**A Brief Review of the** **40th Annual Seminarian Sendoff**

1 -People begin arriving at 1:30 for a period of fellowship complimented by a bar with soft drinks and wine. A continuous slide show of “snapshots” provided by the seminarians is shown on two large screens. Joining the 35 seminarians (two could not attend) are their families, our four bishops, one abbot, over 70 priests and deacons and religious, Serrans, and others simply showing their support for these men, including John Liston, Executive Director of Serra International. *A wonderful opportunity to meet the seminarians and their families!*

2- At 2:30 Serran President John Matyasik invites people to be seated and welcomes everyone before asking Auxiliary Bishop Joseph Siegel to lead us in prayer. A buffet meal follows. During the meal people browse the complimentary (72 page, 8½ x 11) book that is at each place. The book contains photos and biographical information on each seminarian, an article about the stages of priestly formation, advertisements, etc.

3- President Matyasik takes the stage at 3:30 and invites Kim Adorjan, mother of a seminarian, to share her experiences and feelings of being a parent of a seminarian. Father Burke Masters, Vocation Director, follows by talking about vocations in the diocese and introducing each seminarian who speaks briefly. *This is the highlight of the afternoon!*

Bishop R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop of the Diocese of Joliet, then speaks about vocations and the work of Serra. *Thank you, Bishop!*

Between 4:30 and 4:45, the **40th Annual Seminarian Sendoff** comes to a close followingPresident Matyasik’s final remarks and awarding of past-president’s pins to Ron Beaumont and Ed Graham. Bishop Emeritus Joseph Imesch leads us in the closing prayer.

Mary, Mother of Vocations, pray for us.

More information can be found at [www.serradupage.org](http://www.serradupage.org) or emailing John Matyasik or George Carr at serraclubdc@outlook.com