

# World Priest Day, 2005

## **Erie, PA.**

Here in Erie, PA, Section # 3 we celebrate World Priest Day by holding an informal cocktail reception. All our priests, including those retired, and deacons & their wives are invited. It is held at a ME family's beautiful weekend home in a wooded area with its own pond -- so we have a relaxed, family setting. ME couples are encouraged to offer a ride to their pastor or priest friend.

We spend a couple of hours together, chatting and enjoying each other company -- and usually a couple of guitars appear amongst the group sitting near the fireplace. It is our third year to host such an evening. It has grown in popularity and attendance every year.

This year, we are being joined by members from our local chapter of the Serra Club. We share a mutual goal of supporting and care/concern for our priests and religious. This is creating a "win win" situation for more people to attend our reception, more to offer rides to priests, and for Serra Club and WME to learn more about each other's organizations.

We'd like to recognize Jeannie and Carl Schroeck, who are WME Erie's Coordinators of World Priest Day. They have organized the reception and a month of prayers for our priests. Every day of September a ME couple somewhere in the Diocese is praying for all our priests and deacons.

## **HOUSTON SOUTH**

Here in Houston We send out a letter to all the Priests in the Houston Area. This letter tells them how much they are needed and appreciated. We try to send to the retired Priests as well, if we can find their location. We want all of our Priests to know they are appreciated and loved.

Tom & I make up a basket for our parish priest and our presenting priest with chocolate bars with World Priest Day wraps on them, pads and pens and last year we included a World Priest Day Cup.

## **SEATTLE**

Seattle, Washington sent letters to the priests in the Diocese and included a 24-hour prayer vigil on World Priest Day. We have been receiving personal and email comments of appreciation from the priests. Our pastor noticed and was especially appreciative that we were up in middle of the night praying for him and the other priests in the Diocese.

## **WESTERN NEW YORK**

Here in the Western NY Area of Section 2, we sent a letter to every diocesan and order priest living in the Rochester and Buffalo Dioceses. We agree with you that it is desirable for every priest to receive some kind of affirmation for World Priest Day. We have had some wonderful feedback from our local priests. They really do appreciate our prayers!