



The Serra Club of Arlington
Minutes for Tuesday 02 November 2021 Luncheon Meeting
The Portofino Restaurant | Arlington, Virginia



GUEST SPEAKER – Bishop Paul Stephen Loverde D.D., S.T.L

Bishop Paul Stephen Loverde was born on September 3, 1940, received his secondary school education at La Salle Academy in Providence, Rhode Island, followed by an education at Saint Bernard Seminary College in Rochester, NY. Bishop Loverde graduated with a B.A. (summa cum laude) in 1962 and was chosen to study in Rome at the Pontifical Gregorian University where he earned his Licentiate of Sacred Theology (S.T.L.) in 1966.

Bishop Loverde was ordained a priest December 18, 1965 at the Altar of the Chair in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. After completing his studies in Rome in 1966, Loverde returned to the United States and began serving in the Diocese of Norwich, Connecticut. In 1982, Loverde received a Licentiate of Canon Law (J.C.L.) from the Catholic University in Washington, DC.

In 1988, Pope John Paul II named Loverde Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Hartford and Titular Bishop of Octavia. He chose his episcopal motto, "Encourage and Teach with Patience," expressing his belief that, as Bishop, it is "his duty and calling by God to encourage and teach the faith to those who need it, with the gentle patience that each of God's children may need."

Pope John Paul II appointed Bishop Loverde eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York in 1993. From 1997–1999, Loverde was State Chaplain of the New York Knights of Columbus.

After the sudden death in Rome of Bishop John Keating in March 1998, Pope John Paul II appointed Loverde the third Bishop of the Diocese of Arlington, where he was installed on March 25, 1999, at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. Since coming to Arlington he reinstated the permanent diaconate program and allowed seminarians to study at Blessed John XXIII National Seminary, Pontifical College Josephinum, and The Catholic University of America. He also has been supportive of religious orders coming into the Diocese, such as the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist and Cloistered Dominicans.

Loverde is currently on the Board of Directors for the Institute for the Psychological Sciences, The Catholic University of America, the Catholic Distance University, and the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. He previously served on the board of Christ the King Seminary and Mount St. Mary's University. Within the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, he was chair of the Committee on Vocations from 1995 to 1998 and was a member of the Administrative Committee from 2004 to 2008. Since becoming Bishop of Arlington, Loverde has won a number of awards, including the Catholic Distance University's Founder's Award for his service to the university in 2010 and the Saint Luke Institute's Saint Luke Award in 2012. In 2012, a Doctor of Humane Letters was conferred upon him by the Institute for the Psychological Sciences.

Pope Francis accepted Loverde's retirement on October 4, 2016 and appointed Michael F. Burbidge as his successor.

Highlights from the talk (no order):

- “Pray for each other.” “Saints pray for souls on earth, we pray for souls in purgatory”. Personally prays to “get to purgatory” as then it’s “only one way up!” Noted that every Saint is a redeemed sinner.
- Asked Serrans to pray for seminarians. Noted that seminarians are in a place of discernment as all do not make it to priesthood
- Never give up trying to be closer to the Lord
- Cited Cardinal Gerhard Müller, prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith from 2012 to 2017, spoke with students and faculty at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana October 27, 2021. He visited the university to give a presentation on his new book, "The Pope: His Mission and His Task." Emphasized that protecting human life at all stages is more important than ever. Pray for every stage of life, life is God’s gift, and that we are stewards of life. Noted that “free will” decides whether or not we live with God in the afterlife.
- Bishop Loverde cited the book, “Carlo Acutis – The First Millennial Saint.” Born May 3, 1991, fully embraced the gift of life. What set Carlo apart was his constant pursuit of holiness; the Word of God and the Eucharist were the center of his life. He died from a sudden and violent illness in 2006 at the age of fifteen. His beatification was celebrated on October 10, 2020.