



Wheeling, WV

Serra Club

*Prayer Leaders*

**Judy Goudy – Dec. 7**

**Vickie Joseph – Dec. 21**

**Larry Bandi – Jan. 4**

*If you can't make it to the meeting at which you are to lead the prayer, please find a substitute.*

### *Upcoming Events*

- **Dec. 7 - Serra Club meeting with Corpus Christi pastor Father Paul Mundumoozhikkaranirappel, C.S.T. as our speaker**
- **Dec. 7 - Serra Board meeting, immediately following our club meeting.**

## *Christmas Luncheon*

- **Dec. 21 - Christmas luncheon with our seminarians! This will be a lovely event, so be sure to mark it on your calendar. Please bring your spouses and prospective new members.**
- **Jan. 4 - Speaker TBA**
- **Jan. 18 - TBA**

# Serra Club News

December 2018

## Diocese Works to Restore Trust

Major developments have occurred in the Diocese of Wheeling Charleston since the resignation of Bishop Bransfield, Bryan Minor told the Serra Club. Minor is executive director of West Virginia Catholic Foundation, and recently was appointed delegate for administrative affairs by Archbishop William Lori. In this role, he is assisting the archbishop in overseeing day-to-day diocesan operations.



*Bryan Minor*

The developments Minor mentioned include the appointment of a panel of three men and two women to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct that have been leveled against Bishop Bransfield. Four panel members are from outside West Virginia, Minor said. Their mandate, assigned by Archbishop Lori, is to follow the truth.

The panel has been interviewing priests and others, looking not only at possible sexual harassment of adults but also at the financial management of the diocese. Once the data have been compiled the panel will submit a report to the archbishop, who will share it with the Vatican.

Even as the Bransfield investigation progresses, the Diocese is preparing to release a list of all the priests, deacons, brothers and lay people against whom credible accusations of child sexual abuse have been made. The list is expected to contain fewer than 20 names, Minor said. No one on the list is engaged in active ministry, and many of those on the list are deceased. "It will be a tough time for us when the list is released," he said. "Even one case would be too many."

On another front, matters of Diocesan governance and oversight have become more pressing, Minor said. As a result, the diocese has doubled the size of its financial advisory board. Serra President Chris Freeman, a certified financial planner and one of the top investment advisors in the state, has been tapped to serve on this board.

By taking steps like these, the Diocese is trying to restore the trust with parishes, clergy, lay people and the community at large. Minor acknowledged that the Catholic Church's ongoing sexual scandals are difficult but urged Catholics not to be embarrassed. "We are people of faith, and we will walk forward together," he said. "It has been a long, arduous journey, but I trust we will move forward together, and Serra can help us do this. The vast majority of clergy are selfless people of God who put aside their own wishes to enter a life dedicated to the Lord," he said. "All of us can be ambassadors of good will for the Church." †



## Serra Club Officers

President: Chris Freeman  
chris.freeman@raymondjames.com

President-Elect: Rick Teachout  
rteachout@dwc.org

Treasurer: Frank Carenbauer  
flamewv@aol.com

Editor: Janet Boyle  
janet.boyle@comcast.net

VP Programs: Mike Medovic  
mmedovicdds@aol.com

VP Programs: Maureen McNabb  
mfmcnabb@yahoo.com

VP Membership: Larry Bandi  
lbandi@cchsknights.com

VP Membership: John Moore  
johnmoorejrl@comcast.net

VP Vocations: Joe Pangilinan  
joeypang@aol.com

## Serra Club Trustees:

Larry Bandi - lbandi@cchsknights.org

Ed Schmitt - schmitt497@frontier.com

Mike Medovic - mmedovicdds@aol.com

Bernie Coyne - berniecoyne@comcast.net

# Serrans Remember our Dear Departed Members & Friends

Monsignor Eugene Ostrowski presided over a lovely Mass to honor all our deceased members on Nov. 2, the Feast of All Souls. It's always a bittersweet event - we hear the names of so many old friends who are no longer with us, but we rejoice in their being reunited with our Lord in paradise. †



## *Beloved Deceased Serrans*

Adamo, Pascal  
Altmeyer, George  
Altmeyer, Jack  
Altmeyer, Harry  
Anderson, Harry  
Anthony, Samuel  
Bisceglia, Eugene  
Braddock, John  
Braulich, Earl  
Camilletti, D. Paul  
Campbell, James  
Carenbauer, Frank L.  
Cea, Stefano  
Chapman, Walter  
Chison, Andy  
Corcoran, Harry  
Corcoran, Howard

Costanzo, Louis  
Culley, Edward  
Cunningham, Harry  
David, James  
Donovan, Jerry  
Duffy, Raymond  
Eisenhauer, Charles  
Emmereth, Bob  
Espel, Paul  
Fluty, William  
Flynn, James  
Gormley, Kenneth  
Greene, Michael  
Gruber, Charles  
Hellstern, Joseph  
Hendrickson, Richard

*Continued on Page 3*

# Beloved Deceased Members, *continued*

Herndon, Richard  
Hores, Henry  
Jepson, Edwin  
Jepson, H. Gundling  
Jones, Martin  
Kaltenbach, Joseph  
Kamlowsky, John  
Klug, Joseph  
Loos, Orville  
Lynskey, Victor  
Mansuetto, Nickolas  
Marquart, Louis  
McElwee, James  
McKee, Jack  
McKeever, Robert  
McGann, John  
Meaney, Patrick

Medovic, William  
Moeller, Erick  
Niggemyer, Joseph  
O'Brien, Judge  
O'Brien, Thomas  
O'Leary, Jack  
Pangle, John  
Pangilinan, Rizal  
Prager, James  
Raab, Joseph  
Reddy, William J.  
Roth, Harold  
Sargus, George  
Savage, Charles  
Schmitt, Raymond  
Seese, Bert  
Snider, R.J.

Spadafore, Anthony J.  
Stenger, Ralph  
Stimac, George  
Taylor, Chester  
Thoner, John  
Thornburg, Orville  
Vanyo, Joseph  
Vogler, Lawrence  
Wagner, Joseph  
Ward, Stephen  
Weaver, John  
Weiskircher, George  
Welsh, George  
Williams, Paul  
Wold, John  
Yeager, Louis

## Seminarian Takes the Next Step on his Journey



*ABOVE: Candidate Phillip Szabo, left, pauses for a photo with the Most. Rev. William Lori, Archbishop; and Msgr. Andrew Baker, Rector of Mount St. Mary Seminary. RIGHT: Seminarians in attendance are, from left, Stephen Hill, Steven Bronzi, Michael Aiello and Phillip Szabo; Rick Teachout, Asst. Director of Vocations; and seminarians John Soplinski and Daniel Callahan.*

Congratulations to seminarian Phillip Szabo, who was recently installed to candidacy in a ceremony at Mount St. Mary Seminary.

Candidacy is a rite that takes place during the seminary formation by which the Church recognizes the seminarian as worthy of being ordained a priest or deacon. When a seminarian is admitted to candidacy, he makes a commitment to complete his seminary formation and pursue the priesthood. Many thanks to Rick Teachout, DWC Assistant Vocations Director, for sharing these photos.



# Serra Club is Happy to Welcome Vickie Joseph

Her friendship with a blind nun inspired a young Vickie Joseph to join the Catholic Church. While Vickie was in college at Seton Hill University in Greensburg, PA, she volunteered at the retired sisters' home. She began reading to Sr. Marian Claire McGurgan, an inspirational and transformational person in her life. "She really was a wonderful person," Vickie recalls. "I would attend Mass with her and look at her face. Her face was a picture of perfect peace. I would look at her and think – I want that for myself."

Not only did Vickie join the Catholic Church, she's been a tireless volunteer with numerous organizations affiliated with the Church, primarily the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and other groups at her home parish, St. Vincent, where she and her late husband Mike joined in 1991. The St. Vincent de Paul Society provides help with utility bills and groceries. They also have a bed ministry which supplies beds and bedding for local families. Vickie also volunteers one day a week at the YSS Winter Freeze Shelter, which is open every year from December 15 – March 15.

A native of Paris, PA, Vickie came to Wheeling in 1980 for a job with the Ohio Youth Advocate Program. In 1987 she took a job as a social worker at Wheeling Hospital where she still works part time. About 75 percent of her caseload is elderly people. "When people are ready to go home, we help to make sure they have the medical equipment and other

services they'll need once they are there," she said. "Or, they may need to go to rehab or a skilled care facility."

Vickie's work as a volunteer for St. Vincent de Paul Society frequently takes her into peoples' homes. "We do home visits to connect with people, let them know that we care about them and that God loves them," Vickie said. "In doing those visits sometimes we would come across people who were sleeping on the floor. We started thinking about how we could help. I like to go to auctions and I started buying beds for five or ten dollars and donating them to people."

That small act of kindness has grown into a full-fledged bed ministry that has provided more than 200 beds to people in need.

"We have gotten a tremendous amount of support from the parishioners at St. Vincent," Vickie noted. "Our parishioners have been very generous and donate everything from beds, to sheets, blankets and pillows. If the person will allow it, we like to leave the bed sleep-ready. We set it up, and fully make the bed with sheets, pillows, blankets and bedspread." Vickie remembers setting up a bed for a



*Vickie Joseph, center, with her children Lauren and Michael*

woman who had new housing after a period of homelessness. "The woman said, 'I can't remember the last time I slept in a bed.' It makes you feel good to know that you are helping." Vickie also noted the extreme generosity of the truck drivers who are the backbone of the program. "We couldn't do it without them."

Vickie lost her husband Mike in 2010 to pancreatic cancer. She has two children. Michael, 24, is a data storage specialist with VMware in Austin, TX. Lauren, 28, is a third-year medical student at WVU.

Chris Freeman invited Vickie to join Serra. She attended the Bishop's Burse two years ago and the Priests' Picnic this past summer. Due to her part time work schedule she hasn't yet been able to attend a meeting. She expects to attend her first meeting on December 7. Welcome Vickie! ☩