



SERRAN-DIPITY

President's Message



"The Power of Prayer" is the theme for 2011 - 2012. We have a very dedicated club and our prayers for vocations seem to be answered. We had two Kitchener men ordained in May 2011 and a young man from Waterloo ordained in June, 2011.

The Sisters of Mary Immaculate also had two sisters take their final vows on August 15, 2011. Every seminarian, deacon and sister is mentioned by name and prayed for at our monthly Holy Hour.

Our Program Committee has chosen excellent speakers to speak on the "power of prayer" in their lives. Speakers include local pastors, sisters, seminarians and our diocesan bishop.

Bishop Douglas Crosby will be speaking at the Annual Religious Life Banquet on January 18th, 2012. This event is held in appreciation of the sisters, deacons and all who have chosen to serve God and their fellow man in the religious life.

Recently I attended a funeral in Hanover. Since most parishes are leaning away from young altar

servers at funerals I was very happy to see young altar servers serving at the funeral Mass. Two of them were wearing Altar Servers Award Medals, recently presented to them by our Serra Club.

Last season we presented 123 altar server awards to servers from 37 parishes.

A ski day in January was enjoyed by many priests. We completed 2010 - 2011 with the annual Serra Priest Golf Tournament in June and started this season with the annual Serra Priest Appreciation Barbecue on Sept 7th in which we served 22 priests, a brother, a seminarian and many Serrans.

Let us continue to pray for vocations, our priests, sisters and our Serra Clubs throughout the world.

Mary mother of Vocations, pray for us.

Bill Zister, President, Kitchener-Waterloo Serra Club

September, 2011

Editor's note : Assisting Bill this year is Peter Denomme



*Lou Reitzel
receives the*

*Outstanding Serran Award
from District Governor Vince Primucci
at the Fall Conference in Ajax sponsored by the
Serra Club of Durham.*

Oct 5 2011

Rev. Robert Walz celebrated Mass with us and in his homily asked us to consider carefully what we pray for. We pray for forgiveness but there are conditions; unless we forgive we are condemning ourselves. Sister Lucy Godfrey, SJ was our guest speaker. She briefly traced the evolution of the Sisters of St. Joseph from their origins in France in 1650 as an apostolic community responding to peoples needs and devoted to the Eucharist. This was a radical departure from the norm at that time. Most religious communities of women were cloistered and contemplative. They came to America in 1832 and to Hamilton in 1852 to care for the orphaned children of the immigrants who had died on the ships bringing them from Europe. Later they cared for the victims of a cholera epidemic in sheds on the waterfront built as burial houses. One of these sheds still exists. It is a Hospice. In 1862 they came to Guelph and built a Catholic infirmary for orphans and the elderly which became St Joseph's Hospital, the first Catholic hospital in the diocese.

NEWS FROM OTHER SERRA CLUBS

The Serra club of Toronto Downtown has a Vocations Fair that is an annual event held in a parish. Different orders of priests and sisters, along with the diocese, are invited to have a display where young people are invited to learn about their charism.

This is certainly an activity that all Serra Clubs should consider to promote vocation awareness.

The Serra Club of Bangalore India, Our **President Bill** met a member of the Bangalore club at the vocations Mass in Georgetown, in September. We have had communication from Bangalore with some of their activities. We see the uniqueness and creativity of each club. This is a great opportunity to learn from each other. I remember at a SI Convention a woman from the Serra Club of Bangalore telling about the formation of the first club chartered in 2002 in India.

The Serra Club of Toronto Central is already planning for the 2012 Ordinandi Dinner which will be held again in Toronto on Tuesday March 6th. This is always a sellout as Serrans and others come for a dinner where those seminarians at St. Augustines who will be ordained in 2012 give a short talk about their call to priesthood.

NEWS OF SERRA DISTRICT 26

A good meeting was held at St. Peter's Seminary in London on October 20 to present information to the Vocations Committee for the Diocese of London. There has been a long history of meeting with religious and lay people **to promote a Serra Club** there. **President Bill, Lee and Noreen Hishon, as well as Mario Biscardi, Pat Hearn and George Damiani** were present. The committee was impressed with the enthusiasm of the visiting Serrans This is a move forward and we pray that leaders will come forward to bring a club to charter.

A Serra Club is in formation in the Halton area of Hamilton Diocese. They are in the beginning stage and have begun to meet.

Don't forget the Serra Club or the Serra Foundation in your will.

2011-12 Diocese of Hamilton Seminarians

PLEASE PRAY FOR THEM

ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY TORONTO

www.staugustines.on.ca

Justin Ruiss	3rd Theology
Dave Walter	Pastoral Year, St. Clement Parish, Cambridge
Curtis Miller	1st Theology
David Reitzel	1st Theology
** Kevin D'Souza	Pre-Theology

ST. PETER SEMINARY, LONDON

www.stpetersseminary.ca

Deacon John Redmond	4th Theology
** Allen Varlaki	3rd Theology
** Andrew Manera	3rd Arts
** Paul Edmonstone	2nd Arts
** Joseph Sardo	2nd Arts

ST. PHILIP NERI SEMINARY, TORONTO

www.oratory-toronto.org

(see Oratorian Apostolates)	
Bradley Black	3rd Philosophy
Michael Czesnik	3rd Philosophy
Grayson Hope	3rd Philosophy
Bret Burtnick	2nd Philosophy
Raphael Ma	2nd Philosophy
** Zaid Yusufani	1st Philosophy

Total Seminarians 16

NOTE: ** New seminarians this year. (6)

Priest Barbecue September 7, 2011

We started our 2011-2012 season on September 7, at Lou and Carol Reitzel's cottage with our Priest Barbeque. Thank you to all the Religious and Serra members that attended.



Anyone ready to go boating?



Father Ray with his great nephew Michael

Annually this is our first Serra event of the new year. Good food, snacks, boat rides and pleasant company makes for a fun event for priests, Serrans and spouses. Lou and Carole Reitzel had everything ready in the event of rain.

22 Priests, 1 Brother, 1 Seminarian and 18 Serrans attended.



Seen around the table starting top left, Brother Ed. Hohenadel, Lee Hishon, Fr. Harry Reitzel and Fr. Dennis, a Comboni from St. Joseph's Kitchener.

Coming Events

December 21

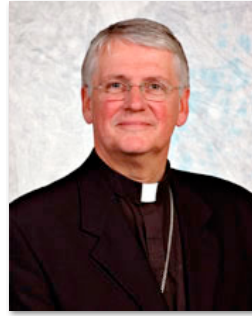
Frank Brick, Seminarian for Congregation of the Resurrection
St. Philip Neri Seminary, Toronto

January 18

Religious Life Banquet
Bishop Douglas Crosby, Bishop of Hamilton

Oct 19 2011

The readings for October focus on end times as a reminder for us to do whatever has to be done now. Fr. Kuzma encouraged us to use the opportunity to forgive our debtors, confess our sins and seek reconciliation with our God and our neighbour. This will enable us to calmly anticipate our own end and not be fearful. Fr. Tom Vermiglio, Pastor at St. Joseph's Kitchener and a Comboni missionary talked about how prayer influenced his life and enabled his mission. Christianity in Africa is thriving, with dramatic increases in the numbers of persons, parishes and priests. He attributes this not to human efforts but to the action of the Holy Spirit and the power of prayer. In Africa, the Comboni missionaries had 20 men ordained this spring, none from Europe or North America.



On January 18th the club is planning for the Religious Life Dinner to be held at Conestoga Place, formerly the Kitchener Knights of Columbus on Manitou Drive in Kitchener.. We hope that many friends of Serra will be able to join us for this evening where we recognize the Sisters who have served our community here and throughout the diocese and across the world. We also recognize our Permanent Deacons.

Nov 16 2011

In his sermon Fr Kuzma outlined how the structure of the Mass is based on Holy Scripture. Our guest speaker was Shirley Gatchene from the Good Shepherd Prayer Community of Blessed Sacrament Parish. Our desire to worship God is a gift from God, and God wants us to seek Him more than we want to seek Him. God will reveal Himself to all who seek him with all their heart. Prayer is drawing closer to God, listening, discerning and responding to God's call. It is hard work, entails self sacrifice. Initially we must draw apart from society and spend time in prayer, meditating and listening in silence. Ultimately we integrate prayer into our daily life; all our thoughts, words and acts are motivated by prayer. Then prayer has the power to transform us, to enlighten and inspire us.

Board of Directors

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Phyllis Rodina	Phone Committee
Father W. Kuzma	Chaplain

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Dave Deppich
Neil Corbett
Matt Potje



We would like to thank the Serrans for offering their time to meet and plan for an active Serra club for the 2011-2012 year. Your Board meets on the third Wednesday of the month to do the business of the club so our meetings can be interesting, informative and provide spiritual growth for members.