



# SERRA CLUB

OF SOUTH PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

Club 638 District 30 Region 14

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

November 2007

Volume 21 Number 5

# Serran Sentinel

## SITTING DUCKS OR GROWING SAINTS

(John Dean, Office of Renewal, Palm Beach Diocese)

Submitted by Bob Venezia

Periodically, we need to hear a layman take on the mission of talking about what it means to be a faithful person. John Dean spoke to us from his heart at our Serra Club breakfast at the Holiday Inn, Highland Beach on October 2, 2007.

The way we answer the following three questions, posed Mr. Dean, reveals whether we are a sitting duck or growing into sainthood:

What is God, Jesus  
calling us to do  
today?

Are we listening?

Are we responding  
in the power of  
the Holy Spirit?



John Dean illustrates a point

Frequently quoting Pope Benedict XVI from his "Message to the young people of the world on the occasion of the XXIII World Youth Day, 2008", 20 July 2007, Mr. Dean left us with several strong messages from the pope, dealing with the Holy Spirit. Here are just a few:

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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

Date	Program
Nov 1	All Saints
Nov 2	All Souls
Nov 4	Daylight Savings Time ends (2:00 am)
Nov 6	Fr. Hubert, St. Matthew Catholic Church
Nov 11	Veterans Day (Observed on Monday the 12th)
Nov 20	Workshop
Nov 22	Thanksgiving Day
Dec 4	Fr. John D'Mello, Interfaith Group
Dec 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Dec 11	Palm Beach Serra Club Annual Christmas Party, Atlantis
Dec 14	Girls Night Out, Holliday Inn Oceanside
Dec 16	Seedlings for St Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary
Dec 18	Breakfast 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 Minis-try

**PRAY, AFFIRM, PROMOTE VOCATIONS**

## Chaplain's Corner

From your Chaplain:

You are having an interview and the current question is "do you have a specific goal to your life and are you achieving this goal to your satisfaction"? If your answer is not as positive as you would like it to be, read on.....

For many years now, our faith has been passed on from generation to generation by sacred scripture and by sacred tradition. Taking into consideration the total population of the world against the number of clergy, the goal of the clergy would appear insurmountable! But

God in his wisdom touched the hearts of lay people as well. So many, many lay people willing to give so much of themselves through teaching, serving and caring for others. Lay people are truly the backbone of the clergy by supporting them in every aspect of ministry.

Has your heart been touched? Or, are you still somewhat shy of peace and contentment of the soul?

The Serra Club has focused on the upcoming generation of clergy. Support from every angle is what we are all about and what we would like you to consider. Our seminarians are your sons! Some still struggle with their choice. Your

"touched hearts" are in great need at the moment....it is our hope you will listen and respond!

Try us....you just might like our music enough to "get up and dance"!

The meetings are held: First and Third Tuesday of the month.

Time: 7:30 am (7:00 am Mass at St Vincent Ferrer)

Place: Oceanside Holiday Inn, Highland Beach

Contact person phone number: Barbara Hostomsky 561 364 4924

Father Joe

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## Meet Our Members

BARBARA HOSTOMSKY

Finally getting to write something about myself. I am one of nine children born to Irish Catholic parents in The Bronx, NY. I attended Catholic elementary and high school in The Bronx. Married Joe Hostomsky in 1951 and had four children, 3 boys and 1 girl. We moved to Suffern, NY and all the children attended Sacred Heart Church and school and then all went on to graduate from Suffern

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- Recognize and be absorbed by the Holy Spirit.
- Establish a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit.
- Every time we take Communion, it is a perpetual Pentecost.
- Serving the gospel is not optional.
- The highest gift of God to humankind is the Holy Spirit.

In closing, his wife Caroline led us in singing "The Hail Mary".

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**Serra Club of South Palm Beach County**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Minutes  
October 25, 2007

1. Meeting was opened by President Larry Winker at 7:00 with the Serra prayer for vocations. Members present were Jim Anderson, Barbara Hostomsky, Veronica Comrie, Bob Venezia, Richard Park, and Richard Siegel. Absent were Fr. Joe Kuczborski, Michael Farenga, Nancy Noonan, Fernande Camino, John McGillicuddy, and Lon Phillips.
2. Minutes of September 25 were approved.
3. Day of Reflection at the seminary on October 13 was very successful, with 33 people attending. Receipts covered expenses. Larry Winker, perhaps with Michael Farenga, will deliver a \$500 check to Msgr. Brennan.
4. Preparations for Priesthood Sunday have been completed. Rosemary Venezia mailed one Serra International Mass card to each of the eleven parishes, two missions, and the seminary. Dick Park will make the appropriate donation to Serra International Foundation.
5. Against a \$360.00 budget, athletic socks and T-shirts have been purchased for our 18 diocesan seminarians. The items are with St. Thomas More parish awaiting delivery at the appropriate time. Next time, gift cards will be considered.
6. A club historian would be helpful in collecting updated biographic info on priests, deacons, sisters and seminarians. Larry Winker will attempt to find a volunteer.
7. On Oct. 20-21, Bob and Rosemary Venezia spoke at the end of all seven weekend Masses at St. Vincent Ferrer Church. Both the need for new club members and the soon-to-start Chalice Program were the topics.
8. The board committed to arranging a preliminary meeting of Serrans, K of C, Columbiettes and CCW to brainstorm ways to help Fr. Yves Francois, diocesan director of vocations. After the meeting, Fr. Yves' office will be contacted to set up a meeting with him.
9. Dec. 16 is the date the seminary's Fr. Louis Guerin and Mr. Stanton Cadow have set for the planting of 1,000 slash pine seedlings on seminary grounds. Our Serra club, the seminarians, and other groups will do the planting. In addition, \$25/seedling is being asked by the seminary development office's Mr. Cadow.
10. District Governor Richard Siegel offered several items for consideration by our VP for Vocations in support of Serra's mission. They were "31 Club" posters, buttons professing support of our priests, and essay and poster contest materials.
11. Our breakfast speaker on Nov.ember 6 will be Fr. Raymond Hubert of St. Matthew Catholic Church.
12. Our breakfast speaker on February 5, 2008 will be Mr. Erik Vagenius from the diocesan office of substance abuse.
13. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 with the Serran prayer for the perseverance of vocations.

Bob Venezia

**PRAY, AFFIRM, PROMOTE VOCATIONS**

## Journey Home

Submitted by Bob Venezia

At their breakfast meeting on October 16, 2007, Serrans enjoyed hearing the “journey home” of the Rev. Mr. Andrew Brierley. Deacon Brierley’s talk put many in mind of Marcus Grodi’s weekly program on EWTN, The Journey Home, where lax Catholics or people of non-Catholic origins relate their travels in embracing Roman Catholicism.

As a young lad, Deacon Andrew grew up in England in a non-practicing Anglican family. Not surprisingly, it wasn’t until he took a younger brother to Sunday school that he learned of the Holy Trinity. His faith grew so deeply that upon completing high school, he seriously considered entering study for the An-

glican ministry. His father, however, had other ideas, and paid for Andrew’s college tuition, ultimately resulting in his completing law school and passing the bar examination with distinction.

He liked practicing criminal law, loved politics, and even ran for a seat in Parliament, a natural for an officer in the law school conservative students’ association. But it was his conservative politics that got him into philosophical trouble with his Anglican Church. He found it too liberal, too unstructured, too undisciplined, and not in communion with the Bishop of Rome. So he and some 1,000 Anglican ministers joined the Holy Roman Catholic Church.

Now his earlier thinking of a religious vocation returned to him. He discussed his feelings

with friends and priests, and concluded that he could make more of an impact on people as a priest than as an attorney or politician. He made an appointment with the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, who accepted Andrew into the seminary. Following studies in England and Rome, Deacon Brierley was ordained to the transitional diaconate. Two summer visits to Venice, FL and an appointment with Bishop Barbarito were enough to begin a two-year program toward priestly ordination in the Diocese of Palm Beach. Presently, Deacon Andrew is serving at St. Vincent Ferrer in Delray Beach.

In conclusion, Deacon Brierley invited all to his ordination to the priesthood on April 4, 2008, 5:00pm, at the Cathedral of St. Ignatius Loyola.

### Fast Food

The old man placed an order for one Hamburger, French fries and a Coke.

He unwrapped the plain Hamburger and carefully cut it in half, placing one half in front of his wife.

He then carefully counted out the French fries, dividing them into tow piles and neatly placed one pile in front of his wife.

He took a sip of the drink, his wife took a sip and then set the cup down between them. As he began to eat his few bites of Hamburger, the people around them were looking over and whispering.

Obviously they were thinking,

“That poor old couple—all they can afford is one meal for the two of them.”

As the man began to eat his fries a young man came to the table and politely offered to buy another meal for the old couple. The old man said, they were just fine—they were used to sharing everything.

People closer to the table noticed the little old lady hadn’t eaten a bite. She sat there watching her husband eat and occasionally taking turns sipping the drink.

Again, the young man came over and begged them to let him buy another meal for them. This time the old woman said: “No, thank you, we are used to sharing everything.”

Finally, as the old man finished and was wiping his face neatly with the napkin, the young man came over to the little old lady who had yet to eat a single bite of food and asked: “What is it you are waiting for?”

She answered:

(Continue Below—This is Great)

“THE TEETH”

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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 meal to:

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

561-364-4924

Please RSVP by November 30, 2007

See invitation for details.

Thank you,

Barbara

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SVDP ANNOUNCES NEW Web Site  
[www.svdp.edu](http://www.svdp.edu)

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary has a new presence on the Worldwide Web, a new web site that enhances the ability of the seminary to meet the needs of its diverse audiences - not only seminarians, but friends, vocations directors, alumni, donors and the public at large, noted Rector/President Monsignor Keith R. Brennan, J.C.D.

"Technologically speaking, our new site is much more robust than our previous presence on the Web," said Msgr. Brennan.

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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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High School.. I worked for the local school district for 16 years and retired. We moved to Florida and presently I attend St. Thomas More Parish. I am active in several ministries. A former member, Ida Florio, introduced me to our Serra Club and I liked what I heard and experienced. I became a member and am active and believe in what Serra stands for.

**The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.**

**Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know "why" I look this way.**

**I've traveled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.**

**I don't know how I got over the hill without getting to the top.**

**You know you are getting old when everything either dries up or leaks.**

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

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