



Saint Croix Valley Serra Club

January 2010

Events for Saint Croix Valley Serra

Saturday, Jan. 2: 8:30 am Mass and fellowship at St. Jude's.

Thursday, Jan. 21: 6:30 pm dinner at Tinucci's. Speaker is District Governor John Lichty

Saturday, Feb. 6: 8:30 am at the St. Paul Monastery on Larpenteur and Century Ave.

Thursday, Feb. 18: 6:30 p.m. dinner at Tinucci's. Speaker TBA.

Club Officers:

President: David Nagan (501-8279)

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VP Membership: Roberta Grady

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Treasurer: Leanne Syrstad (702-9913)

Secretary: David Dries (714-4198)

***MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND
A BLESSED AND HAPPY
NEW YEAR!***

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**President's message**

While we just got back from the retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center. Most Reverend Harry J. Flynn, D.D. gave a talk on Friendship with Jesus, prayer, forgiveness and making time for yourself. At District 7 Round Table Session we discussed the "Year of the Priest" Archdiocesan Supper, 2 year terms for officers, the New Bishop in Duluth, increasing membership and open discussion in general. One club said that their business meetings were held in a hospital conference room, which got me thinking. So I was thinking maybe we could find a hospital conference room or I was at the Woodbury HealthPartners clinic and asked if they had a conference room for our group. I got the business manager phone number to call for information. Then I was driving home and saw the Oakdale library and knew they have conference rooms. Before I go any further I would like your opinions on this matter. I was thinking if we passed on supper and just have a meeting with the speaker and a short social or business meeting from 6:30 to 8 PM. Do you think it might work? I would like to talk about this idea more at our next business meeting.

David Nagan

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See the library listings on page 3. -----

## Chaplain's Message

*I share with you my 2006 reflection on the Feast of the Holy Family.*

During this holy season of Christmas, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Mary, Joseph and Jesus model for us the life of a holy family. Joseph exhibited great trust in God and demonstrated intense devotion and love in caring for Mary and Jesus. Scripture does not quote a single word of Joseph, and yet his actions speak volumes of a strong man devoted to God and family. Mary, too, showed tremendous faith in God and trusted in God's love for her. As wife, she helped Joseph in his quest for holiness. As mother, she cared for Jesus with great love and tenderness. Both Mary and Joseph created the environment which allowed Jesus to grow in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. Jesus, for his part, was obedient to Mary and Joseph and obviously loved them both very much. And, out of great love for his Father and for us, he was obedient to all that God asked of him, including death on a cross. This type of sacrificial love for the other defines a significant attribute of a holy family-- a love that allows all in the family to flourish in their quest for holiness.

For some reason, we often find it difficult to express our love and appreciation to those closest to us - our family members. We assume they know we love them and are grateful for all they do for us. When we do try to express our love, our sentiments might be offset by humor or quickly said at the very end of a phone conversation.

I encourage you to give a gift that costs nothing but means everything: look your loved ones in the eye and utter three beautiful words: *"I love you."* What a great way to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family!!!

Fr. Talbot

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## Goodie Bag Assembly

**241:** That's the number of Goodie Bags prepared at Leanne's home on November 5 for the seminarians of St. John Vianney College Seminary and the Saint Paul Seminary. A wide variety of snacks was purchased at Sam's Club with club input as to what the men would most enjoy and what would handle well in a gallon baggie! The bags were then counted and organized in boxes for distribution to our seminarian guests at the Annual Buffet. See article below.

## Autumn Buffet Dinner for Seminarians

Thanks to SPS Seminarian Andrew Stueve and SJV Seminarian Paul Shovelain, our annual autumn buffet hosted 16 men from SJV & SPS on November 14 at Dave and Barbara's home. The event began with Evening Prayer as the men shared their breviaries with us. Dinner followed and, as usual, the food was spectacular with club members providing pop, rolls, fruit salad, fresh vegetables, ham, cheesy potatoes, salads, baked beans, pumpkin bread, and multiple desserts. Fr. Bobby Pish, an SPS professor, was our special guest for the prayer and dinner and gave us the added grace of his priestly blessing. This is always one of our favorite club projects, so we

were thankful that the seminarians were available to be our guests. Thus, when the time came for them to depart, we bestowed all 241 goodie bags on them for distribution to the other men.

We received handwritten thank you's from our guests and even a card from an SPS seminarian who had not been at the Buffet but enjoyed his goodie bag!

### **TEAM VIANNEY NIGHT WITH N.E. MINNEAPOLIS CLUB – Thursday, Dec. 3,**

Cookies, cookies and even more cookies...and the students to eat them! Team Vianney Night was co-hosted on Dec. 3 with our sister club, NE Minneapolis. There was every imaginable kind of cookie there and it seemed like 200+ young people and their families to eat them. The evening begins with a Marian Procession to the Grotto for prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, pizza for the young people, Mass at the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel, ending with the refreshments in the foyer of the SJV Ranch!

#### **Kudos from Norma Swanson of the N.E. Minn. Club**

Everyone who worked and baked to make our combined host event at St. John Vianney the success it was, needs a huge "pat on the back" for a job well done. The display of cookies and candies were awesome and the remarks of all who passed through the line to participate in the goodies reflected it. They couldn't help but be amazed at the variety and quantity of the treats we offered.

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A huge "Thank You" to Tony and Joan DeWaele for having us at their home for our Christmas Party on Dec. 17. Everyone contributed delicious food and we all had a chance to relax and enjoy the peace of this blessed season.
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#### Washington County Libraries

**Oakdale** 651-730-0504 fax; 651 -275-8591

1 meeting room – seats 65 people

**Park Grove** (Cottage Grove) 651-459-2040 fax; 651-275-8581

1 meeting room – seats 75 people

**R.H. Stafford** (Woodbury) 651-731-1320 fax; 651- 275-8562

2 conference rooms – each seats 12 people

**Rosalie E. Wahl** (Lake Elmo) 651-777-7415 fax; 6 51-777- 7416

1 conference room – seats 8 people

**Wildwood** (Mahtomedi) 651-426-2042 fax; 651-275-8541

1 meeting room – seats 50 people

