

THE METRO



July/August 2010

SERRA CLUB OF METROPOLITAN DALLAS NEWSLETTER

UD President to Address Metro Serra

[Thomas W. Keefe](#), J.D. who began his term as the eighth president of the [University of Dallas](#) on March 1, 2010 has agreed to be our November 19th luncheon speaker.

With a Juris Doctor from the University of Kansas College of Law and Bachelor of Arts from Benedictine College, Keefe has spent more than 20 years in higher education, most recently serving as the vice president of advancement at Saint Louis University.



New at www.metroterra.com

Two new features have recently been added to the Metro Serra website;

- To keep you up to date with the latest in Catholic news, a feed from the [Catholic News Service](#) (CNS) has been added. On our [homepage](#), you are now able to scroll the latest CNS headlines and link to stories of interest.
- To keep you up to date with Club activities new calendar software has been added to the [Calendar](#) page.

As always, your feedback and suggestions for improving the website are welcomed. Please contact [John Hughes](#) with your thoughts and ideas.

President's Message *by Peter D'Apice*

Dear Serrans,

I hear the VAP weekend was a tremendous success and look forward to a report at the next meeting.

We have open dates in the 31 Club...please volunteer. Prayers for vocations are powerful.

A great time to offer a Mass for vocations is the Feast Day of Blessed Junipero Serra, July 1st.

Also, All Saints holds a First Friday overnight Adoration from 8:00 p.m. Friday to 9:00 a.m. Saturday.

The Carmelite Nuns on 600 Flowers Street hold an all night First Friday vigil with three Masses, Eucharistic Adoration, Confession and Rosaries on July 2nd and 3rd and August 6th and 7th from 4:00 p.m. Friday to 7:00 a.m. Mass Saturday morning. Stay as long or as little as you want, but the Carmelite Nuns offer us a great opportunity to storm heaven with our prayers and try to earn a plenary indulgence at the same time. What a deal!

Siempre Adelante!

Peter

Father Tom Assuming New Assignment

Our chaplain, Father Tom Cloherty has been named pastor of Prince of Peace Parish, Plano, effective July 23rd. Good luck, Father Tom.

Bishop Mark Seitz will assume duties as the new pastor of All Saints.

CALENDAR

Thursday, Jul 1	<i>Feast Day of BLESSED JUNIPERO SERRA</i>	
Friday, July 2	No Metro Serra First Friday Mass & Breakfast - Independence Day Weekend	
Friday, July 16	Monthly Luncheon - Park City Club; Fr. Paul Weinberger, Pastor, St. William Parish, Greenville	11:45 a.m.
Friday, August 6	First Friday Mass & Breakfast - Saint Monica; Rich Haas; Safe Environment	6:45 a.m.
Friday, August 20	Monthly Luncheon - Park City Club; Dr. Marti Jewell, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Theology, School of Ministry, University of Dallas; "The Next Generation of Pastoral Leaders"	11:45 a.m.
September 2-5	Serra International Convention - Anchorage, Alaska	
Friday, September 17	Monthly Luncheon - Park City Club; Fr. Marco Rangel, St. Mark's Parish, Plano	11:45 a.m.
Friday, October 1	First Friday Mass & Breakfast - Saint Monica; Speaker to be determined	6:45 a.m.
Tuesday, October 5	2010 Seminarian Welcome Dinner - Fairmont Hotel	6:00 p/m.
Friday, October 15	Monthly Luncheon - Park City Club; Speaker to be determined	11:45 a.m.

Ignatian Spirituality

With the Feast Day of St. Ignatius Loyola falling on July 31st, it is appropriate to take a moment to reflect on the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. The Spiritual Exercises are the basis for the retreats held at the [Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House](#).

The Spiritual Exercises are a compilation of meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices developed by St. Ignatius to help people deepen their relationship with God. The Exercises grew out of Ignatius' personal experience as a man seeking to grow in union with God and to discern God's will. He kept a journal as he gained spiritual insight and deepened his spiritual experience. He added to these notes as he directed other people and discovered what "worked." Eventually Ignatius gathered these prayers, meditations, reflections, and directions into a carefully designed framework of a retreat, which he called "spiritual exercises."

Ignatius wrote that the Exercises: "have as their purpose the conquest of self and the regulation of one's life in such a way that no decision is made under the influence of any inordinate attachment." He wanted individuals to undertake these exercises with the assistance of an experienced spiritual director who would help them shape the retreat and understand what they were experiencing. The book of *Spiritual Exercises* is a handbook to be used by the director, not by the person making the retreat.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the Spiritual Exercises.

Chaplain's Message by Fr. Tom Cloherty

My dear Serrans:

As I pack up my belongings in preparation for my move to Prince of Peace July 23, I have run across quite a bit of keepsakes over the years. A couple of those keepsakes were the medals for Serra **Server of the Year** from 1960 and 1962 when I was a server at Christ the King and then St. Rita. The fact that I held on to them all these years shows that they had some meaning to me.

The role that Serra has played in my life has been a vast and impactful one. From my first encounter with Serra because of those two medals; then when my dad, Joe Cloherty, joined Serra in 1964 and then when I became chaplain of Serra for the first time in 1979 to my continued involvement currently. Serra has proved such a blessing in my life and I know in the lives of so many others.

Thank you for who you are and all you do. It does make a difference; at least it did in this one life.

Blessings!

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

CHAPTER 3 - VOCATIONS AND THE COMMITMENT CRISIS

With the dwindling number of entrants into seminaries and novitiates, we naturally ask, "What happened?" And we are inclined to put the blame where it does not belong, on a lack of vocations. It is high time we took a hard look at the facts and draw some obvious, even though painful, conclusions.

In theological language a vocation comes from Christ. He calls some people to follow Him in the priesthood or consecrated life by giving them the graces they need to recognize this call, respond to it, and remain faithful for a lifetime to the special call they have received.

A vocation, therefore, is the grace of invitation. But, like the rich young man in the Gospel, those who receive the grace may refuse even to accept the invitation; or, like Peter, may struggle for a long time before they fully surrender to Christ; or like Judas, they may be seduced by what the world offers them and betray the Master whom they had known and for a time had followed.

When the grace of vocation is freely accepted and generously lived out, this is commitment. Vocations come from God's free choice of certain individuals; commitment comes from our free choice to cooperate with the graces received. Without a vocation, there would be lacking the necessary grace; without a commitment the grace would remain sterile and bear no fruit in the spiritual or apostolic life.

We return to where we began and repeat the question, "What happened?" Why the drastic fall in the number of stable priests and religious in affluent countries like the United States? We dare not say that God has been wanting in His gift of vocations. We must say that men and women have been wanting in their commitment.

What we are facing today is a massive failure in every state of life to make a lifetime commitment. And though the phenomenon is familiar from the dawn of Christianity, it has reached an all-time low in the present century. Where? Wherever Christ and His teaching are dismissed as antiquated mythology.

Chesterton once wrote an essay on "A Defense of Rash Vows" that beautifully describes the modern situation. He explains how modern rejection of vows has tragically affected the historic commitment set down by Christ for the sacrament of marriage. The quotation from Chesterton is long but worth giving - and remembering:

The revolt against vows has been carried on in our day even to the extent of a revolt against the typical vow of marriage. It is most amusing to listen to the opponents of marriage on this subject. They appear to imagine that the ideal of constancy was a yoke mysteriously imposed on mankind by the devil, instead of being, as it is, a yoke consistently imposed by all lovers on themselves. They have invented a phrase, a phrase that is a black and white contradiction in two words - "free love" - as if a lover ever had been, or ever could be, free. It is the nature of love to bind oneself, and the institution of marriage merely paid the average man the compliment of taking him at his word. Modern sages offer to the lover, with an ill-favored grin, the largest liberties and the fullest irresponsibility; but they do not respect him as the old Church respected him; they do not write his oath upon the heavens, as the record of his highest moment. They give him every liberty except the liberty to sell his liberty, which is the only one that he wants.

Until we rediscover the true meaning of love, which gives itself - sells itself, if you will - to the one it claims to love, we shall continue trying to promote vocations. But the real need is to promote *commitment*. Priests and religious, no less than married people, must be taught and trained in the true meaning of love.

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.

Saint of the Month

July 1st - Blessed Junipero Serra
(1713-1784)

In 1776, when the American Revolution was beginning in the east, another part of the future United States was being born in California. That year a gray-robed Franciscan founded Mission San Juan Capistrano, now famous for its annually returning swallows. San Juan was the seventh of nine missions established under the direction of this indomitable Spaniard.

Born in Spain's island of Mallorca, Serra entered the Franciscan Order, taking the name of St. Francis' childlike companion, Brother Juniper. Until he was 35, he spent most of his time in the classroom—first as a student of theology and then as a professor. He also became famous for his preaching. Suddenly he gave it all up and followed the yearning that had begun years before when he heard about the missionary work of St. Francis Solanus in South America. Junipero's desire was to convert native peoples in the New World.

Arriving by ship at Vera Cruz, Mexico, he and a companion walked the 250 miles to Mexico City. On the way Junipero's left leg became infected by an insect bite and would remain a cross—sometimes life-threatening—for the rest of his life. For 18 years he worked in central Mexico and in the Baja Peninsula. He became president of the missions there.

Enter politics: the threat of a Russian invasion south from Alaska. Charles III of Spain ordered an expedition to beat Russia to the territory. So the last two *conquistadors*—one military, one spiritual—began their quest. José de Galvez persuaded Junipero to set out with him for present-day Monterey, California. The first mission founded after the 900-mile journey north was San Diego (1769). That year a shortage of food almost canceled the expedition. Vowing to stay with the local people, Junipero and another friar began a novena in preparation for St. Joseph's day, March 19, the scheduled day of departure. On that day, the relief ship arrived.

Other missions followed: Monterey/Carmel (1770); San Antonio and San Gabriel (1771); San Luís Obispo (1772); San Francisco and San Juan Capistrano (1776); Santa Clara (1777); San Buenaventura (1782). Twelve more were founded after Serra's death.

Junipero made the long trip to Mexico City to settle great differences with the military commander. He arrived at the point of death. The outcome was substantially what Junipero sought: the famous "Regulation" protecting the Indians and the missions. It was the basis for the first significant legislation in California, a "Bill of Rights" for Native Americans.

Because the Native Americans were living a nonhuman life from the Spanish point of view, the friars were made their legal guardians. The Native Americans were kept at the mission after Baptism lest they be corrupted in their former haunts—a move that has brought cries of "injustice" from some moderns.

Junipero's missionary life was a long battle with cold and hunger, with unsympathetic military commanders and even with danger of death from non-Christian native peoples. Through it all his unquenchable zeal was fed by prayer each night, often from midnight till dawn. He baptized over 6,000 people and confirmed 5,000. His travels would have circled the globe. He brought the Native Americans not only the gift of faith but also a decent standard of living. He won their love, as witnessed especially by their grief at his death. He is buried at Mission San Carlo Borromeo, Carmel, and was beatified in 1988.

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

Roster Updates

If you have any changes for the roster or would like an updated copy, send your request to [Dorothy Hoel](#). You may also call her at 214.373.7837. The updated roster is available at the [Members Only](#) page of the website. Email [John Hughes](#) for the password.

Visit: www.metroterra.com

The 31 Club

The 31 Club which is an integral part of Serra and required of Metro Serrans, was initiated in the 1970's by Father Clive A. Litton in his parish in New Zealand. Seeing a need for support of current religious vocations as well as an increase of vocations, Father Litton encouraged his parishioners to select a particular day in the month, other than Sunday, to attend Mass and offer it with prayer for those currently serving the Church as priests and religious and for an increase in vocations.

Our 31 Club Calendar currently has two open dates. If you are not already a member of The 31 Club, please select one of the open dates or any other day during the month that would be convenient.

To add your name to the Metro 31 Club Calendar, please email [John Hughes](mailto:John.Hughes@metro.org) or call him at 214.454.7458.

Calendar			
31 Club Day	Metro Serran	31 Club Day	Metro Serran
1st	Ed Murphy	16th	Roger Scott
1st	Mike Grimshaw	17th	Jerry Lastelick
2nd	Fred Fink	17th	Vince Bradley
3rd	Bill Burke	18th	Bob McGuire
3rd	Don Wetzel	19th	Jack Padian
4th	Jere Romine	20th	Talley Daniel
5th	Roland Pedevilla	21st	Frank Rauscher
6th	Peter Philp	22nd	Monk Simons
7th	Jerry Lerner	22nd	Susan Smolenski
7th	Larry Coleman	23rd	OPEN
8th	Bill Cicherski	24th	Anthony Interrante
8th	Lawrence Whaley	24th	Mike Lynch
9th	Jay Wimmer	25th	John Rodriguez
10th	Henry Maher	26th	OPEN
11th	Joe Wesner	27th	Al Brezna
12th	Art Bissonnette	28th	Jerry Geary
12th	John Hughes	29th	Bob Andres
13th	Peter D'Apice	29th	John Poston
14th	Michael Burns	30th	Ray Adams
15th	Jim Crinnion	30th	Mike Holmes
15th	Marianne McGonigle	31st	Brad Camp
15th	Pat O'Brien		



Pope Benedict XVI Confers Papal Honor on Rector of Holy Trinity Seminary

The Most Reverend Kevin W. Vann, Bishop of Fort Worth, and the Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, Bishop of Dallas, jointly announce that His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI has conferred upon Father Michael Olson, Rector of Holy Trinity Seminary, the Papal honor of Chaplain to His Holiness with the title of Reverend Monsignor. There will be the solemn celebration of Vespers at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Fort Worth on Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m., September 5, 2010, for the blessing and formal conferral of this honor with a reception to follow after the ceremony.

2010 VAP Spells Success

43 Attend Vocation Awareness Program

Forty-three young men and women attended the 20th annual Vocation Awareness Program sponsored by the Dallas and Fort Worth Serra Clubs held at Holy Trinity Seminary during the June 25th - 27th weekend. Religious staff members were highly encouraged by the interest and maturity of the attendees.

The thirty-two young men attending were an average age of 24.2 with an educational breakdown of three college graduates, nineteen currently attending college and six high school graduates. (Education data was unavailable on the remaining four). The eleven women attendees were an average age of 24.1 with five college graduates, three current college students and three high school graduates.

Through website advertising, applications were received from as far away as Mexico, Nigeria and Sri Lanka. Those were among the fifteen applications that were declined due to distance, age, marital or family responsibilities.

The staff working with the attendees was led by Fathers Rudy Garcia and Kyle Walterscheid, Vocations Directors of the Dallas and Fort Worth Dioceses, and also included seven diocesan priests, nine religious priests and brothers from the local dioceses as well as Houston, TX; Earth City, MO; Shawnee, OK and Subiaco, AR. Ten women representing seven religious orders attended the weekend with some traveling from Victoria and Panhandle, TX.

Jim Humphrey of the Fort Worth Metro Club served as this year's VAP Director. He was assisted on the weekend by seven Serrans including Dallas Metro's Lawrence Whaley serving as moderator for the two men's panels and Jerry Geary on programs. With the seminary under heavy remodeling eight Serrans including Bob Andres and Rich Haas from Metro moved tables and chairs Thursday afternoon to setup the seminary for the weekend.



Metro Serran Jerry Geary makes a point at the opening of the 2010 VAP Weekend



The Religious Women's Panel during the recent VAP Weekend



Young men listening intently during the Religious Men's Panel at Holy Trinity Seminary



**World Youth Day
Madrid 2011
August 16 - 21**