



SERRA CLUB of MELBOURNE Newsletter

April 2018

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.

SALE GOLF DAY

The Serra Club of Sale once again held their Annual Golf Day, which is now Golf and Bowls, on Monday 26th March. The event is held on the Monday of Holy Week, as the priests of the Diocese are in Sale to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Oils on the next day, Tuesday of Holy Week.

All the priests and seminarians are invited to attend the Dinner in the evening at the Sale Bowls Club, and Ministers from other denominations are invited also, as are Serrans from District 89, and lay supporters from the area.

There were over 100 present at the Dinner which takes a lot of organizing. This has been done for many years by Reg Carmody, who also has the hard task of obtaining prizes for the raffle. It was once again, a wonderful evening, and a tribute to the Sale Serrans, and all their helpers and spouses.

ART SHOW

The Visual Art Exhibition, presented by Catholic Education, takes place annually during Catholic Education Week.

The Art Show is open to all Catholic art students of secondary and primary schools in the Diocese of Melbourne.

The Serra Prize is given to the students where talents are reflected in the art of portraiture. The judging takes place one week before the awards are given. The names of the primary and secondary winners are etched onto the plaques of Serra and held for twelve months by the winners; they also receive prize money.

This year the award was won by a secondary student whose portrait of Mother Therese was outstanding. The task of judging is very difficult as Mary O'Connor, District Governor, and Maureen Burrows, have found out over the years as the talent is very high.

GUEST SPEAKER

At the club meeting in March, Jolyon Butler and his wife, Christine, spoke about their recent trip to Israel. They are currently visitors to the club, but it is the club's hope that they will decide to become members.

A large part of their time was spent in Jerusalem, exploring the Old City, but they hired a car and travelled the length of Israel from the North to Masada in the South.

Joylon showed photos of the various places they visited, and as some of the members present had travelled to Israel previously, it brought back many memories.

Nevertheless, as recent events show, sadly, Israel is a very dangerous place to visit, but it is also very rewarding, as it brings alive places that are named in the Bible. It is a very small country, but is almost a road down which invading armies have travelled from 3,000 BC to the present day, and the Israelites can trace their ancestry back to this period.

FR ERNIE SMITH OAM

Fr Ernie died on 28th March 2018. He was a quite remarkable man, in that when he was assigned to the parish of Sacred Heart , St Kilda, he saw an enormous need to help the people that lived or frequented the area.

He invited a few people to share a meal with him, but this soon got beyond his ability to manage by himself, so he asked parishioners to help, and very quickly this grew into the need to cater for many people each day. As he could not afford to feed them from parish funds, he approached local businesses, which in turn resulted in him being given so much fresh and processed food, that he had to develop a means to 'pass on' to other Charities, what was not required. The Mission was regularly feeding about 400 people each day. He also realized that a number of people had health problems, and was able to persuade various professional people to volunteer their time on a regular basis, without charge.

Government assistance enabled Fr Ernie to obtain accommodation facilities in the area, and so the Mission continued to grow, and provide vital services to those in need.

As a boy growing up, his parents owned a fruit and vegetable shop in North Melbourne, and always did what they could to help the poor in the area, and this had a big influence on him.

Fr Ernie developed Parkinson's Disease and he had a very hard time for the last few years according to his sister, Mrs Pat Petterson, who spoke at the Eulogy. The retired Anglican Archbishop, the Right Reverend the Honourable Dr Peter Hollingsworth AC OBE, also spoke very highly of Fr Ernie. Father had asked him to become Chairman of another Mission that he had established in

Collingwood, after he moved there from St Kilda. St Vincent's Private Hospital was approached and they now provide all the food, and decided to fund a complete renovation of the kitchen.

His funeral was held at his boyhood parish church, St Michael's North Melbourne. There were forty-four priests on the Sanctuary, with Fr Brendan Lane as the Principal Celebrant. The church was full to overflowing with people from all walks of life. It was a wonderful tribute to a man who had given so much to so many thousands of people.

Many years ago, the Serra Club of Melbourne attended one of the evenings at Sacred Heart at Fr Ernie's invitation, and having seen the work that he was doing, some became involved, not as Serrans, but as Catholics.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

April 18th St. Catherine's Church, 2 Buchan Street, Moorabbin
 May 23rd Rosary 6.15 pm. Mass 6.30 pm. followed by
 June 20th Dinner Meeting in the Sweeney Centre.

SATURDAY MORNING MASS for VOCATIONS

April	St Joseph's, Elsternwick	10.00am
May	Stella Maris, Beaumaris	9.15am
June	St Peter's, Clayton	9.00am

MASS ROSTER

	April	May	June
Reader:	Frank	Barbara	Dan
Prayers of the Faithful:	Anne	John	Terry
Offertory Procession:	Terry/Lyn	Anne/Max	Jolyon/Christine
Minister of Communion:	Barbara/John	Terry/Dan	Concelebrants
Meals Clean Up:	All Members urged to assist.		