



SERRA CLUB of MELBOURNE

Newsletter

May/June 2021

K.S.C. PRIESTS SUPPORT AND EDUCATION DINNER

The Annual Dinner which was commenced in 1999, to raise funds to support our bishops with the education of Clergy and Seminarians for the four Victorian Dioceses and the Australian Military Ordinate, is proposed to be held on Friday 20th August 2021, at the Moonee Valley Racecourse. This function had to be cancelled in 2020, but it is anticipated that it will be alright to proceed this year, and so subject to another outbreak of COVID19, it is scheduled to go ahead. Please note this date in your diary.

The Archbishop of Melbourne, Peter A. Comensoli has been confirmed as the Guest Speaker.

EVENTS

Corpus Christi Seminary. Subject to COVID 19 restrictions, which can occur within a very short space of time, the Annual visit to the Seminary has been arranged for Sunday 20th March 2022.

As usual, Mass is at 11.30am, followed by Lunch with the College Staff and seminarians. As previously reported, all four clubs were represented with a total of 32 Serrans in April this year, and it was excellent to witness the enthusiasm the students exhibited to their guests. Therefore all Serrans are urged to note this date and reserve a place with Melbourne Club Secretary, Frank McCulloch, as dining room capacity limits the number of Serrans who are able to attend.

ANNUAL RETREAT

This was another casualty of the 2020 and 2021 lockdown, but efforts are being made to see if one can be arranged for 2022. As things can change at very short notice, any plans that are made are always subject to cancellation, but we live in hope.

Likewise, the Annual Luncheon to express our appreciation for our priests and religious, is a strong possibility to be able to be held in September 2021.

CHANGEOVER

The installation of the new (as is) Executive will be held at the June meeting. The small number of members that we are currently experiencing means that there will be no change to the current members holding office, but should give all members the motivation to endeavor to recruit additional people for this most worthy cause. Someone told you about Serra International, and invited you to come to a Mass and meeting, so that you could experience the value of membership. Could you, in turn, suggest to a parishioner in your parish, or for that matter, any one you know, to come along to a meeting and experience what Serra International does, and realise that it is a very worthwhile and necessary organization. Without new members, Serra will cease to exist, and that would be disastrous, and a great shame.

PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers two of our Serrans, Dan Morrissey and Jolyn Butler.

TERRY TAYLOR, our Vice President Program in the absence of an 'outside' guest speaker was invited to share some of his personal ongoing investigations into God's Plan for Humanity as manifested in the Physical Universe. These researches have been actively underway since early 2013 and have covered a wide range of 'disciplines' terrestrial, celestial and mathematical, all assessed in relation to our own Catholic faith, Scripture and Tradition.

In extremely limited time allowed, Terry presented only his own initial realization and an early 'fundamental' spatial, geographical analysis of the Southern Cross constellation as applied to Jerusalem and some personal insights into the Australian Flag.

As presented here it sounds as dry as dust—but I assure you that in its present entirety it is not. How the Lord is going to make use of it I do not know. I just have to keep plugging on as wonder after wonder unfolds (and keep reviewing and correcting as required).

For your own information one surety the Lord has known us all individually and collectively from all eternity and has His own plans for us—if we let Him—He never makes any random decisions—He leaves such to our free will and then tries to allow us to put things right.

CLUB CHAPLAIN

Father Gerard Dowling, our Club Chaplain, in his homily at the Mass before the meeting, once again spoke of his deep appreciation of the existence of Serra International, and the fact that other priests were of a similar feeling. He admired the dedication of the members. That they give so much of their time and energy to further the aims and objectives of Serra.

SUDDEN DEATH

Sister Mary Batchelor FDNSC, a member of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, died on 6th June 2021, at the Bentleigh Convent. She was aged 92.

Sister Mary had several siblings either in the priesthood or religious life. She taught in many schools in conjunction with other members of OLSH, and was Principal of St Peter's, St Paul's and St Catherine's for some time. She also was Spiritual Director for the Serra Club of Oakleigh Deanery in recent years.

Upon her retirement from teaching, she applied to go to South Sudan, where she established a primary school with assistance from others, and then went on to start a secondary school. The combined total for these were approximately 2000 students.

She made world headlines when she was taken hostage by Sudanese rebels, at one stage, but when talking to her, she said she had not really been frightened, as they were really "good boys".

She was a truly remarkable woman!

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

June 23rd St. Catherine's Church, 2 Buchan Street, Moorabbin
 July 29th Rosary 6.15 pm. Mass 6.30 pm. followed by Dinner
 Aug 25th Meeting in the Sweeney Centre.

SATURDAY MORNING MASS for VOCATIONS

June	St Peter's, Clayton	9.00am
July	St Finbar's, Brighton East	9.15am
August	St Anthony's. Glen Huntly	9.15am

MASS ROSTER

	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>August</i>
Reader:	Anne	John	Frank
Prayers of the Faithful:	Anne	John	Frank
Offertory Procession:	-	-	-
Minister of Communion:	Frank	Christine	John
Meals Clean Up:	All Members urged to assist.		

REMEMBERto say the Serran Prayer... DAILY