



**The Serra Club of Arlington**  
*Minutes for Wednesday 07 June 2023 | Luncheon Meeting*  
*The Portofino Restaurant | Arlington, Virginia*



**GUEST SPEAKER – FATHER EDOUARD GUILLOUX - PAROCHIAL VICAR AT ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH, MANASSAS, VA**

Father Edouard Guilloux, the third of six children, was born in Fontainebleau, France. The family moved back to the United States and eventually settled in Stafford, VA and are members of St. William of York Catholic Church. Father Guilloux was homeschooled through high school. He graduated with his bachelor's and master's in philosophy from the Theological College at Catholic University in 2015; that same year he was sent to the Pontifical North American College (NAC). Father Guilloux was ordained at St. Thomas More Cathedral in 2019 along with Fathers Blank, Nyce, and Koehr. He is best known for his “Biking for Babies” cycling endeavor, joining other missionaries biking 100 miles per day for six days to raise funds for local Pregnancy Resource Centers.

**Highlights:** Father Guilloux talk begin with recapping his journey on the path of becoming a priest, but the talk emphasis was about his “Biking for Babies” 6-day, 600 mile cycling charitable effort that raises awareness and funds for pregnancy resource centers nationwide and to assist women and families experiencing crisis pregnancies.

Below are some of the highlights of the talk:

- Journey in Becoming a Priest:
  - When young, always thought he would be a Priest.
  - Good experiences early in attending retreats. Inspired by Fr. Briet Brannen lectures in his retreats for diocesan priests, seminaries and religious communities, but especially as discernment retreats for vocation candidates. Went through the “Provadasis” summer camp.
  - Wanted to “save a 1000 souls.”
  - Realized that one needs to follow “God’s plan” and not your own.
  - Talked about his younger sister going through the “Fiat” discernment for women and that women have less “alternatives” than men after discernment.
- Biking for Babies 600-mile Bike Ride:
  - A National Ride Program in July that covers 600 miles in six days. Participants are considered “missionaries” and pregnancy resource center partners.
  - Started by two men to raises awareness and funds for pregnancy resource centers.
  - There are multiple ride starting points with many ending in Ohio. Fr Guilloux’s ride ends in Arlington. All cover the 600-mile distance in 6 days.
  - Inspired during the “covid years” to do something impactful, which led him to join the “Biking for Babies” cause.
  - Joining with other riders including many Catholics and priests, mostly 18-39 years of age. Inspired by St Augustine’s saying: “With you I am a Christian. Without you, I am a shepherd.”
  - The ride encouraged other participants to be life-long missionaries.
  - Experienced situations during his rides which tested his resolve but his Faith allowed him to forgive