



FISHER'S NET

Diocese of Arlington Vocations *E-Newsletter*

Summer, 2007 - Vol. 3, No. 3

Visit our Web-Site: www.arlingtondiocese.org/offices/vocations

The *Office of Vocations 'Fisher's Net' E-Newsletter* is a periodic update of informative, inspirational and insightful news concerning aspects of discernment and formation to the priesthood and consecrated life, particularly among men and women from our diocese.

See end for subscribe and unsubscribe information.

Upcoming Events:

- 10/13: Dio. Pilgrimage to Nat'l. Shrine of I.C.
- 10/20: Parish Vocation Promoters Annual Workshop
- 10/20 Quo Vadis Grps. DC United Soccer Game at RFK
- 12/21- Men's Group
- 12/23 Days of Reflection
- 12/28- Hispanic Men
- 12/30 Discern. Retreat
- 1/5 Seminarian B-Ball Tournament at PVI

See Web-Site for Details

HEADLINES:

- **THE 'POTOMAC CUP' RECLAIMED BY THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON**
- **OUR NEW DIOCESAN SEMINARIANS**
- **SERRA MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR SEMINARIANS AND PARENTS**
- **CONSECRATED RELIGIOUS UPDATES**
- **ALTAR SERVER PICNIC**
- **ITALIAN STUDIES FOR LUKE DUNDON & JEB DONELAN**
- **ST. THERESE VOCATION SOCIETY MORNING OF REFLECTION**

THE 'POTOMAC CUP' RECLAIMED BY THE DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

For the fifth year in a row, the seminarians from the Diocese of Arlington squared off against those from the Archdiocese of Washington, DC, in the annual Potomac Challenge softball game. After early afternoon showers, the skies cleared long enough for the two teams to take the field and play. After an opening prayer and a hard-fought game, the final outcome was Arlington 20, Washington 12. It marked the third victory in the series for the Arlington team, a.k.a. "More's Men," and the victory continued the streak of the hosting diocese winning the game for the fifth straight year.



There was great support from both the Arlington seminarians and fans for this year's game. In all, 15 men from Arlington played in the game, and many more came out to support their brothers and to join in the camaraderie between the Arlington and Washington seminarians. This group of Arlington seminarians included several of the seven men recently accepted by Bishop Loverde who will be entering the seminary this August. Dozens of fans were also present for the game, including many seminarian family members as well as local parishioners. All were in good spirits as the runs were plentiful and the home team victorious. Also present at the game were the Vocations Directors, Msgr. Rob Panke of Washington and Fr. Brian Bashista of Arlington, as well as the pastor of St. Leo's parish, Fr. David Whitestone, and the two parochial vicars, Frs. Phillip Cozzi and Tarsicio Buitrago.

The Knights of Columbus of the Fr. Francis J. Diamond Council hosted the cookout at Providence Hall at St. Leo's for the third time, and the fraternity between the seminarians of the two dioceses continued at table. All enjoyed the hot dogs, burgers and salads provided by the Knights. Afterwards, the Washington seminarians parted promising to win back the trophy next year, when they will again host the game.

OUR NEW DIOCESAN SEMINARIANS



Nick Barnes
St. Charles
Pre-Theology I
St. Raymond

Mike Bussman
Mount St. Mary's
Pre-Theology I
St. John Neumann

Tom Cavanaugh
Mount. St. Mary
Pre-Theology I
St. Agnes

Keith Cummings
Blessed John XXIII
Pre-Theology II
St. Matthew



David Dufresne
Josephinum
Third College
St. William of York

Chris Hayes
Josephinum
Pre-Theology I
Sacred Heart

Tom Yehl
Theological College
Pre-Theology II
St. John the Beloved

Heavenly Father, we are grateful for the dedication and courage of these men and we ask You to bless them as they earnestly seek to follow Your call in their lives. Amen.

SERRA MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR SEMINARIANS AND PARENTS



The 2007 Serra Mass of Thanksgiving for our seminarians and their families was held again this summer at St. Mary's Historic Church in Fairfax, VA. Most of our twenty-nine seminarians. Were able to gather there for the 11 am Mass on August 4th. They brought with them parents, siblings, nieces, nephews, uncles, aunts, grandparents and godchildren. Bishop Loverde was the main celebrant for the Mass and he expressed his deep gratitude to the families, whose love and prayers have supported to these men as they grew in the discernment of Jesus' call to discover more about

priesthood through seminary formation. He also thanked the Serra Club members for all they do to lend their prayerful support to vocation and for hosting the picnic that day. His final thanks were extended to the seminarians themselves for their openness and dedication in following the Lord's call. Helping at the picnic were members of the Knights of Columbus #8600 who donated the main dishes and beverages and masterfully barbequed hamburgers, hotdogs, bratwurst, and three types of chicken. So much for us to give thanks for!

CONSECRATED RELIGIOUS UPDATES-SUMMER 2007

May 18: *Crystal Wirth* entered postulancy with the Benedictines of Mary, Queen of Apostles
May 31: *Kirsten Goza* entered postulancy with the Poor Clares in Alexandria, VA
May 31: *Megan Wertner* entered novitiate with the Franciscan Sisters Minor and became *Sr. Karolyn Grace*
June 2: *Patrick Toole* was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Charlotte, NC
June 7: *Sr. Brigid Ancilla Maria Heisler, S.V.* entered novitiate with the Sisters of Life
June 28: *Monica Scalph* entered postulancy with the Benedictine Nuns of New Mexico
August 12: *Sr. Elizabeth Ann Sjoberg* was incorporated as a Daughter of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul
August 15: *Leo Chavarria* entered postulancy with the Companions of the Cross
August 22: *Julia Strukely* entered postulancy with the Daughters of St. Paul
October 14: *Sr. Audrey Frances Moran* will make her first profession of vows with the Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales

ALTAR SERVER PICNIC

The annual picnic honoring the Diocese of Arlington altar servers for their dedication and faithful service was held again at Lake Fairfax Park on August 16th. About 200 attended. Rain had threatened all morning but the picnic took place as planned with the sun coming out just as Bishop Loverde arrived. The servers found plenty of ways to enjoy their day of celebration. Some fished, some played sports, some swam, while others stayed under the tents playing cards and other games. Food was served with the help of the seminarians and Knights of Columbus Council #6790. Bishop Loverde awarded a variety of prizes to lucky ticket holders. Each of the boys and girls had received their ticket number when they went through the food line. Prizes included an assortment of sports balls with a grand prize being a \$100 savings bond. All were happy to have participated in this event and shown support for the generous altar servers.



ITALIAN STUDIES FOR LUKE DUNDON & JEB DONELAN



Luke reports, "Since July 16th, when we first flew into Rome, we've experienced more things than I ever thought I would see in a lifetime. It's truly been a humbling and awesome experience, one filled with undeniable blessings and incredible adventure. Once we returned to Rome in late-August, we had an action-packed two-week Orientation. In many ways, it has taken a while to get used to the idea that we are living here and not simply some of the many tourists that come through Rome. However, we are blessed to have many priests and parishioners passing through and it is great to see familiar faces.

This month of September has been filled with lots more Italian classes and formation meetings, before Theology begins in October after the Diaconate ordination at St. Peter's. The European

system has the semester run from October till the end of January; 2nd semester soon follows after exams in February, and runs till the end of May, followed by finals. The faculty here has taken wonderful care of us new men. Prayers continue for you all. Please continue to keep Robert, Rob, Jeb and myself in your prayers, they help incredibly! More to come soon, but till then I pray that everyone has a wonderful and blessed semester.”

Jeb had these words to add:

“It has been a good eight weeks full of blessings and challenges. The opportunity to study in Rome is certainly a great gift that I thank God for every day and hope to share with you if you ever come to Rome. In fact one of the true challenges has been to remember that I have been sent here to become a priest not to be a tourist, or learn Italian or the other million temptations I might face in a day.

One of the greatest parts so far was studying Italian for a month in Assisi. It still amazes me the countless number that go to visit the tomb of St. Claire or of St. Francis. Being there for four weeks it was almost tempting to get caught up in the Italian and forget about the surrounding spiritual richness. However, God really allowed me to see how little this trip to Rome was about me and how much He is calling me to holiness through it all.”

Please pray for our men in Rome, Luke, Jeb, Rob and Robert, as well as all our seminarians, as they continue to grow in the discernment of their vocations in Christ Jesus.

ST. THERESE VOCATION SOCIETY MORNING OF REFLECTION

The St. Therese Vocation Societies’ annual Morning of Reflection was held on September 29. Members gathered for 9 am Mass at Our Lady of Angels in Woodbridge. A continental breakfast followed and the spiritual conference was given by Fr. Charles Smith, parochial vicar of Our Lady of Angels. He spoke on the ordinariness of the life of our Blessed Mother which she lived out with such extraordinary love and then paralleled the life and love of St. Therese with hers. The morning concluded with a Holy Hour for Vocations which was led by Fr. Brian Bashista.

St. Therese, pray for us!



MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH AND MOTHER OF VOCATIONS, PRAY FOR US!

DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON
Office of Vocations
200 North Glebe Road, Suite 901
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 841-2514
vocations@arlingtondiocese.org

SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE: The Office of Vocations *E-Newsletter* is free. If you know of others who would like to receive this periodic electronic newsletter, please respond to vocations@arlingtondiocese.org providing the new subscribers e-mail address. If you would like to unsubscribe, please respond to this e-mail by writing ‘UNSUBSCRIBE’ either in the body of the e-mail or on the subject line.
