



NEWSLETTER

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fellow Serrans,

We are sitting midway through the Novena to Blessed Junipero Serra the 9 days leading up to his feast day in July 1st.

What is readily apparent with the life of our Patron, is his great love for Christ and his full commitment and drive to bring the Gospel news to new frontiers in the area of California.

This was no easy task given he was regularly having to experience poor supplies and personal health hardships.

Inspired by his patronage let us renew our focus each day in supporting our existing religious vocations so they know that they are not alone.

Also, let us pray for our young people to be open to hear the vocation in life that their heavenly Father is calling be it a religious vocation or married life.

Blessed Junipero Serra – pray for us.

Richard.

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1	Prayer Requests	4
Melbourne Conference	2-3	Contacts & Calendar	4
Reflection	3	Daily Serran Prayer	4

SERRA 73RD INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – MELBOURNE - JULY 30 - AUGUST 1, 2015

The Serra International Convention will commence on **Thursday 30th July at 4.30pm** (Registration 11am - 4pm), and conclude with the Mass and Banquet Dinner on **Saturday 1st August 7.45pm - 9.30pm**.

Convention Registration is US\$400.00. Registration may be made through either the special Convention Website ***www.si2015.melbourne*** or through the Serra International Website. The Convention Website is linked to the Serra International Website ***www.serrainternational.org***. The Theme for the Convention is '**Christ the Light of the World**'.

All Convention Sessions including the Convention Mass, will be held at the **Catholic Leadership Centre**, Corner Victoria Parade and Hoddle Street, East Melbourne. The Convention Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 1st August at 6.00pm. The Principal Celebrant will be Archbishop Denis Hart.

Accommodation will be at two locations –

- Catholic Leadership Centre – NOW SOLD OUT.
- Doubletree by Hilton Hotel 270 Flinders Street Melbourne from Monday 27th July until Tuesday 4th August (check-out Wednesday), AU\$ 220 (approx. US\$172.00 depending on the exchange rate at the time of payment) per night. Breakfast is an additional cost. Reservation must be made through the hotel link on the Website with the Registration but payment is to be made direct to the hotel upon departure.

Attendees are at liberty to make their own accommodation arrangements but would be responsible for their own transport arrangements to and from the Convention venue.

A great list of speakers have been organised, and include:

- Archbishop Denis Hart, (Archbishop of Melbourne)
- Father Brendan Lane (Rector of Corpus Christi College Seminary)
- Bishop Gerard Hanna (Diocese of Wagga Wagga)
- Father Morgan Batt (Keynote Speaker, Vocations Director for the Archdiocese of Brisbane)
- Bishop Michael Kennedy (Diocese of Armidale)

SERRA 73RD INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION – CONT.

Assistance of members will be required, particularly on the Thursday 30th July, to assist with registration of attendees, and Frank McCulloch will co-ordinate this operation, so please let him know of your availability as soon as possible.

Email: serrasecanz@gmail.com

REFLECTION

On the initiative of Terry Scanlan, our Members and all Catholics in the Diocese were invited to participate in reciting the Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in the nine days before the Feast of the Sacred Heart on 12th June. The Novena was offered for the sanctification of priests and graces for our own personal sanctification.

The Novena prayers, from the Serra Handbook focused our attention on the unceasing love and mercy freely offered from the Heart of Jesus to all of us. "Jesus, is not Your Heart the Heart of God who is all love". (First day of Novena — page 156 of Handbook).

Jesus is the perfect revelation of God. The love of the Heart of Jesus is the perfect love given to Jesus by God. This love through the Holy Spirit is poured into our hearts by Jesus and it is this love which we are to share with one another. Love, as used by the writers of the New Testament, describes our basic and essential relationship with God and each other.

This love we receive however is a very special love. It is God's love flowing through us to others. James in his letter saw this love as divine. This love flows from God to Jesus, Jesus to us and from us to each other.

Jesus is offering us His own spirit, the love He shares with His Father. When we share this love, it is sharing with each other the love that God had in the incarnation of His Son and the Son's responding to this love by His sacrificial death on the Cross. This mutual love between Father and Son is the love we receive from Jesus in His own Spirit. "I give you a new commandment. Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." (John Ch 13 V 34)

Jesus, make me an instrument of your love today.

David Carson – Secretary

THURSDAY, 23 JULY 2015 MEETING

Venue - Sacred Heart, Pymble
Priest - Fr Geoff Bugden
Catering – Terry Scanlan, Richard & Sandra Fitzgerald, Kevin & Maureen Fellow

PRAYER REQUESTS

Trenna Scanlan, Fay Vale, Monica Gibbons, John Swan, Elena Fergusson, Elizabeth Sheldon, Sr Catherine Ann Therese, Phil Connors, Jim Hussin, John Garretty, Fr Phil Hicks.

DAILY SERRAN PRAYER

God, our Father,

We praise You for Your goodness and thank You for Your gifts.

We thank You for our priests, deacons and consecrated men and women. May they be holy and filled with the fire of your love.

Father, look upon Your Church with love and bless us with an increase in vocations: people of faith, hope and love to lead and guide us.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Mary, our Mother, protect and strengthen our priests, deacons and consecrated men and women.

May they know your loving presence and follow your words "Do whatever he tells you." (Jn 2.5)

St Joseph, faithful spouse of Mary, pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross, pray for us.

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