



The Serra Club of Arlington
Minutes for Tuesday 06 May 2025 | Luncheon Meeting
The Portofino Restaurant | Arlington, Virginia



GUEST SPEAKER – FATHER PAUL-ANTHONY HALLADAY

Father Paul-Anthony Halladay has a resume that is very long and impressive. In short, he is currently with the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS). In August of 1990, Fr Halladay entered St Joseph's College Seminary, in St Benedict, LA as a seminarian for my home Archdiocese of Mobile, AL. In 1992 I obtained a B.A. in Philosophy and entered theological studies at the Pontificia Università Gregoriana, the Jesuit University in Rome, Italy, while residing at the North American College. In October of 1999 he was ordained to the Deaconate at St. Peter's Basilica, and in June of 2000 I obtained the S.T.L. in Theological Spirituality from the Gregorian and was ordained to the Priesthood at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Mobile, AL

Highlights: Father Halladay centered around support by those on his vocation path and rewarding career path. In no particular order:

- Father Halladay has been a priest for approximately 20 years, and thanked Serrans for praying for him.
- Noted that his parents were the “biggest thing” for entering the priesthood in that their support allowed for Priesthood to be a “viable option.” Was able to talk to his parents about Faith in the family and was influenced by a “solid” Catholic education. Also noted that there were two priests in the family.
- Noted that being on a “mission” of Chaplain was a huge blessing.a great experience.
- Asked about a poignant moment, he recanted blessing the Michael Monsoor, second *Zumwalt*-class destroyer. The ship *Michael Monsoor* is named after Master-at-Arms Second Class Michael A. Monsoor (1981–2006), a United States Navy SEAL killed during the Iraq War and posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Michael Monsoor was killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom during the Battle of Ramadi when he dove onto a grenade to shield his fellow SEALs, sacrificing his own life. He realized this a “powerful moment” to be with his parents during the christening of the ship.
- Father Halladay had “co-sponsorship” respective to Seminarian costs, etc. owing 5 years to the diocese once becoming a priest.
- He has served three branches of the military as chaplain; 44 months with the Navy, 32 months with the Air Force and 32 months with the Army.