



# DELCHESTER SERRA CLUB



April 2013

## 2013 Charter Night

The Delchester Serra Club's Annual Charter Night Dinner will be held at Hennessy's restaurant in Aston on Sunday, May 5, 2013, starting at 5:30 p.m.

This will be an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to fostering and supporting religious vocations as we also honor the winners of this year's Club essay contest.

This year our speaker will be Father James DeGrassa currently assigned to Our Lady of Grace parish in Pennel, Bucks County, PA. Father DeGrassa is a native son of Delaware County, growing up in St. Madeline parish in Ridley Park. We look forward to hearing from him.

To accurately plan for this event, we need to know both who is coming and what they would like for their entrée. We will be collecting this information at our Saturday, April 6 membership meeting.

If you are not able to attend that meeting, please contact Margaret Flanagan at (610) 499-1451 to let her know who is coming (if you are bringing your spouse, parish priests, potential Club members, etc.) **AND** whether you would like Crab Cake **OR** Stuffed Chicken **OR** Roast Eye Round of Beef as your entrée. The cost per person is \$35 and is payable at Hennessy's on May 5.

## 2013 Altar Server Certificate Project

Believe it or not, we are approaching the end of the school year which means that it is once again time for our annual Altar Server Certificate project. This is another mechanism to highlight opportunities to minister in various ways in our Church as well as to model support for those in religious vocations.



We offer parishes the opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of graduating eighth grade parish/regional school children and those public school children in parish CCD/PREP. Parishes are asked to inform us how many students they have in the defined categories and when they need the certificates.

Last year we sent out or hand-delivered over 550 certificates to 40 parishes. One of our Club members prints out the certificates on parchment stock, leaving blanks for the parishes to fill in the Altar Servers' names and signature of the pastor or his designee. Many of our Club members deliver the certificates to the parishes in Chester and western Delaware counties, so it is truly a combined effort of our members.

This year we have asked 42 parishes to tell us the numbers of certificates needed and a parish point of contact. We anticipate another successful project!

## Schedule for April - May 2013

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| April 6  | Monthly 8 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Charity. Membership Meeting will follow at 8:45 a.m. in the basement Rectory Meeting Room (RMR). Our speaker will be Sister Mary Jo Ely, IHM, Assistant in the IHM Office of Vocations. |
| April 16 | Officers and Trustees meeting. Our Lady of Charity parish basement Rectory Conference Room (RCR) at 7:00 p.m.  |
| May 4    | <b><u>No regular Membership Meeting</u></b> due to Charter Night on May 5.   |
| May 5    | Annual Charter Night Dinner at Hennessy's Restaurant, Aston, starting at 5:30 p.m.   |
| May 21   | Officers and Trustees meeting. Our Lady of Charity parish basement Rectory Conference Room (RCR) at 7:00 p.m.  |

**Ad Book Returns**

Thanks to all Delchester Serra Club members who again labored to secure both personal and business ads for the ad book which serves as the program for our Annual Charter Night Dinner. This is our fundraising effort for this year, so its success will determine the amounts we have available for our various projects.

With a tight turnaround time between the final return date of April 6 and when the fully composed draft book needs to be taken to the printer, there was a concerted effort to get the ads in early. This was especially true for new ads and those renewed ads which needed to be changed. Many Club members stepped up their timetables to help meet this early deadline.

Please bring your ad returns to our membership meeting on Saturday, April 6. If you are not able to attend that meeting, please make arrangements to submit the ads before then by contacting Marty Frick at (610) 361-9397. Absolutely no ads will be accepted after the membership meeting on April 6.

**OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES**

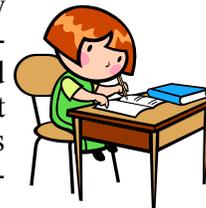
to the family of Jose A. Serrano, II, a First Theology student at St. Charles Seminary, who died on Palm Sunday, March 24, at Holy Redeemer Hospice after a battle with cancer.

**Continue to pray for religious vocations**



**Essay Contest Judging**

The 2013 Essay contest is now complete with two winners selected from the 35 essays received from 21 teachers' classes at twelve schools. Twenty essays were received from girls, and fifteen were received from boys.



After reading all of the submitted essays individually, our judges then join in a final meeting to discuss the essays and agree on the winners. It seems that the overall quality of the essays improves every year; this year was no exception!

The winners now will be notified and invited, along with their parents and their teachers, to our Annual Charter Night dinner where they will be recognized for this achievement. The winners also receive cash prizes.

To read the essays from prior years' winners, please see "[Essay Contest](#)" page at the Delchester Serra Club website [www.delchesterserra.org](http://www.delchesterserra.org).

This annual essay contest is one of the ways our Club strives create an awareness of and responsiveness to the call to religious vocations. This helps to meet our goals of both fostering religious vocations and supporting those who have answered that call.

Thanks to all who participated in any way to make this project a success again this year. Special appreciation goes to Judy Doolittle who oversees this project for our Club.

**2012 - 2013 Officers**

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| President                       | Dolores Lavelle         |
| Vice President - Programs       | Margaret Flanagan       |
| Vice President - Vocations      | Gerry Farrell           |
| Vice President - Membership     | Bill Murray             |
| Vice President - Communications | Marty Frick             |
| Secretary                       | Dolores O'Malley        |
| Treasurer                       | Ed Zgleszewski          |
| Chaplain                        | Fr. Richard C. Williams |

**2012 - 2013 Trustees**

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| Deacon Jack Betzal | Jim Grugan |
| Rick Dennis        | Ron Parra  |
| Bill Grogan        |            |