told him: "Go home to your family and announce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you.' Then the man went off and began to proclaim in the Decapolis what Jesus had done for him; and all were amazed." Jesus calls all of us to live according to his message and some of us to proclaim that message to the people.

Also present at the Mass were Archbishop Charles Thompson and Superintendent of Catholic School, Gina Fleming who presented the Saint Theodora Guérin Excellence in Education Award to Mrs Lynne Locke a teacher at Ritter.

### **Club Dinner Meeting – January 29**

About 40 Serrans and guests gathered in the chapel at Fatima Retreat House to say a rosary for vocations. Nearly 50 Serrans then attended a dinner and heard club Chaplain Fr James Bonke report on his trip to the Serra USA Rally in Phoenix AZ, January 11-14. Based on his conversations with other Serra Club chaplains, he believes our club is doing very well.

Ann Berkemeier and Rick Santangelo presented a plaque to Joe and Cindy Rene owners of Long's Bakery for their support to Bishop Brute Days. Art Berkemeier played an audio recording of recently deceased Archbishop Daniel Buechlein, OSB, in his address at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bishop Brute College Seminary. Former Archabbott at Saint Meinrad Monastery and current Vice Rector at Bishop Brute College Seminary, Fr Justin DuVall, OSB, presented what it means to be a Benedictine monk, the different types, the vows, etc.

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## Board of Trustees Meeting – February 21

Ceil Woodard and Brice Scobell were voted in as new club members.

## Lenten Night of Prayer and Reflection – Feb 26

About 40 Serrans gathered at Fatima Retreat Houses for an extended evening of special prayer and reflection. We began with a rosary and followed with a Mass celebrated by club chaplain Fr James Bonke; Charlie Gardner provided music. Then the group broke for a nice dinner. Following dinner, we all moved to the large gathering room for a wonderful Lenten reflection by Fr Todd Riebe, Pastor of Christ the King parish. Fr Todd presented three potential ways how Lent came to be. He also asked us to consider re-balancing our lives, i.e. think about how much time we give to God, to whom we owe everything. Lastly, we moved back into the chapel for a Eucharistic adoration service led by Deacon Mike Slinger.

## Mass for Vocations – March 3

21 Serrans and guests attended an all school Mass for vocations celebrated by Pastor Fr Bob Sims at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Following Mass, Anne Wessel explained the Serra Club and, with the help of a volunteer student, used a change of hats to demonstrate different kinds of jobs and advised that we should all ask God what He wants us to do. Anne explained that a religious vocation is when we lead people to Jesus as part of our job. After Mass, a nice coffee and donuts social was held with Serrans, school staff, Fr Bob, and parishioners.

## Club Dinner Meeting – March 19

New member orientation was provided by Bill Snyder and Mike Kirk to several new club members.

Fr Eric Augenstein, Director of Vocations presented on the state of Archdiocesan vocations. He talked about good things that are happening with youth, e.g. Focus missionaries, Eucharistic adoration, high

school conferences, and small group meetings. Fr Eric touted the presence of Bishop Brute College Seminary as a real benefit to our Archdiocese. He explained the 4 priorities of his office and the recent success of the Called by Name program (390 names were submitted and 70 nominees attended dinners with the Archbishop). There are currently 21 seminarians; one will be ordained in June. Around 10 are currently in the application process for this Fall. With only one, Deacon Jeffrey DuFresne, scheduled for ordination in June, Fr Eric advised that Serrans attend in force and invite parishioners to attend. As he and Archbishop Thompson establish priorities for vocations, Fr Eric expects he will call on the Serra Club for help.

## Board of Trustees Meeting – March 21

Steve and Therese Hartley were voted in as new members. Treasurer Dave Fink is now on the USA Council audit team.

## Tom Spencer and Bob Chiplis

In the last 2 months of this quarter, 2 of our Serrans were called home to be with their Lord. **Tom Spencer** died on February 23, 2018; Tom joined Serra in 1991 and was a past club president and VP of Membership. **Bob Chiplis** died on March 9, 2018; Bob joined the club in 1995 and was a past Trustee. Lord of all: thank you for blessing our club and our lives with these wonderful men. May they rest in peace.



Tom Spencer



Bob Chiplis

**Pray daily for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.**