



# SERRA CLUB

OF SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Club 638 District 30 Region 14

[www.serraspcb.org](http://www.serraspcb.org)

December 2007

Volume 21 Number 6

# Serran Sentinel

## The Sacrament of Penance

A lecture by Fr. Raymond P. Hubert, ret.

Submitted by Bob Venizia

Fr. Hubert spoke to us at Serra Club breakfast on Nov 6, 2007. His message is a reminder from Pope Benedict XVI that priests must give the Sacrament of Penance top priority in their ministry. Call it Penance, Reconciliation, Forgiveness, Conversion, or Confession; it needs a reawakening in our parishes, particularly.

Today, many Catholic parishes do not regularly schedule times for confession each week, but rather include in their bulletins that confession is by appointment only. Father Hubert



Serra President Winker presents the Serra Cup to Father Hubert

stated that 26% of practicing Catholics receive the sacrament only once yearly. How could we have changed so much from the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, he asked? Perhaps because prepared materials for examining our conscience listed everything as a sin. Confession was said to be repetitious, a litany of sins, as he put it. Besides, many complain that it is embarrassing, that they are unfamiliar with the “new” method, that they are uncertain about what

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**Calendar of Events**

The Club meets on the FIRST and THIRD Tuesday of each month beginning with 7:00 am Mass at St Vincent Ferrer Church, 840 Palm Trail, Delray Beach, followed by a breakfast meeting at the Holiday Inn Oceanside, 2809 South Ocean Boulevard, Highland Beach

**MOST REV. GERALD M. BARBARITO**  
 Bishop of Palm Beach  
 561 775 9500

**REV. YVES FRANCOIS**  
 Director of Vocations & Seminarians  
 561 775 9555

**REV. JOSEPH KUCZBORSKI**  
 Chaplain  
 561 276 6892

**LARRY J. WINKER**  
 President  
 561 997 5997

**JIM ANDERSON**  
 President-elect  
 561 994 9267

**MICHAEL FARENGA**  
 Vice President - Vocations  
 561 703 4042

**BARBARA HOSTOMSKY**  
 Vice President - Membership  
 561 364 4924

**VERONICA M. COMRIE**  
 Vice President - Programs  
 561 752 2988

**ROBERT A. VENEZIA**  
 Vice President - Communications  
 561 279 9393

**NANCY NOONAN**  
 Secretary  
 561 276 3299

**RICHARD N. PARK**  
 Treasurer  
 Newsletter Editor  
 Webmaster  
 561 737 1782

**FERNANDE CAMINO**  
 Foundation Representative  
 561 395 9412

**TRUSTEES**

**JOHN MCGILLICUDDY**  
 561 392 3361

**LON PHILLIPS**  
 561 997 5486

**RICHARD SIEGEL**  
 561 266 6114

<b>Date</b>	<b>Program</b>
Dec 4	Emily Small, Interfaith Group
Dec 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Dec 11	Palm Beach Serra Club Annual Christmas Party, Atlantis Country Club, Atlantis
Dec 14	Girls Night Out, Holliday Inn Oceanside
Dec 16	8:00 am Mass, Seedlings for St Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary
Dec 18	Breakfast Meeting, Board Meeting
Dec 25	Holy Christmas!
Jan 1	No Meeting—Happy New Year!
Jan 13-18	National Vocations Awareness Week
Jan 15	Workshop?
Feb 3	World Day of Consecrated Life
Feb 5	Mr. Erik Vagenius, Office of Substance Addiction Ministry

*Chaplain's Corner*

"Be still, and know that I am god...." Psalm 46:10

I am sure when these words were put together; there were many little nooks and crannies where one could go to be "still". In our modern world of today, this is not so easy to accomplish. But, if we are determined, it can be done.

Advent! A period when the church helps us to remember to prepare for the birth of the Christ child.

All during the waiting period for a child to be born, many preparations need to be

accomplished. Same goes for the birth of the Christ child. Every effort should be made to familiarize oneself with the inside of a confessional in case you have not done it so far. Consider an extra mass attendance now and then during these four weeks of Advent. Wouldn't this be a warm welcome to Christmas? Recitation of the rosary is always in style and should the opportunity to attend a retreat present itself, this would be a most generous offering. Or perhaps spending an hour or so before the Blessed Sacrament in the adoration chapel? At St. Vincent's the adoration chapel is open twenty four

hours a day seven days a week! These are just a few suggestions for your consideration which would not disrupt your current lifestyle, with perhaps the exception of the retreat, and still add so much to the flavor of your life.

To enjoy life to the fullest, one must learn to occasionally "be still"!

Father Joe

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Hear about the Dyslexic, atheist with insomnia?

Sits up at night wondering if there is a Dog or not!

*(Continued from page 1)*

is sinful, and that they are sometimes uncomfortable with the priests' comments. Fr. Hubert's answer: compassion is the order of the day.

So what do we now have in society, beginning with the hippie generation? Missing mass, cohabitation before marriage, contraception, and divorce. Efforts to reverse the trend began after WW II, with Pope Pius XII asking us to understand God as loving Lord as well as just judge. The Vatican II era was a

continuation.

Did Fr. Hubert give us a solution? No, but he provided some additional suggestions. Firstly, we must get back to basic Catholicism, including back to the Sacrament of Penance. As Pope Benedict XVI said, priests must give top priority to Confession. They need to schedule times convenient to parishioners. They should emphasize the value of Penance in Catholic schools and CCD classes. And continue the use of communal penitential services.

Fr. Hubert is retired but assists at St. Matthew Catholic Church. His assignments have included pastor of Emanuel Catholic Church, Diocesan Director of the Permanent Deaconate Program, Diocesan Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus, Adjunct Professor at the Regional Seminary of St. Vincent de Paul, Director of Pastoral Care at St. Mary's Hospital, and a missionary in the Philippines.

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**Serra Club of South Palm Beach County**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
November 27, 2007

**Present:** Jim Anderson; Veronica Comrie; Fr. Joe Kuczborski; Nancy Noonan; Richard Park; Robert Venezia; Larry Winker

**Absent:** Michael Farenga; Barbara Hostomsky; John McGillicuddy; Lon Phillips; Richard Siegel

**Opening Prayer:** Larry Winker called meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Fr. Joe led us in Serran prayer.

**Approval of minutes:** Bob Venezia moved; Jim Anderson seconded to accept minutes as prepared by Bob Venezia. Passed unanimously.

**Girls' night out:** General discussion about gift baskets; displaying raffle prizes at dinner. Expectations are good – about 65 people coming (25 religious). Final numbers are not available since Barbara Hostomsky has been away. Jim Anderson will conference with Barbara and send the board an update on number of reservations received.

Fr. Joe will invite Linda Reeves from the Florida Catholic to attend this event as our guest.

**December 11<sup>th</sup> Serra Palm Beach Christmas dinner at Atlantis CC:** We officially invited Fr. Joe to attend as our guest. Richard Park will send his registration in.

**Seedlings for St. Vincent seminary program:** December 16, 2007. We do not know the time we should be there. Larry will find out and advise. Seminary is looking for financial support. \$25 per seedling suggested. Jim Anderson will create and email a flyer on this to all Serrans. Ask members to bring checks to the breakfast. Suggested one person collect individual checks and have Larry present them in one envelope that day.

**Tuesday, December 4:** Change of speaker to Emily Small – also from Interfaith group. Agreed that the December 18<sup>th</sup> breakfast meeting will include the December board meeting. All Serrans attending are invited to stay for board meeting.

Still trying to find 3 volunteers: Historian; representative of membership awareness; and a “recruiter” – someone who can identify past Serrans we could approach to re-join.

**Follow up to meeting with Fr. Yves Francois:** We need to let Fr. Yves know he has our support. Larry and Jim to discuss what we might do to help Fr. Yves and then write to him with our recommendation. Also need to follow up on quarterly meeting with him and other groups (KofC; Columbiettes, etc.)

**Update on purchases for seminarians** we made and delivered to St. Thomas More. Appears there will be a barbecue on January 19<sup>th</sup> – put on by Youth group – who will distribute the items to seminarians in our names and other contributing groups.

**Other Business:** Susan Cutaia has asked to be an Associate member of Serra. Jim Anderson moved, seconded by Veronica Comrie. All agreed.

**Chalice Program at St. Vincent:** Fr. Joe reported the program had started

**Adjournment** – Fr. Joe closed the meeting with our Serran prayer at 8:10 p.m.

**PRAY, AFFIRM, PROMOTE VOCATIONS**

## How Old is Your Church?

**This is a summary of a selected few denominations, churches, and religions and when they were founded.**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>If you are a Lutheran, your denomination was founded by Martin Luther, an ex-monk of the Catholic Church, in the year 1517.</p> <p>If you belong to the Church of England, your denomination was founded by King Henry VIII in the year 1534 because the Pope would not grant him a divorce with the right to re-marry. The Church of England separated itself from the Catholic Church under Henry VIII but it didn't actually become a new Protestant religion until the reign of his son, Edward VI.</p> <p>If you are a Presbyterian, your denomination was founded by John Knox in Scotland in the year 1560.</p> <p>If you are a Protestant Episcopalian, your denomination was an offshoot of the Church of England founded by Samuel Seabury in the American colonies in the 17th century.</p> <p>If you are a Congregationalist, your denomination was originated by Robert Browne in Holland in 1582.</p> <p>If you are a Methodist, your denomination was launched by John and Charles Wesley in England in 1744.</p> <p>If you are <a href="#">LDS or "Mormon"</a> (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), Joseph Smith Jr.</p> | <p>started your religion in Fayette, NY, on April 6th, 1830.</p> <p>If you are a Baptist, you owe the tenets of your denomination to John Smyth, who launched it in Amsterdam in 1605.</p> <p>If you are of the Dutch Reformed church, you recognize Michaelis Jones as founder, because he originated your denomination in New York in 1628.</p> <p>If you worship with the Salvation Army, your sect began with William Booth in London in 1865. If you are a Christian Scientist, you look to 1879 as the year in which your religion was born and to Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy as its founder.</p> <p>If you consider yourself a member of one of the Pentecostal churches, your movement began in Topeka, KS (1901) and Los Angeles (1906), in reaction to perceived loss of evangelical fervor among Methodists and others.</p> <p>If you call yourself a Mennonite, your movement was named after Menno Simons, a Catholic priest for 12 years, who left the Church to join the conservative Anabaptist wing.</p> <p>The Amish, started by Jacob Amman around 1693, are just one of many different church bodies within the Mennonite community in the U.S.</p> | <p>If you belong to one of the religious organizations known as "Church of the Nazarene", "Pentecostal Gospel", "Holiness Church", "Pilgrim Holiness Church", "Jehovah's Witnesses", your denomination is one of the many thousands of new sects and religions founded by men within the past several hundred years.</p> <p>If you are a member of one of the Orthodox Eastern Churches your church separated from the Catholic Church in 1054 in the Eastern Schism. Although imperfect, the communion between the Orthodox Churches and the Catholic Church is so profound "that it lacks little to attain the fullness that would permit a common celebration of the Lord's Eucharist" (Pope Paul VI, quoted in CCC para 838).</p> <p>If you are Jewish, Abraham became the first Jew when God promised him: "I will make you a great nation...". Your religion was founded by God in the Jewish calendar year 2049 (1711 BC), over 3700 years ago. God revealed Himself to the Jews through the Prophets and promised to send a Messiah. Jesus Christ, a Jew from the House of David, came to this world as His only begotten Son in fulfillment of the scriptures.</p> <p>If you are <b>Catholic</b>, you know that your Church was founded in the year 33 A.D. by Jesus Christ, the Son of God.</p> |
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Duct tape is like 'The Force'. It has a light side and a dark side, and it holds the universe together.

Always remember that you're unique. Just like everyone else.

Some days you're the bug; some days you're the windshield .

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**SIXTH ANNUAL GIRLS NIGHT OUT**

TO ALL SERRA MEMBERS:

We have scheduled an evening out with our Sisters and Nuns for December 14, 2007.

An overwhelming response to this proposal allowed us to make these arrangements.

Now we need response from you, our members.

You are invited to join the party. Your support is appreciated. If you are able to attend please reply by phone yes or no.

Please sponsor at least one Sister or Nun by covering the cost of her attendance, whether you are able to attend personally or not. This is our chance to show them how much we appreciate and love them.

The cost per person will be \$40 payable to Serra Club of South Palm Beach County.

Please forward checks and choice for fish or meat to:

Mrs. Barbara Hostomsky  
10135 43<sup>rd</sup> Trail South  
Boynton Beach, FL 33436

561-364-4924

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**The National Patronal Church of the United States of America**

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., is the pre-eminent Marian shrine of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States. This beautiful votive church of pilgrimage, older than some of the states of the Union, honors the Blessed Mother under the title of the Immaculate Conception as the Patroness of the United States. Built as the medieval cathedrals of Europe, without structural steel beams, framework, or columns, the Shrine is entirely of stone, brick, tile and mortar. It is a blending of techniques, both ancient and new, in which architecture mingles with symbol.

Envisioned by its founder, Bishop Thomas J. Shahan (1857-1932) as a "monument to artistic truth" that would speak with "divine eloquence," the Shrine is home to the largest collection of contemporary ecclesiastical art in the United States. Amid a rich patina of mosaics, sculptures, and artistic renderings, the more than 65 chapels and oratories reflect not only the devotional traditions of the American Church but also the rich ethnic mélange of

the Universal Church. In 1990, Pope John Paul II (1920-2005) named the National Shrine a minor basilica, the 36th in the United States.



Immaculate Conception Mosaic

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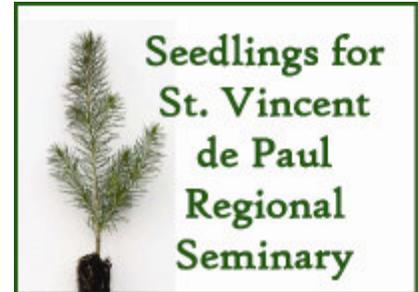
November 2, 2007

Contact: Stanton Cadow, 561-732-4424 or [scadow@svdp.edu](mailto:scadow@svdp.edu)

## Seedlings for St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary

Boynton Beach, FL - Fr. Louis Guerin, a resident faculty member of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary is chairing a one-time special event to promote vocations, conservation and support for the seminary entitled, "Seedlings for St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary."

Anyone who has been asked to pray about vocations to the priesthood and religious life is probably familiar with the concept of "planting the seeds of a vocation" into the busy lives of today's young, energetic people.



Those who are actively engaged in vocation ministry realize that the Lord continues to call just as many young people to service in the Church today as He has in the past. Because they recognize the truth of this, the Serra Club of South Palm Beach, in collaboration with other Serrans Clubs and parish youth groups from around the area have decided to plant 1,000 "Seedlings for St. Vincent de Paul" in honor of those vocations waiting to answer the Lord!

### Mark December 16, 2007 on your Calendar

On Sunday December 16 volunteers are invited to join the Serrans and local youth who will spend the day planting one-thousand Florida native Slash Pine Trees on the campus of the seminary in Boynton Beach. A gift of \$25 to the seminary at this time will plant a seedling on that December Sunday.

"As we beautify our campus and return vegetation to the seminary's environment we will reflect we will reflect and be reminded that vocations like seedlings need to be cultivated and nourished in the vineyard of the Lord!" said Fr. Guerin.

### How to Give Financial Support

Those who wish to participate in supporting this event are encouraged to access our web page on the internet by simply typing in [www.svdp.edu](http://www.svdp.edu), and click on "donate now." If you prefer you may send a check to "Seedlings for St. Vincent", St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, 10701 S. Military Trail, Boynton Beach, FL 33436 or call 561-732-4424 for more information.

### Brief Description of SVDP

SVDP is the only bilingual and multi-cultural theologate in the southeastern United States. The seven dioceses of the Florida Province of the Catholic Church share joint ownership of the Seminary. Monsignor Keith R. Brennan, J.C.D., is Rector and President. Currently 109 students attend classes on our Boynton Beach campus. There are 63 seminarians, 28 students in the diaconate certification program and 17 non-resident students enrolled at the Seminary.

**Facts About Slash Pines** - The Slash Pine tree is a native of the Florida landscape. It normally grows on sandy, poorly drained *flatwoods* soils. A wide variety of wildlife benefit from the Slash Pine. Eagles nest in its crown, and the Red Cockaded Woodpecker excavates nests in older trees afflicted with red heart fungus. These trees generally grow straight and tall with a strong central leader. Moreover, the trees have cone shaped crowns which are relatively small unless grown in the open.

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Serra Club of South Palm Beach County  
4770 Pine Tree Drive  
Boynton Beach, FL 33436

«AddressBlock»

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