



SERRA CLUB of MELBOURNE Newsletter

December 2017

SCANZSPAC CONVENTION

A booking has been made at Catholic Leadership Centre, East Melbourne, for 19th and 20th October. The SCANZSPAC Board Meeting would be held on the previous day. Registration is anticipated to be \$300 per person, with a \$25 discount for 'early bird' bookings. Accommodation is available at the Centre at an additional cost. Serrans should remember that this was the venue for the Serra International Convention held in Melbourne in 2015, and what a wonderful occasion this was.

SERRA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2018

This will be held from 27th June to 1st July, at Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A..

SERRA RETREAT

The date for the 2018 Retreat is Saturday 14th April. It will be at Holy Cross Centre, Templestowe, where it has been held for several years now. This will be the 38th Annual Retreat, and once again will be organized by Neville Hackett. Each year Neville has organized a wonderful Retreat Master, and so it is certain that the 2018 Retreat will be at the usual standard. Make a note of the date.

CHANGE OF MEETING DATES

As Anzac Day in 2018 falls on Wednesday 25th April, the Executive has decided to bring forward the meeting that would normally be on this date, to Wednesday 18th April.

In addition to this change, as some members plan to attend the Serra International Convention, the June meeting, at which the new Board will be installed, will also be brought forward to Wednesday 20th June. Please record these dates.

SEMINARY LUNCH

Another date to mark in your Diary for 2018 is Sunday 15th April. Frank McCulloch has confirmed this date with Corpus Christi Seminary, for our annual gathering to celebrate Mass, and to enjoy lunch with the staff and seminarians.

K.S.C. DINNER

The Annual Archbishop's Dinner, sponsored by the Knights of the Southern Cross will be Friday 24th August 2018. This will be the 20th Annual Dinner and it has raised over \$1,000,000.00 to date to assist in the education of Seminarians, and additional study for priests.

JANUARY MEETING: As some members will be away, the Executive have decided to cancel the meeting normally held in January.

MASS FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

The Annual Mass for Consecrated Life will be celebrated on Saturday 3rd February 2018 at 10.00am at St Patrick's Cathedral. Serrans have been asked to assist at the Mass with the distribution of booklets and tapers, and to take care of the morning tea in the Cardinal Knox Centre. Any Serran able to help is asked to be at the Cathedral by 9.30am at the latest.

GUEST SPEAKER

Fr Andrew Jekot was our guest speaker for the November meeting. He is the parish priest of St Brigid's, Mordialloc, and St Louis de Montford, Aspendale. Father is also the Director of the Office for the Permanent Diaconate. He was previously the parish priest of St Peter Julian, Mooroolbark.

Fr Andrew grew up in Dandenong, and has been twenty years as a priest. He decided to do the 'El Camino de Santiago Walk' which is 800 km starting in France and finishing in Santiago de Compostela, Spain as a Sabbatical. (Believed to be the resting place of St James the Apostle.)

A Sudanese, Deacon George is in the Aspendale parish, and he had a desire or dream to rebuild the school in Sudan where he had come from. Father agreed to help, and they decided that they would ask the parishioners to assist this appeal. They bought a large shipping container and the schoolchildren decorated it. They gradually filled the container with clothes, school uniforms, desks and other furniture. When it was full it weighted 22 tonnes, and the limit on the crane that was hired to lift it onto the truck had a limit of 23 tonnes. This happened in September 2013, and the wet season stopped it from being able to be delivered to South Sudan, and it was stranded in Kenya. There it sat for two years because of the war in South Sudan. Finally, it arrived, and Father arrived there soon afterwards. The community which numbered 23,000 people, all received some article from the container, and through contacts, Fr Andrew was able to provide them with a set of plans for the school which had been provided pro bono, following local and Australian input. It certainly demonstrates what can be achieved when people are presented with a challenge.

REMEMBERto say the Serran Prayer... DAILY



Reflection from Pope Francis

"Brothers and sisters, let us not be closed to the newness that God wants to bring into our lives! Are we often weary, disheartened and sad? Do we feel weighed down by our sins? Do you think we won't be able to cope? Let us not close our hearts, let us not lose confidence, let us never give up. There are no situations that God cannot change; there is no sin that he cannot forgive if only we open ourselves to him."

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

December	13th	St. Catherine's Church, 2 Buchan Street, Moorabbin
January	NO MEETING	
February	28th	Rosary 6.15 pm. Mass 6.30 pm. followed by Dinner Meeting in the Sweeney Centre.
March	28th	

SATURDAY MORNING MASS for VOCATIONS

December	St Joseph's, Springvale	8.00am
January	St Catherine's, Moorabbin	8.30am
February	St Mary's, Hampton	8.30am

MASS ROSTER

	<i>Dec</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>
Reader:	John	Dan	Terry
Prayers of the Faithful:	Anne	Frank	John
Offertory Procession:	Guests	Lyn/Ruby	Dan/Ruby
Minister of Communion:	Concelebrants	Barbara/John	Anne/Frank
Meals Clean Up:	All Members urged to assist.		