



# SERRA CLUB

OF SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Club 638 District 30 Region 14

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

February 2008

Volume 21 Number 8

## Ash Wednesday 2008

From Catholic Online

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

### Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

#### Why we receive the ashes

Following the example of the Ninevites, who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and reminds us that life passes away on Earth. We remember this when we are told



"Remember, Man is dust, and unto dust you shall return."

Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the church because of their sins -- just as Adam, the first man, was turned out of Paradise because of his disobedience. The penitents did not enter the church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion.

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Serran Sentinel

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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>
Feb 3	World Day of Consecrated Life Breakfast Meeting
Feb 5	Mr. Erik Vagenius, Office of Substance Addiction Ministry
Feb 6	Ash Wednesday
Feb 19	Breakfast Meeting
Mar 1	Day of Reflection, SVDP Regional Seminary
Mar 4	Breakfast Meeting Sr. Mary Clare Fennel, RSM
Mar 18	Breakfast Meeting
Mar 28	Good Friday
Mar 30	Easter Sunday
Apr 1	Breakfast Meeting Sr Helen Kilijanski, ASCJ
Apr 8	Affirmation Dinner, Ascension Church
Apr 13	World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Apr 15	Breakfast Meeting
Apr 15	IRS Tuesday!!
May 6	Breakfast Meeting
May 11	Pentecost Sunday
May 20	Breakfast Meeting
Jun 3	Breakfast Meeting Installation of Officers
Aug 12-17	Serra International Convention, Sao Paulo, Brazil

**Chaplain's Corner**

With all the visitors coming to Florida both in and out of season, feel sure that at least some may have an interest in gathering shells at the beach. So, let us try the "legend of the sand dollar" on for size.

Did you know the markings on the shell of the sand dollar supposedly symbolize the birth, crucifixion and resurrection of Christ? On the top of the shell, an outline of the "Easter lily"

appears. At the center of the lily is a five pointed star representing the star of Bethlehem.

The five narrow openings symbolize the four nail holes and the spear wound in the body of Christ during the crucifixion.

Turning the sand dollar over, you can see the outline of the Christmas poinsettia and also a bell.

When broken, inside the shell are "five doves of peace". Some say they are the angels that sang to the shepherds on the

first Christmas morning.

What a beautiful legend!

So the next time any one of us finds a "sand dollar", perhaps we will be able to see some part of the legend along with the beauty of the shell. Let's go for it!

YOUR CHAPLAIN,

FATHER JOE

*(Continued from page 1)*

In earlier times, the distribution of ashes was followed by a penitential procession.

**The Ashes**

The ashes are made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts. His Divine mercy is of utmost importance during the season of Lent, and the Church calls on us to seek that mercy during the entire Lenten season with reflection, prayer and penance.

**Membership News**

Barbara Hostomsky  
 VP Membership

We want to welcome three new members to our club.

Deacon Lee Levinson and his wife Alice are from St. Vincent Ferrer and Gerri Preston is from St Thomas More

Deacon Lee has a Bible Study program every Sunday evening at St. Vincent Ferrer at 7:00 pm. A \$10.00 donation is requested. Pizza is served and additional snacks are available for a charge of \$5.00.

Gerri Preston is an active member of St Thomas More Madonna Guild and has been a Director for the Red Cross for the last 30 years.

Welcome to all and please volunteer for the Committee of your choice.

Advice from Mom

"After all that money your father and I spent on braces, Mona, that's the biggest smile you can give us?" - Mona Lisa's Mother

"Can't you paint on walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is to get that stuff off the ceiling?" - Michelangelo's Mother

I don't care where you think you have to go, young man. Midnight is past your curfew!" - Paul Revere's Mother

"I don't care what you've discovered. You still could have written." - Christopher Columbus's Mother

"How many times have I told you to quit playing ball in the house? That's the third broken window this week." - Babe Ruth's Mother

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**Serra Club of South Palm Beach County**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
January 22, 2008

1. Meeting opened at 7:05pm with the Serran Prayer for Vocations. Members present were Larry Winker, Jim Anderson, Michael Farenga, Richard Park and Bob Venezia.
2. Minutes of Dec. 18, 2007 were approved.
3. The Treasurer reported:
  - a. Solvency in checking and savings, consistent with prior months.
  - b. A budget in the black for CY 2008.
  - c. Girls' Night Out came within \$100 of break-even, with \$150 yet to be reimbursed for cost of baskets raffled. Request is made for a simple receipt to be submitted to the Treasurer.
4. Prayers were requested for Fr. Louie Guerin who underwent multiple bypass surgery on Friday at JFK. Fr. Louie is a former chaplain of our club.
5. Publicity was discussed re recent articles in the Florida Catholic about the Chalice Program and Girls' Night Out. Bob Venezia reported that his attempts by email to have the GNO article and pictures published in The Sun-Sentinel, The Boca Raton News, The Palm Beach Post, and The Serra USA magazine have not been acknowledged.  
  
Also, the seminary sent an article and picture about the "seedling" planting to Serra USA.
6. The successful beginning of the Chalice Program at St. Vincent Ferrer was discussed. Suggestions to attract families were offered.
7. Mr. Eric Vagenius, Diocesan Office of Substance Addiction Ministry, will be our speaker at breakfast on Tuesday, Feb. 5. Bob Venezia will request publishing in parish bulletins.
8. Michael Farenga announced the semi-annual Day of Reflection at the Regional Seminary of St. Vincent de Paul, 9am-1pm, Saturday, March 1. \$20/person. Fr. Joe is retreat leader. Reservations to Michael. Bob Venezia will send info to parishes and the Fla Catholic.
9. T-shirts and socks were presented on our behalf to the 18 seminarians from our diocese. The presentation was made by St. Thomas More parish on Friday, Jan. 18.
10. Soon the board or full membership will meet to develop an plan to stimulate new membership. The frequency and days/hours of general membership meetings will be included.
11. Invitations to the "Friends of the Seminary", Friday, Feb. 15, have been sent out by the seminary. Bob Venezia will email Serrans to learn of interest in a Serra table(s). Tickets are \$150/person.
12. Larry Winker and Jim Anderson will re-engage about a meeting of Serra/KofC/Columbiettes/CCW to establish a quarterly meeting with Fr. Yves, Director of Vocations and Seminarians.
13. World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, Feb. 3.
14. World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Apr. 13.
15. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm with the Serran Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations.

respectfully submitted by Bob Venezia, VP for Comm

**PRAY, AFFIRM, PROMOTE VOCATIONS**

**Day of Reflection**  
**Response Form**

Yes, I/we will be attending the **Day of Reflection** at **Saint Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary** on March 1, 2008 starting with Mass at 9:00 am.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I am also inviting a guest(s) to join with me to see what the Serra Club is all about. Their name(s) are:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

We will have \_\_\_\_\_ number of people in our party. I am enclosing a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover fee per person of \$20.00 each.

Any questions???

Please contact: Michael Farenga: 561-703-4042 or [amfhomes@bellsouth.net](mailto:amfhomes@bellsouth.net)

**Please make check payable to:** Serra Club of South Palm Beach County

**Please send your check to:**

Michael Farenga,  
Vice President – Vocations  
7725 NE Spanish Trail Court  
Boca Raton, Florida 33487

## **Day of Reflection**

**March 1, 2008**

### **Saint Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary**

10701 South Military Trail  
Boynton Beach, Florida 33436-4899  
Telephone (561) 732-4424 – Fax (561) 737-2205

### **Schedule**

- 9:00 AM**            **Mass – St. Mary’s Chapel**
- 9:30 AM**            **Continental Breakfast - Cafeteria**
- 10:00 AM**           **Father Joe Kuczborski – Retreat Leader**  
**St. Mary’s Chapel**
- 10:45 AM**           **Reconciliation – Confessions/ Personal reflection period**
- 11:30 AM**           **Father Joe Kuczborski – Retreat Leader**  
**St. Mary’s Chapel**
- 12:00 AM**           **Lunch in cafeteria**
- Host Club:**        **Serra Club of South Palm Beach County**
- Chairman:**        **Michael Farenga – VP Vocations:**  
**561-703-4042 or [amfhomes@bellsouth.net](mailto:amfhomes@bellsouth.net)**
- Jim Anderson – President Elect**  
**561-319-1388 or [fleet\\_sales@bellsouth.net](mailto:fleet_sales@bellsouth.net)**

Ten Thoughts to Ponder for 2008

Number 10  
Life is sexually transmitted.

.....

And The Number 1 Thought For 2008 : We know exactly where one cow with Mad-cow-disease is located among millions and millions of cows in America but we have-n't got a clue as to where millions of illegal immigrants and terrorists are located. Maybe we should put the Department of Agriculture in charge of Immigration?

**PRAY, AFFIRM, PROMOTE VOCATIONS**

The Beautiful Hands of a Priest

Submitted by Bob Venezia

We need them in life's early morning,  
We need them again at its close;  
We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,  
We seek it while tasting life's woes.

When we are tempted and wander  
To pathways of shame and sin  
'Tis the hand of a priest that absolve us,  
Not once but again and again.

When we come to this world we are sinful,  
The greatest as well as the least.  
And the hands that make us pure as angels  
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

And when we are taking life's partner  
Other hands may prepare us a feast  
But the hands that will bless and unite us,  
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

At the altar each day we behold them,  
And the hands of a king on his throne  
Are not equal to them in their greatness  
Their dignity stands all alone.

God bless them and keep them all holy,  
For the Host which their fingers caress,  
What can a poor sinner do better  
Than to ask Him who chose them to bless.

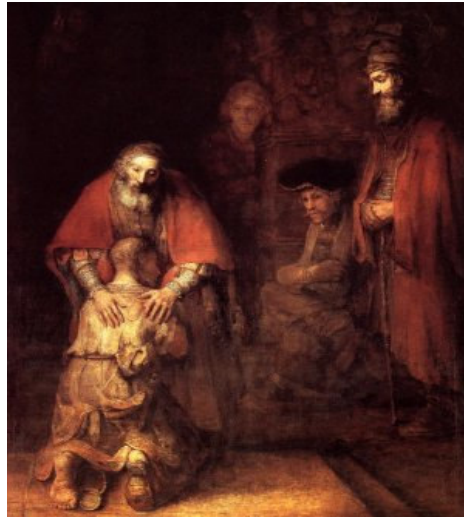
For there in the stillness of morning  
Ere the sun has emerged from the east,  
There God rests between the pure fingers  
Of the beautiful hands of a priest.

When the death dews on our lids are falling,  
May our courage and strength be increased  
By seeing raised o'er us in blessing  
The beautiful hands of a priest.



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**“Dust thou art, and into dust thou shalt return”**

**- Book of Genesis 3:19**

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

**PRAY, AFFIRM, PROMOTE VOCATIONS**