

THE METRO



May 2010

SERRA CLUB OF METROPOLITAN DALLAS

NEWSLETTER

Welcome New Members

Jim Collins - Saint Monica
Mary Beth May - Saint Rita
Tripp Yarbrough - All Saints



The Serra Club of Metropolitan Dallas is now on Facebook. To visit our page, please click [here](#). The photos from our Advent and Lenten reflections have been posted. If you have or would like to learn Facebook skills and help maintain our presence on this social network, please notify John Hughes at jfhughes@hotmail.com. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

Our Prayers Are Requested

Bill and Sue Cicherski have requested that we offer our prayers for their 15 year old grandson, Jacob Cicherski, who has been diagnosed with a brain tumor. It was discovered after he was examined for sustaining a blow to the head while playing soccer. That injury was not serious, but miraculously led to the discovery of the ping pong ball size brain tumor. Jacob is a freshman at Southlake High School. Jacob will undergo surgery as soon as Friday, May 7.

President's Message *by Pete Philp*

Dear Serrans,

The Altar Server's Award Mass and Banquet, April 21, was certainly memorable for the altar servers, and their pastors, parents and coordinators. Bishop Grahmann was the principal celebrant at the Mass, and helped present the awards. Father Tom Cloherty concelebrated at the Mass and gave a very inspiring homily. Deacon Denis Simon assisted at the Mass, and was the keynote speaker at the banquet. Our guests were highly appreciative and complimentary of Metro's handling of the event. Many thanks to Jack Prusha, and his committee consisting of Bill Burke, Jerry Geary, Mike Lynch, and Roger Scott for their attention to detail and for staging this very labor intensive event for our club.

Special thanks to Father Tom for his active participation not only in this event, but in so many other club activities, and for all of the support and inspiration that he provides to our club. We are truly blessed to have Father Tom as our Chaplain and Spiritual Advisor.

If you haven't mailed in a check for the Bishop's Seminary Burse, please do so this week, or bring a check with you to the breakfast meeting, May 7. The deadline for reservations for the Installation of Officers and New Member Induction Banquet is May 6. Please plan to attend and lend support to our new members and officers.

This is the last of my President's Messages for the newsletter as my term nears completion. I want you to know what an honor it has been for me to serve as the 41st President of the Serra Club of Metropolitan Dallas. It has been truly rewarding for me to work closely with so many dedicated and inspiring members of our club over the past year. I especially want to thank all of the members of the 2009-2010 Board of Trustees and the Group Leaders for their invaluable service to our club. Their professionalism, dedication to Serra and to the smooth operation of the Board is remarkable. I am pleased that many of them will continue to serve our club on the incoming Board.

Siempre Adelante!

Pete

CALENDAR

Sun, May 2	Mass with the Seminarians - Holy Trinity Seminary	9:15 a.m.
Fri, May 7	First Friday Mass and Breakfast - St. Monica; Thomas W. Poore, M.Ed., President, John Paul II High School; JP II High School Vocation Awareness Day: Issues and Ideas	6:45 a.m.
Wed, May 19	Annual Installation of Officers and New Member Induction - University of Dallas: Mass at the Church of the Incarnation and Reception/Dinner in the Haggar University Center	6:30 p.m.
Fri, June 4	First Friday Mass and Breakfast - St. Monica; Charlene Alexander, Consecrated Women	6:45 a.m.
Fri, June 4	Bishop's Mass In Celebration of the <i>Year For Priests</i> ; Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe (see invitation on page 4)	5:00 p.m.
Fri. June 18	Monthly Luncheon - Park City Club; Father Paul Weinberger, Pastor, Saint William; Parish Issues	11:45 a.m.
Fri. July 2	No Breakfast - Independence Day Weekend	
Fri. July 16	Monthly Luncheon - Park City Club; Speaker to be determined	11:45 a.m.
September 2-5	Serra International Convention; Anchorage, Alaska	

Bishops Launch National Website to Promote Vocations to Priesthood and Consecrated Life

The U.S. Bishops' Secretariat of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations launched a new website on April 25 to be a resource for both laity and clergy in the promotion of vocations. The launch date coincided with the World Day of Prayer for Vocations and Good Shepherd Sunday.

The site has two goals: To help individuals hear and respond to the call by God to the priesthood or consecrated life, and to educate all Catholics on the importance of encouraging others through prayer and activities to promote vocations.

The website can be found at www.ForYourVocation.org.

'ForYourVocation.org' offers resources for people in discernment and includes info for parents, teachers, catechists, vocation directors. These efforts respond to Pope Benedict XVI's call to use social media to help promote vocations.

Chaplain's Message *by Fr. Tom Cloherty*

My dear Serrans:

The Ordination of our two new Bishops has certainly breathed a new life into the Church of Dallas. We should be very grateful to them both for their willingness to leave their home states in order to serve as priests of the Diocese of Dallas and now as Auxiliary Bishops of the Diocese of Dallas. I hope you had an opportunity to listen to the taped interviews about them both. The production of: "Two Bishops, One Journey" at www.TexasCatholicTV.com as well as the special edition of **The Texas Catholic** beautifully relates the stories of their call and their response. Pray for them both. Share their vocation stories so that others can learn from them and follow accordingly.

Have a blessed month!

Father Tom

Reminder: Bishop's Seminary Burse

If you have not made your gift, please either bring a check, made payable to The Serra Club of Metropolitan Dallas, to our First Friday Mass & Breakfast on May 7th or mail it to our treasurer, **John Poston, 6629 Sawmill Road, Dallas, TX 75252** prior to May 14th. Please add "Bishop's Seminary Burse" to the memo line. Remember your gift is fully tax-deductible. Our check will be presented to Bishop Deshotel at the Induction Banquet on May 19th at the University of Dallas.

COME AND SEE
By Father John Harndon, S.J.

CHAPTER 1 - WHAT IS A CATHOLIC PRIEST?

What is a Catholic priest? He is a man ordained by Christ to continue the Savior's work of redemption until the end of time. He is therefore a person specially chosen to proclaim the Gospel of salvation and lead the faithful to their final destiny. But he is mainly a person who receives unique powers at ordination to consecrate and sacrifice, and to reconcile a sinful people with their God.

As one who proclaims the Good News, a priest is given the grace not only to teach the truths of revelation but to inspire his hearers to follow what he teaches. As a leader of believers, he is to be the primary former and sustainer of a Christian community.

What makes a Catholic priest most distinctive, however, and by divine will sets him apart from other men is the power that Christ gives him over the Holy Eucharist and over the sins of mankind.

No one but a priest can change bread and wine into the living Christ. At his words of consecration, what had been bread and wine cease to be bread and wine, so that only the appearances remain. What becomes present is Jesus, the Son of God who became the Son of Mary, now on earth in all the fullness of His divinity and humanity, and with all the qualities that make Jesus Christ who He is.

No one but a priest can offer the Sacrifice of the Mass, in which the same Jesus who surrendered Himself on Calvary now offers Himself in the Mass, through the hands of His priest.

No one but a priest can absolve sinners and restore them to friendship with the Creator whom they have offended.

No wonder the Church is so concerned that priests remain faithful to their high calling. In God's ordinary providence, their perseverance is a condition for the perseverance of the faithful. "Like priest like people" is not a clever phrase, but the verdict of almost 2000 years of the Church's history.

But perseverance in the priesthood is impossible without the grace of God, made available through prayer. Only priests who pray can persevere. The people must also pray, in our day as never before, for the priests of the world. On their fidelity to Christ depends the salvation of more souls than we shall ever know, until eternity.

Fr. John Harndon, S.J. wrote extensively on vocations including [Come and See - Theological Reflections on the Promotion of Vocations](#), a short treatise that gets to the heart of vocations. Divided into 12 short chapters, a chapter will be included in this and future issues of *The Metro*. For your own copy, order through the [publisher](#). To read on our website, click on the title above.

Visit: <http://www.metroterra.com>

Roster Updates

If you have any changes for the roster or would like an updated copy, send your request to Pat O'Brien at pvobrien@att.net. You may also call him at 214.750.1879. The updated roster is available at the [Members Only](#) page of the website. Email John Hughes for the password: jfhughes@hotmail.com.

Saint of the Month

May 27th - St. Augustine of Canterbury (d. 605?)

In the year 596, some 40 monks set out from Rome to evangelize the Anglo-Saxons in England. Leading the group was Augustine, the prior of their monastery in Rome. Hardly had he and his men reached Gaul (France) when they heard stories of the ferocity of the Anglo-Saxons and of the treacherous waters of the English Channel. Augustine returned to Rome and to the pope who had sent them—St. Gregory the Great (September 3)—only to be assured by him that their fears were groundless.

Augustine again set out and this time the group crossed the English Channel and landed in the territory of Kent, ruled by King Ethelbert, a pagan married to a Christian. Ethelbert received them kindly, set up a residence for them in Canterbury and within the year, on Pentecost Sunday, 597, was himself baptized. After being consecrated a bishop in France, Augustine returned to Canterbury, where he founded his see. He constructed a church and monastery near where the present cathedral, begun in 1070, now stands. As the faith spread, additional sees were established at London and Rochester.

Work was sometimes slow and Augustine did not always meet with success. Attempts to reconcile the Anglo-Saxon Christians with the original Briton Christians (who had been driven into western England by Anglo-Saxon invaders) ended in dismal failure. Augustine failed to convince the Britons to give up certain Celtic customs at variance with Rome and to forget their bitterness, helping him evangelize their Anglo-Saxon conquerors

Laboring patiently, Augustine wisely heeded the missionary principles—quite enlightened for the times—suggested by Pope Gregory the Great: purify rather than destroy pagan temples and customs; let pagan rites and festivals be transformed into Christian feasts; retain local customs as far as possible. The limited success Augustine achieved in England before his death in 605, a short eight years after he arrived in England, would eventually bear fruit long after in the conversion of England. Truly Augustine of Canterbury can be called the “Apostle of England.”

Augustine of Canterbury comes across today as a very human saint, one who could suffer like many of us from a failure of nerve. For example, his first venture to England ended in a big U-turn back to Rome. He made mistakes and met failure in his peacemaking attempts with the Briton Christians. He often wrote to Rome for decisions on matters he could have decided on his own had he been more self-assured. He even received mild warnings against pride from Pope Gregory, who cautioned him to “fear lest, amidst the wonders that are done, the weak mind be puffed up by self-esteem.” Augustine’s perseverance amidst obstacles and only partial success teaches today’s apostles and pioneers to struggle on despite frustrations and be satisfied with gradual advances.

Source: www.americancatholic.org. To receive “Saint of the Day” as an email from St. Anthony Messenger Press click [here](#).



His Excellency

The Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, D.D.

Invites you to a Mass

In celebration of the
Year for Priests

Friday, June 4, 2010

5:00 P.M.

Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe
Dallas, TX

Cathedral parking is available in the
underground parking lot.

CATHOLICS ANNOUNCE ENCOURAGEPRIESTS.ORG

A lay Catholic organization has announced the formation of a new movement to support Catholic priests called encouragepriests.org.

The announcement came on Holy Thursday, the day we celebrate the anniversary of Christ instituting the priesthood and the Eucharist.

EncouragePriests.org was established in Lent 2010 by the non-profit Catholic media apostolate, Catholics Come Home, Inc. (www.CatholicsComeHome.org).

On Father’s Day, June 20, 2010, EncouragePriests.org will launch an interactive website www.EncouragePriests.org that will assist Catholics in offering “spiritual bouquets” (gifts of prayer), e-cards, printable greeting cards, video messages and blogs with kind words of gratitude to show appreciation for countless priests around the world.

EncouragePriests.org™

