

The Tower is a monthly newsletter of the Serra Club of the University of Dallas.

October 2015 issue

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Pictured above is the Braniff Memorial belltower of the University of Dallas located in Irving, Texas. The UD Serra Club is not an official part of the university but enjoys its hospitality for Mass and meetings. We are thankful for our long

For information on the UD Serra Club and its promotion of vocations, please visit: www.serrairving.org. For general info on the Serra Club: www.serraus.org, or www.serrainternational.org,

association.



Coming events...

October 2...Regular meeting

routine: Mass at 7:00 A.M. in the Church of the Incarnation, UD campus, then breakfast in the Haggard Center, business meeting, and program.

Featured presenter will be Cristina Caine of the White Rose Society speaking of the right to life mission of that group. Judy Gillespie will introduce Cristina.

Lector: Pat Horak; Eucharistic minister: Sandy Morgan.

October 16...Regular meeting

routine. Guest presenter will be Deacon Ron Morgan speaking on the theme, "Remove All Fear, Uncertainty, and Doubt." Lector; Ernie Doclar; Eucharistic minister: Nancy Talkington.

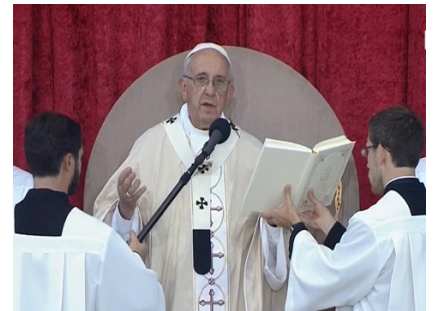
Next month...

November 6,...Regular meeting

routine. Guest presenters: Chithra Aman, Jo-Ann Bresowar, Pat Horak, Nancy Talkington, and Ernie Doclar giving their impressions from the St. Serra canonization

Mass and the Philadelphia visit. With a little good fortune with the digital projector, we may even show a few pictures.

Shown to the left is the banner of St. Junipero Serra hung near the east portico of the Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in northeast Washington, D.C. Serra is pictured holding models of his California mission churches.



Our Trip to Washington DC

By Pat Horak

Jo-Ann Bresowar, Juanita Ramirez (from the diocese,) Nancy Talkington, and I enjoyed a once-in-a-lifetime trip to attend the Canonization Mass of Junipero Serra by Pope Francis. It started out early. Our wonderful guide, Carolyn, Nancy's daughter and a docent at the basilica, picked us up at 6:00 A.M. We left her car parked at the Metro and rode the subway to the basilica. We waited in line visiting with other excited and friendly folks for the gates to open. After passing through security, we located our seating area (thanks to Carolyn) which was very close to the front. We waited. Toward the front, confessions were offered. It was very warm, and we took turns shopping and visiting.

At 4:00, bishops and cardinals arrived by bus. Music began and bishops paraded past and we were close enough to shake the hands of

Bishops Deshotel, Duca, and Seitz (we did not see Bishop Kevin.) Music was very beautiful and made up of five outstanding choirs. We hoped the Popemobile would pass near us but it circled around the back to the delight of the standing audience.

The front of the outside altar against the background of the basilica was a sea of red-capped cardinals and bishops. A large screen allowed us to follow the action. Soon, mass began, the canonization started with singing of the Litany of the Saints, after which Pope Francis, using the formula of canonization, accepted relics of Serra from Cardinal Wuerl. Wuerl requested an Apostolic Letter be drawn up to which Pope Francis agreed. When Francis did so, Junipero Serra was declared a saint.

After the readings, Pope Francis's homily challenged all to go forth with joy in mission despite life's struggles. He presented St. Junipero Serra as a model of bringing the Gospel joy to others by seeing the faces of Christ in those he met; defending the dignity of the native community. "Keep moving forward," St. Junipero Serra's motto, should inspire us to see life grows by giving and not by comfort and isolation causing the causing the "heart to grow numb."

At the conclusion of Mass, Pope Francis gave us his Pontifical Blessing. Even the hot sun did not detract from the solemnity and beauty of the mass. The impressive size of the crowd of so many cultures and backgrounds exhibited a remarkably reverent and attentive participation in this historical celebration. One could not help but be inspired.

We joined the exodus of 25,000 which was orderly but slow. We were impressed with the security provided before and after. All went well, thank God. The Metro seemed overwhelmed, so we opted for the bus and transferred to the Metro

downtown walking a few blocks to the Hyatt hotel for the Serra Club's dinner. Most arrived late understandably, but soon Cardinal Cozzens, St. I's episcopal advisor, gave the blessing and a wonderful dinner was served. We all agreed it was a fantastic day and how blessed we were to be there.

During our time in Washington, again with Carolyn's help, we visited Mount St Mary's College and Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. We toured the Seminary and its historic chapel. After a short drive up this beautiful area, we walked the path to the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes. The path included the Mysteries of the Rosary, chapel, and other saints for meditation in this peaceful place. What a fitting climax to our visit. [end]

If you'd like to read the article I wrote for the North Texas Catholic on the canonization of Serra, please go to: www.fwdioc.org, and under "Communications" find it listed under the headline that starts: 'A pious friar....' Ernie Doclar

Bits 'n' Pieces.....

>Larry Montz, Serra District 43E governor, extends his gratitude to the Serrans who helped serve food at the Holy Trinity seminarians and families picnic on Sept. 20. Present were Judy and Hank Gillespie and Ernie Doclar. Several of our UD Serrans brought desserts and thanks to them also. Larry forwarded the following from HTS Rector Father James Swift:

Hi to everyone.

I know this is a little late in coming, but it took me a few days to recover from the Spes Gregis Dinner at the Anatole and then Family Day the next day, followed by a week of excitement with the Pope in the country.

I do want to thank all of you for once again knocking it out the

ballpark with your desserts. What few were left over from the picnic went downstairs to the student kitchen and miraculously disappeared within a few hours!

I'm grateful for all the support you give us here at HTS. May God bless you for your love of the priesthood and may our new St. Junipero Serra prosper your work for the Church and priests.

Fr Jim Swift, C.M.

>Remember that all Serrans and families are invited to the regular 9:15 A.M. mass at Holy Trinity Seminary on Sunday, October 25. It will be a memorial acknowledging the sainthood of Junipero Serra. Bishop Deshotel will be celebrant. Donuts or other sweets are appreciated because of the large crowd expected. Other local Serra clubs are also attending.

>For your long-range planning, the next Vocation Awareness Program sponsored by all the Metroplex Serra Clubs will take place on June 24-26, 2016.

>Priesthood Sunday celebration and activities also occur on October 25. Be sure you say thanks or send a greeting card to your parish priests or any others you know. If you are a Serra parish contact, remind your vocations chair of the activities available to them on the Serraus.org web site.

>UD Serran Mabel Boyd-Obuseh's info on the district master roster is missing from some copies. Here are Mabel's correct contact details: 1343 Monterrey Blvd. Apt. A, Euless, TX 76040; 682-351-7268; mayboyd@hotmail.com. Holy Family of Nazareth is her home parish.

END

