



# SERRA CLUB of MELBOURNE Newsletter

March 2018

## SERRA RETREAT

The date for the 2018 Retreat is Saturday 14th April. It will be at the Holy Cross, Templestowe, 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe. This will be the 38th Annual Retreat, and once again is being organised by Neville Hackett. Each year Neville has organised a wonderful Retreat Master, and this year it is no exception. It will be Fr Kevin Hennessy CP, Superior of the Holy Cross Passionist Community at Templestowe. Fr Hennessy conducted the Retreat in 2009, and was very well received.

## SEMINARY LUNCH

This annual event, where the members of Serra District 89, gather to celebrate Mass at Sacred Heart Church, Carlton, and then join the Seminary Staff and students for lunch will be on Sunday 15th April. Mass is at 11.30am. This is an occasion not to be missed.

## 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.

## 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.

## MASS FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

The Annual Mass for Consecrated Life was celebrated on Saturday 3rd February at the 10.00am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral.

His Grace, Archbishop Denis Hart, was the Principal Celebrant, accompanied by Order Priests. Members of Serra were once again invited to assist, both in the Cathedral and at the morning tea that followed.

Sister Patricia Williams RSJ, who has the task of organizing the day, expressed her gratitude for the Serra Assistance. There were approximately 250 to 300 present for the Mass. The cantor for the Mass was Sister Geraldine Larkins RSJ, who is a cousin of SCANZSPAC President, Anne Larkins.

## RECENT DEATH

Dr John Pocock, an original member of the Serra Club of Melbourne North, which chartered in 1972, but has since disbanded, died on 25th December, aged 92 years. John was a great Serran and a very gentle man. Please remember him in your prayers.

## NEWS OF SERRANS

Josephine Rowswell was welcomed back to the Melbourne Club at the February meeting. She has been unable to attend for sometime, but Terry Taylor had offered to contact her and arrange to drive her to the meetings.

Unfortunately, illness has forced Past District Governor, Kathy Hollier, to decide to resign. She has contributed greatly to the Melbourne Club, and also to District 89, and was on the SCANZSPAC Board.

In addition, illness has also forced Daphne Hennelly to resign. She had a fall last year and broke her hip, which has severely restricted her ability to get around.

Lyn Cronk is currently recovering after surgery, and Ruby Edema continues to be unwell.

Margaret Abourizsk, President of Oakleigh Deanery Club, is undergoing Cardiac Surgery and will be 'out of action' for some time.

Fr Dowling also was on the sick list for February, with ongoing problems with one eye, but then he is a North Melbourne supporter!

## GUEST SPEAKER

Fr Clem Cafarella, priest in residence at St Catherine's Moorabbin, was our Mass Celebrant and guest speaker at the February meeting. Fr Clem was ordained in the same year as our Chaplain, Fr Dowling, and they will celebrate sixty years of Priesthood in July.

Fr Clem said that as a young man he thought about the priesthood, and in October 1951 he approached his parish priest to make enquiries. It was suggested that he could visit the seminary, and from there he went to see the Vicar General, Arthur Fox.

His father offered to pay half the fees at the seminary, and he roomed for a time with Fr Dowling.

They were ordained in 1958, and he was appointed to Moonee Ponds under Fr Willis as his parish priest. He stayed there for seven years, and then went to Thornbury for one year.

Father's first appointment as parish priest was to North Melbourne for six years, followed by six years in Daylesford. From there he went to Altona, where he stayed for twenty-five years until retirement.

When he was at Altona, he approached the religious from other denominations in the area, and suggested that they could organize a competition with the school children to design and draw Christmas Cards. The best were chosen and reproduced professionally and distributed to the people

of Altona. This done about four times at Altona.

On his retirement, Fr Michael Sierakowski, parish priest of Holy Trinity Parish, which is made up of St Paul's Bentleigh, St Peter's East Bentleigh, and St Catherine Labourè Moorabbin, suggested to Fr Clem that he could take up residence at Holy Trinity, and help Fr Michael. He readily agreed to this, and has now been at St Catherine's for seven years.

However, though he is retired, he has not stopped studying at the Theological College, and in addition to that, he decided to commence his idea of having Christmas Cards for the people, but changed the concept to getting the school children from St Paul's and St Catherine's to create cards, which are then delivered to parishioners by volunteers, including the children with their parents. This has proved to be a great source of joy to the recipients, as many acknowledgements testify.

To a degree, it has taken on a life of its own, in that some were taken to the Bentleigh RSL Club, and again the people that have received them were overcome. They have also been distributed to Nursing Homes in the area, and now about 1400 cards are addressed to individual parishioners and extras to the other places.

Fr Clem also visits one classroom at St Catherine's school each Wednesday and poses a question to the class, who then attend Mass, and he asks them to supply answers to the question. The replies are often very thought provoking.

He is also a fanatical golfer and plays almost every Monday, and totally enjoys the challenge, and is often among the winners.

In turn, he is loved by all parishioners of Holy Trinity Parish.

## NOTICE OF MEETINGS

March 28th St. Catherine's Church, 2 Buchan Street, Moorabbin  
 April 18th Rosary 6.15 pm. Mass 6.30 pm. followed by  
 May 23rd Dinner Meeting in the Sweeney Centre.

***Please Note*** change of date in April as Anzac Day falls on Wednesday 25th April.

**In addition to this change, as some members plan to attend the Serra International Convention which will be held from 29th June to 1st July, at Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A., the normal June date of the fourth Wednesday, will be brought forward to the third Wednesday, which is the 20th June. This will be the occasion for the annual installation of the new executive.**

## SATURDAY MORNING MASS for VOCATIONS

March	St Leonard's, Glen Waverley	9.00am
April	St Joseph's, Elsternwick	10.00am
	<b><i>ONLY 21st and 28th April</i></b>	
May	Stella Maris, Beaumaris	9.15am

**MASS ROSTER**

	<b><i>March</i></b>	<b><i>April</i></b>	<b><i>May</i></b>
<b>Reader:</b>	Terry	Frank	Barbara
<b>Prayers of the Faithful:</b>	John	Anne	John
<b>Offertory Procession:</b>	Dan/Jo	Terry/Lyn	Anne/Max
<b>Minister of Communion:</b>	Anne/Frank	Barbara/John	Terry/Dan
<b>Meals Clean Up:</b>	<b>All Members urged to assist.</b>		