



Matt Bona, Jackie Huber (with her sponsor, Jim McGuire), Carrie and Tom Pomeroy, and Chris and Pat Shannon. Missing from photo is Marge Bona.

HAPPINESS IS ... SHARING SERRA

by Judy Makowske

North-Minneapolis Serra Club welcomed and inducted 7 new members before our July 22 meeting at the Church of St. William. We are pleased to introduce new Serrans:

Marge and Matt Bona, Mary Joachim (Jackie) Huber, Carrie and Tom Pomeroy, and Christine and Pat Shannon. Introductory write-ups about these new members are featured in our Serra Newsletters beginning with the recent July issue, inside this August edition, and in upcoming issues.

At the induction ceremony, candles were presented as a rededication of baptismal pledges to grow in holiness and love of Christ, while serving in our Serra apostolate of prayer, affirmation, and support of holy vocations.

Please introduce yourselves to our new members and share how you are living out your vocation to holiness as a Serra.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

August – Phantom Garage Sale

Aug 12 – Membership Meeting 12:15 pm
Church of St. William
Speaker: Sharon Hedman and Phillip Rief

Aug 19 – Board Meeting 8:45 am
St. Charles Borromeo, Doran Hall

Aug 21 – Seminarian Family Picnic
Highland Park Picnic Shelter
1227 Montreal Ave, St Paul, MN 55116

Aug 26 – Membership Meeting 12:15 pm
Church of St. William
Speaker: Natasha Sager

Sept 09 – Membership Meeting 12:15 pm
Church of St. William
Speaker: TBD

Sept 16 – Board Meeting 8:45 am
St. Charles Borromeo, Doran Hall

Sept 28 - Priesthood Sunday

Nov 21 - North Central Regional Conf.

Nov 21-23 - Serra Regional Retreat

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Tim Regan

THEOTOKOS, AND THE MYSTERY OF HER ASSUMPTION

Greetings Dear Serrans! It's August, so we should be praying about the Assumption. Pope Pius XII explained the teaching: "Preserved from original sin, the Immaculate was taken up body and soul into glory so that she might be more completely conformed to her Son, the conqueror of Death."

I recently read a Catholic theologian who explained the Feast of the Assumption as part of our belief in the Communion of Saints. I prefer to think of it as a Resurrection feast. Mary, the mother of the one who rose from the dead, is our guarantee that the promise we have been given of bodily resurrection is real.

But, I confess, the mystery of the Assumption is too mysterious for my poor powers to write about. Instead, let's reflect on Mary herself. She's easier.

In his wonderful Marian encyclical *Redemptoris Mater*, written shortly before the turn of the millennium, Pope St. John Paul II thought deeply about the poor young Jewish girl whom God elevated to the Queenship of all existence.

One focus of his reflection was Mary as Theotokos – sound familiar? It's a Greek word meaning "God Bearer." In English, we just say, "Mother of God." It's a very important concept, due to a fifth century doctrinal controversy. For many decades, Theotokos had been part of the liturgies and the catechesis of all Christians, East and West. But Bishop Nestorius objected. She cannot be Mother of God, he said, because God can't have a mother. We should say instead Mother of Christ.

Well, that put the doctrinal problem nicely. The Council of Nicaea had succinctly declared the Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Who and what then was Jesus? We know for sure that Jesus was the son of Mary. But, was he really the Second Person? Nestorius, God save his heretical soul, was in effect saying that Jesus was definitely Man, because Mary was his mother, but since God can't have a mother, He could not have been God.

All of this was resolved at the Council of Ephesus, 431 A.D., which decreed that Mary really is Theotokos, Mother of God. It would take Pope St. Leo I and the Council of Chalcedon, 100 years later, to spell out the Christology more precisely.

Sadly, it will take another President's Message for me to finish my story about John Paul II and Theotokos, how he greatly enriched our understanding of her. But that's the beauty of Catholicism – it's so deep and rich! That's why the work of Serra is so important, that God's kingdom will have more geniuses like Leo the Great, and our own Pope Leo, and St. Junipero Serra, and our leader Archbishop Bernard Hebda! Siempre Adelante!

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SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS

DELEGATE FOR CONSECRATED LIFE AND A BRIDE OF CHRIST

Nicole Bettini

May 27, 2025

Nicole Bettini was appointed Delegate for Consecrated Life by Archbishop Hebda in June of 2023. She is the Archbishop's personal delegate to assist him to support and promote the vocation of consecrated life. Prior to her appointment, she worked 20 years in parish ministry including in areas of faith formation, youth ministry, youth and adult sacramental preparation, adult discipleship formation, pastoral care, and parish communications.

Here are the key roles of the Delegate for Consecrated Life:

- Assist the Archbishop with pastoral care for consecrated women and men, including gatherings and ongoing formation opportunities.
- Serve as a resource to individual members of consecrated life.
- Maintain data on consecrated persons and communities present within the Archdiocese and communicating it via newsletter.
- Manage the annual Retirement Fund for Religious.
- Primary contact for women discerning, provide information for the vocation of consecrated virginity lived in the world, provide ongoing formation opportunities.
- Support and promote vocations to consecrated life.

Here is the data:

Consecrated in the Archdiocese

- 466 Total Consecrated Women & Men residing in the Archdiocese
- 336 Religious Sisters
- 47 Religious Brothers & Novices
- 65 Religious Priests
- 3 Members of Secular Institutes
- 15 Consecrated Virgins

Communities within our Archdiocese

- 34 Communities of Women Religious
- 2 Secular Institutes (Women)
- 21 Communities of Men Religious (Priests & Brothers)
- 7 Communities with Brothers



In 2022, the first poster picturing those in consecrated life was printed, thanks to the initiative of Judy Cozzens and the support of the Serra Clubs of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. The second edition was printed in 2024, and now there will be a poster every year printed through the Archdiocese and the Office of the Delegate for the Consecrated! Additionally, a process is being put in place to better track consecrated vocations and the vocations coming from a parish. There are new efforts to help bridge and support awareness and resources for consecrated life vocation and promotion.

Nicole also shared her story about becoming a Consecrated Virgin. She grew up in Omaha, Nebraska and was not a "normal" teenager. In her first year of college, she attended a small Lutheran College but she attended daily Mass. In 1996, she felt a magnetic pull to living a separate life but had never met a religious sister. There were questions. She then transferred to Saint Thomas University in St. Paul. It was there that she met Sisters. More questions and praying went on for three to four years. While in an Adoration Chapel in Forest Lake on Holy Thursday, she heard the call that she was to be a bride for Jesus Christ. In November 2007, she walked down the aisle to meet our Lord.

Continued on next page.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

9TH ANNUAL PHANTOM GARAGE SALE

North-Minneapolis Serra Club - Bucks for Buses

by Judy Makowske

For many years the cost of Vocation Bus trips to Seminaries and Convents for 8th Grade Catholic School Students was covered by a garage sale. In recent years, we promote a **Phantom** Garage Sale. What that means is we ASK FRIENDS & FAMILY to share in this essential work and participate by cash and check and prayer. They, through you, are contributing to the awareness and sacredness of holy vocations to serve our Catholic community into the future by making possible the visits to St. John Vianney College Seminary, the St. Paul Seminary School of Divinity, men's religious orders for the boys, and consecrated women's orders for the girls.



Sketches by Don Makowske

The day long trips introduce our Catholic youth to the possibility of a Church vocation. The essays by the students, following the 'vocation trip,' are a beautiful window into how we may have reached their hearts and heads. Monetary prizes are awarded for outstanding essays.

Our Serra apostolate truly affirms and supports holy vocations through these vocation bus trips, by creating awareness and making tangible the lived vocational call of priests, seminarians, women religious, and orders of men. Your participation, as a Serra member, gives you the opportunity to fund vocation trips with parishioners, friends, and family and is essential to the continuation of this apostolate.

Contributions to Serra Club of North-Minneapolis for the Phantom Garage Sale are tax deductible. Serra is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Our EIN Number is 237394354.

Donations can be sent to:
Serra Club of North-Minneapolis
 Ted McCrossan, Treasurer
 1618 Lake Johanna Blvd.
 Arden Hills, MN 55112



Consecrated Life continued . . .



A vocation is not for oneself. The consecrated virgin gives witness to:

- being made for heaven, giving witness now for what we all will be in heaven. It is sacramental, i.e., no sign but a lived reality. It is irrevocable.
- the Church as Spouse – The Marian and Petrine Dimension of the Church.
- the Gift of our Sexuality - The Gift of Purity.
- the need for both a public and unsuspecting witness in our world.
- the Person of Jesus Christ (Groom) - It is a yes to a person.

Nicole is a bride of Christ, consecrated as a virgin living in the world. She hopes the fruitfulness of her life and vocation helps her fulfill her mission and desire to help populate heaven.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS



OFF TO COLLEGE!

NOW....



"Who is going to hold you accountable?"

by MaryAnne Frank, Rosemary Franzese, Judy Makowske

This question was recently asked by Adam Boeckermann to the high school graduates attending their baccalaureate at St. Charles Borromeo. Serrans, Judy Makowske, Rosemary Franzese, and MaryAnne Frank were invited to, once again, present a 'pitch' for the Newman Ministry to recent graduates. This year, based on a recent presentation at a Serra members meeting, we suggested having speakers closer in age to the grads to share their university faith experiences.

Adam B. graduated from the University of Minnesota a year ago and stayed on to lead the Catholic Men's House through St. Paul's Outreach (SPO). Adam described his faith as initially being somewhat lukewarm and experienced a "180" by God's grace. He spoke about the power of a Catholic community that encouraged him to "seek Some One and something greater than myself."

Emily Besser lived in the Catholic Women's House during her years at the U of M. She described the importance of affirmation and strength that comes from being with others who share faith. Both attested as to how their faith grew through their years in college, bolstered by fellow Catholics and activities through SPO and the Newman Center.



As we listened and looked at the graduates in the audience, we were struck by the rapt attention paid to the speakers who emphasized the positive beauty of their growth in faith at Newman Center/SPO along with the shared values of other Catholic students.

FALL CONFERENCE AND RETREAT



Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, MN

Plan now to attend!

SERRA NORTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 9:30am – 4:30pm

Serrans from clubs in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas will bring the best offerings of their vocation projects, programs and prayers to share. Speakers include Dr. Anne Roat, President of the Serra US Council and Dr. Paul Ruff, St. Paul Seminary, Director of Human Formation and Counseling. Reservations to Charlene Zachman at 763-497-3305 or: charzach2015@gmail.com

SERRA NORTH CENTRAL RETREAT

FRI, NOV 21. 8:00pm – SUN, NOV 23 - Noon

The Annual Serra Retreat follows the Conference. Fr. Eric Hollas, OSB a Benedictine monk and priest of Saint John's Abbey in Collegeville, MN, will be our retreat director. He has taught in the Department and School of Theology at Saint John's University and from 1993 through 2002 served as Executive Director of the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library. He was instrumental in the start of The Saint John's Bible project. Then, beginning in 2003 through the present, has served in the Department of Institutional Advancement at Saint John's University. Fr. Eric is also currently the Prior of Saint John's Abbey. Retreat registration forms will be available at Membership Meetings at St. Williams or register for the retreat online at: www.kingshouse.com

A non-refundable deposit of \$50.00 to Christ the King Retreat Center is required. Indicate the name of our Serra Club of North-Minneapolis when you make your reservation.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

APRIL 24, 2025

VOCATION BUS TRIP

St. John Vianney

St. Paul Seminary

The Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver

Schools:

St. John the Baptist



St John the Baptist, New Brighton: L to R - Mark Eastham, Calvin M. (2), Billy H. (1), Abigail H. (1), Addison P. (2), Jim McGuire.



Billy H. - First Place Boys Essay
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton

When we visited St John Vianney and St. Paul Seminary, I was immediately amazed by all the artwork of Jesus. My favorite art there had to be the one of Jesus as He was a child with Joseph and Mary. The artwork was spread across one wall, and had little intricate designs on the painting that hinted at Jesus' life. We also heard very interesting testimonies from a bunch of people from the seminary, one of which I really can relate to and felt the same feelings he was feeling. In those testimonies, it was really awesome to hear how some of the seminarians were converted. We also toured St. Thomas (campus), which had really cool buildings and stories. Not only that, but we also toured St. Paul Seminary and got to see the daily life of seminarians there. What amazed me was that there was a profound sense of brotherhood and love between the seminarians, and they even played basketball and football games against each other. What was also cool is that they had different "houses" in the seminary, kind of like Harry Potter, one of the deacons explained. We ate lunch and heard more testimonies and funny stories from seminarians at St. Paul Seminary. After that, we celebrated Mass with a priest from Iceland which was really cool. He was funny, but also taught us lots of important lessons about God. It was very beautiful seeing and hearing all the seminarians singing during Mass and the voices echoing off the walls. Not only that, but each church is different and has unique ways of celebrating Mass. This church was probably one of the most unique and coolest churches I have ever been to. After Mass, we then toured the church and got to see statues of saints and their relics. We also were told stories about the church and how the church basically got flipped around. The Holy Spirit brought a sense of happiness and peace in my heart not only during Mass, but also during all the testimonies and time we spent with the seminarians because of how lively and nice the environment is at the seminaries. I am super grateful that I have gotten to go on this field trip and will definitely have to visit again.



Abigail H. - First Place Girls Essay
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton

My experience at The Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver was amazing. I was inspired by what I saw there when I went. Getting to watch the sisters interact with each other, as well as with us, showed me how kind and gentle they are. However, their kindness and gentleness held strength. It's weird to associate gentleness with strength, but I believe how they were able to serve Christ in such a manner gave them that strength. It was different for me to realize that, because I have always thought that gentleness would be the opposite of strength. However, to them, it was like they used their gentleness to display their strength. I also found it interesting how many of the sisters are not from America. The diverse group of sisters also brought to my attention how Catholicism is active worldwide. The way they all came together to form such a community was inspiring, as it shows how it is possible for everyone to come together through Christ. It was clear their friendship centered around Christ, which inspired me to have such relationships with my friends as well. They had a museum showing off artifacts and items from other sisters from the missionaries from different countries. It showed how the missionary sisters were able to touch many communities, and they had a rich cultural knowledge of various countries. It was impressive how they could positively impact many communities in one year. Looking at all the projects they did, mainly in Africa, helping build churches or clean water supplies for a village, was inspiring. They were able to do so much for a community, and they put so much work into making sure it was the best work they could do. My big takeaway from my trip is this: there is strength in meekness; we should not be divided by race, and through Christ, anything can flourish. Being with the sisters helped me grow and solidify my understanding of these topics. To be meek isn't to be weak; it is to be gentle and kind to others while being strong with the power of God. Race should not divide us; it should instead bring us together and inspire us to learn about other cultures. Anything can flourish through Christ, from your personal relationship with God to your relationship with your friends and people in your community.

Continued on next page.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

Essay Winners continued . . .


Calvin M. - Second Place Boys Essay
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton

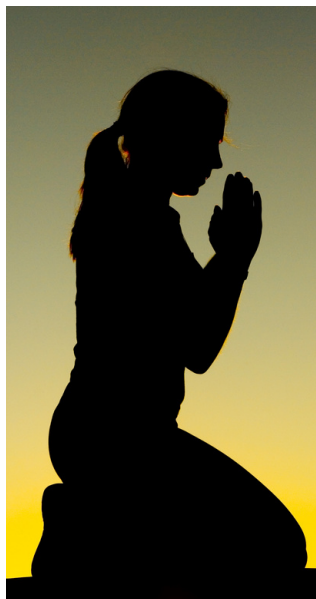

Attending the Saint Paul Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, was a truly wonderful, exciting, and unforgettable experience. I was blessed to be part of something so meaningful. From the moment I arrived, I felt a special atmosphere, one filled with peace, hope, and the presence of God. Throughout the seminars, I learned so much. The talks and teachings were both deep and inspiring, and they helped me grow in my understanding of faith. What amazed me most was how clearly the Holy Spirit was present. You could feel it in the way people spoke, prayed, and worshipped. It was beautiful to witness and be a part of. One of the most impactful parts of the experience was hearing people share their personal testimonies. There were so many different voices and stories, each one unique and powerful. Listening to how God had touched each person's life in different ways showed me how deeply personal and creative God is. He works in countless ways, and no journeys of faith are exactly the same. That realization gave me a new appreciation for how close and active God is in our lives. Going to Mass during the seminar was my favorite part. The whole community came together in prayer, singing, and worship. The room was full of energy, love, and reverence for God. I could see and feel the joy in people's hearts as they worshipped. It made me love the Mass even more. I also found it very interesting to learn how people in seminaries live their daily lives how they pray, study, and grow closer to God in preparation for the priesthood. It gave me a better understanding of their commitment and calling. My relationship with God was strengthened, and my heart was opened in new ways. I'm so thankful I was able to go, and I will carry the lessons and experiences there with me for the rest of my life.

Addison P. - Second Place Girls Essay
St. John the Baptist, New Brighton


I went to visit the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver. I learned a lot about their daily lives and why they chose their mission. The Holy Spirit taught me that you can serve God in many ways, like becoming a sister, or even simple things like praying for 10 minutes before you go to bed, or even serving at Mass. I learned that none of those ways is greater than the others, they're all equal, and will help you grow closer to God. Something interesting to me was the sister's daily life. I thought we would always be praying or in church, but they make fun art and play games! They taught us about St. Mary Theresa Ledóchowska and what mission she brought to them. It was cool to see all of the places where the missionary sisters of St. Peter Claver are throughout the world and all of their different traditions. Encountering the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver has been a transformative experience in my spiritual journey, deepening my relationship with the Holy Spirit in ways I never anticipated. Through their prayerful presence, commitment to missionary work, and unwavering dedication to the poor and marginalized, they have illuminated a path of faith that is both practical and profound. The Sisters embody a spirit of humility, courage, and service that echoes the life of St. Peter Claver, their patron Saint. Through their example, I have come to see the Holy Spirit not as a distant concept, but as an active force in my life. The Sisters' quiet strength, joyful service, and deep prayer life have helped me recognize the Spirit's voice and presence in my daily choices. They have not only inspired me they have brought me closer to the heart of God. As I continue my journey of faith, the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver remain a guiding light, reminding me that the Holy Spirit works most powerfully through love, service, and quiet faithfulness. Their example challenges me to be more attentive to the Spirit's promptings in my own life, to act with greater compassion, and to share God's love with others in tangible ways. Because of them, my relationship with the Holy Spirit is no longer abstract; it is alive, active, and deeply personal. I would recommend that you visit the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver so they can also help you grow closer to God.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

CALL TO HOLINESS



by MaryAnne Frank

A must-read book: Soul of the Apostolate refers to the bond among members of the Church who participate fully in its work as members of Christ:

"What a joy to think that, while I am sanctifying myself, I am also contributing to the increase of Your beauty and working for the sanctification of all the children of the Church, my brothers, and even for the salvation of the whole human family!"

Dom Jean-Baptiste Chautard, O.C.S.O.

At the risk of possibly having used this quote previously, I share it because it describes so well, the work we do as Serrans ~ no wonder, that our work in promoting vocations has the 'double whammy' effect of giving us extra graces that allow our personal growth while providing a 'glow' effect. Our mission unites many to make our work fruitful!

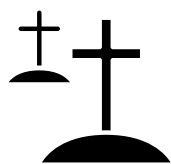
Psalm 100

*Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before Him singing for joy.*

*Know that He, the Lord is God.
He made us we belong to Him,
We are His people, the sheep of His flock.*

(From the Book of Christian Prayer,
Friday Morning Prayer, Week 1)

We are His chosen people! And He calls us to be holy! I see the joy and happiness of my fellow Serrans as we promote our mission of love for the Church. Serra's mission really does give us countless moments in our service to meet others who love the Church and generously support our cause although not actual members.



REST IN PEACE DAVID LOOMIS

On Saturday, July 5, 2025, fellow Serran, David Loomis was called Home. Truly God's servant, David was a member of St. Charles Borromeo Parish since the sixties. He was married for 63 years to Michaeline (also a Serra member) and father to 4 children.

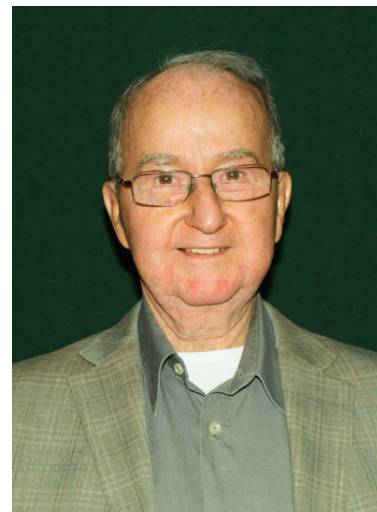


Photo by Joe Spano

David served the parish in many capacities over the years as 'candle lighter.' He also maintained the candles on the main Altar and side altars. The brass candleholders always shined brightly due to David's diligence. An usher for many decades, David welcomed and assisted parishioners who needed an extra hand.

A member of Serra since 1995, David provided constant support for numerous vocation programs and served for a number of years as Treasurer. In addition, he and Michaeline were responsible for the monthly mailing of the North-Minneapolis Serran Newsletter for the past 10 years. A quiet man, he was integral in his staunch support of the priesthood having two brothers and a nephew who were ordained. He also served as a trustee and on task forces, always providing insight into the mission of our Serra apostolate.

A kind, thoughtful, and prayerful man, his 30-year Serra legacy will live on in our North-Minneapolis Club! Rest in Peace, good and faithful servant!

NOTABLE NEWS

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Welcome

Marge and Matt Bona



We are Matt and Marge Bona, the next round of new members, excited to be a part of Serra Club North-Minneapolis. As a couple deeply rooted in the Catholic faith and devoted to family life, we feel called to support vocations through prayer, presence, and witness. We are grateful for the opportunity to walk alongside other faithful Catholics in this important mission.

Our story began in college with an unexpected connection through a mutual coworker at Petco, which led to a casual evening among friends that turned into a lifelong journey of love, laughter, and faith. We were married in 2014, and today we are the proud parents of Josephine (8), June (miscarried in 2018), Evangeline (5), Francis (3), and beloved daughter, Mary Immaculée, who was born into heaven in 2024 on the Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Her life and intercession continue to be a guiding light in our family's mission and devotion.

We live in Arden Hills and are parishioners at St. Charles Borromeo, where our children attend the parish school. The parish has become a spiritual anchor for us, especially after such profound loss. Marge leads and participates in Catholic book clubs, including Well-Read Mom and the parish-wide Experimental Summer Book Club, which celebrates faith through literature, themed meals, and community discussion. Matt serves on the parish council and is active in a weekly men's group, which was formed out of his experience with Exodus 90, a spiritual program that has profoundly shaped his journey as a Catholic husband and father.

Matt works as a bookkeeper at the family business, Bona Bros. Auto & Truck, alongside his father and brothers. Marge stays home with the kids, filling their days with chaotic fun and lots of love!

Together, we are in the process of becoming co-leaders for the new Twin Cities chapter of Red Bird Ministries, a Catholic peer-to-peer grief support apostolate for families who have experienced the loss of a child. Our hope is to accompany others through grief, guided by Christ's passion, and to help them encounter healing through a community of love and compassion.

We have a heart for pilgrimage, sacred spaces, and discovering the beauty of God in everyday life. Joining Serra is another step in our family's desire to serve the Church, especially by fostering a culture of vocations and helping others to say "yes" to God's call.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep in your prayers:

Jean Buchmann
 Larry Gillespie
 Terri Glaeser
 Mikki Gottwalt
 Esther Guzik
 Michaeline Loomis
 Don Makowske
 Jack Quesnell
 Joe Spano
 Chris Struble*
 John Swanson**
 Marlene Tacheny
 Marilyn Zappia

* Son-in-Law of MaryAnne & Steve F.
 ** Son of Norma Swanson

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR:

- Repose of the soul of David Loomis
- Seminary Info Night - Aug 3
High School men and parents
- Vocation Directors - Aug 4
Feast of St. John Vianney
- Successful Phantom Garage Sale
(Funding for Vocation Bus Trips)

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

- "Walk with Me Deacon,"
Alexander Hall
- Safety of the Sisters of Jesus
the Lord in Russia

NOTABLE NEWS

MAILBAG



Dear Serra Club members,
Thank you for investing in our 8th grade students and sponsoring their Vocations Field Trip! (April 24, 2025) It was beautiful to read their reflections and hear the many ways God spoke to their hearts. Thank you for providing this time away from their normal routines so they could listen to God's voice.

In Christ,

Morgan Leisgang,
Sacred Heart Catholic School

Dear Mr. Eastham, Mr. McGuire, and North-Minneapolis Serrans,

On behalf of all of us at Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver, I want to extend our deepest thanks for your generous donation. Your support is more than a gift – it is a powerful affirmation of our mission and the work we are called to do.

Because of your kindness, we can “continue providing vital resources to those in need.”

Your generosity reminds us that we are not alone in this work – that a community of compassionate individuals walks with us. Thank you for your constant support of the religious vocations around the country. Please know how truly grateful we are for your presence and partnership.

May you be richly blessed for your kindness.

Sr. Anna Dinh, sspc

(Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver)

Thank you Loretta and the Serra Club for the Mass Intention on June 26 at St. Boniface! What a beautiful remembrance on my 75th Jubilee. God reward you for this and all the wonderful gifts to others!

With prayers,

Sister Benita Kordiak, OSF

Good afternoon,

I didn't get a chance to debrief with all of the students, but those I talked to in the after school program said that it went very well. The chaperones also were very impressed. Some of the girls were excitedly telling me about their trip and that one was able to draw a picture of one of the nuns playing basketball. She asked if it would be possible to email a photo of the drawing to the Sister. I let her know I would reach out and see if that would be possible.

Thank you for any connection you are able to provide.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Jessi Weakley, 8th Grade Teacher, St. John Paul II \ School

SUBMIT NEWSLETTER CONTENT HERE: SerraClub418@gmail.com

DEADLINE: Submission of all articles and event photos are due on or before the **25th** of the month.

Editor: Judy Makowske (612-781-1163) Publisher: Michelle Eastham (651-276-5158)



Serra MEETS

SERRA, NOW MORE THAN EVER!

An online speaker series
with vocations in mind



Most Rev. Michael Burbidge

Chair of USCCB Committee
on Pro-Life Activities
Fostering a Culture for
Promoting and Supporting
Vocations to the Priesthood

Date: Mon, Aug 18th, 7 pm CDT
Webinar Link:

[pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVIKVlhyYXNINkpkUT09#success](https://usccb.org/webinars/pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVIKVlhyYXNINkpkUT09#success)

Phone Access:

+1 312 626 6799

Webinar ID: 959 9245 1924

Passcode: 853558



MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

AUGUST

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31  ARCHDIOCESE SAINT PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS	1 POPE LEO XIV	2 YOUR PASTOR
3 REV. STEPHEN JOSEPH (STEVE) BOATWRIGHT ORD 2025	4 REV. BENJAMIN PETER EICHEN ORD 2025	5 REV. ALEXANDER RAYMOND MARQUETTE ORD 2025	6 REV. ZACHARY TODD OCHSENBAUER ORD 2025	7 REV. RANDALL JAMES SKEATE ORD 2025	8 REV. HAROLD JOSEPH TASTO ORD 1968	9 REV. BRANDON MICHAEL THEISEN ORD 2017
10 REV. EUGENE JAMES THEISEN ORD 1999	11 REV. JEROME ANTHONY GILBERT (GILBERT) THESING OP ORD 1975	12 REV. SOJAN THOMAS CFIC ORD 2008	13 REV. DENNIS STUART THOMPSON ORD 1989	14 VERY REV. MICHAEL MATHIAS TIX ORD 1992	15 REV. ROLF RUSSELL TOLLEFSON ORD 2001	16 REV. JON BENNET TRAN ORD 2008
17 REV. VINH-THINH NGUYEN (TIMOTHY) TRAN ORD 2020	18 REV. PAUL CULLIGAN TREACY ORD 2006	19 REV. JOHN LAVEDAN UBEL ORD 1989	20 REV. STEPHEN DONALD (STEVE) ULRICK ORD 1982	21 REV. MARK JOHN UNDERDAHL ORD 1996	22 REV. JOHN JOSEPH UTECHT ORD 2022	23 REV. VICTOR CORTEZ VALENCIA ORD 1993
24 REV. JAMES (JIM) VAN DORN OFM CONV. ORD 1967	25 REV. MICHAEL A VAN SLOUN ORD 1995	26 REV. NICHOLAS JOSEPH (NICK) VANCE ORD 2024	27 REV. NICHOLAS WILLIAM (NICK) VANDENBROEKE ORD 2012	28 REV. JON DAVID VANDER PLOEG ORD 2001	29 REV. ANTHONY GERARD VANDERLOOP ORD 2003	30 REV. CHAD RICHARD VANHOOSE ORD 2017
31 ARCHBISHOP BERNARD HEBDA AUXBP. MICHAEL IZEN AUXBP. KEVIN KENNEY	1	2	3	4	5	6

WILL **YOU** PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

Lord Jesus Christ, You ordained the apostles priests at the Last Supper to continue the mission of mercy to the end of time. We believe that every Catholic priest traces his ordination to that first ordination on Holy Thursday night. We know how much You expect of Your priests, and we also know how weak and human they are. Inspire us, dear Jesus, to pray and sacrifice for Your priests, that by their faithfulness to You in this life they may bring countless souls to You in the life to come. Mary, mother of priests, pray for priests that they may love your Divine Son, even as you did unreservedly, all the days of their lives.

Amen.

(From Fr. John Hardon's Catholic Prayer Book)

To be added to the email recipients,
send an email to Marie Ziesmer at:

ziesmers@usfamily.net

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS

- Mass, rosary, fasting
- Day of offering
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Offering of sufferings or prayer
- What the Lord inspires you to offer Him



FOR VOCATIONS

Father, we trust You to call others to the priesthood to continue Your work in our Archdiocese.

Board Members Present: Bonnie Conroy, Ken Cobian, Maureen Collins, Judie Collodora, MaryAnne Frank, Rosemary Franzese, Judy Makowske, Jim McGuire, Ted McCrossan, Tim Regan. Present via phone: Serran Marilyn Zappia.

Meeting Opened with prayer led by **President T Regan** at 8:45 am.

Minutes from 6/17/25 were moved, seconded and approved.

Membership: M Collins and J Collodora: **M Collins** provided details for the Induction Ceremony at our membership meeting on July 22. The seven members to be inducted were contacted and are available to attend. It was decided that we will meet in St William's Chapel at 12:15pm. **J Makowske** has a template for the ceremony which **M Collins** will update. In lieu of a chaplain, **Pres. T Regan** will lead the ceremony. He will contact **Bette Litchy** to coordinate the timing of lunch after the ceremony and Jo **Lohnes** to go over program details. **M Collins** and **M Zappia** are reviewing membership fees.

Phantom Garage Sale: J Makowske initiated a discussion regarding how charitable donations to Serra are handled. Do we have our own 501(c)(3) or are we using one that belongs to Serra International? **Pres. T Regan** was told by Serran **Ted Terrell** we can use the EIN number of Serra International. There is a special rule for large donors who can be given this EIN number, which are mailed a form letter listing several conditions. Board members shared concerns that mix-ups from this process still can and do occur. **Pres. T Regan** was told we could file for our own 501(c)(3), but it would involve a lot of work, including a 14-page tax filing. He will contact Serra International with the scenarios. Some donors have experienced and requested advice on mix-ups with institutional donations and the transfer of funds. **M Zappia** mentioned our treasurer **T McCrossan** has already sent a letter to Serra International asking these very questions. Foundation Rep **K Cobian** said these tax questions also apply to donations made to the Serra Foundation for which there is nothing in writing.

Discussion returned to the Phantom Garage Sale: J Makowske proposed using the newsletter as a hand out to potential large donors, which would provide the 501(c)(3) and EIN numbers

Vocations: MA Frank: **MA Frank** encouraged use of the Serra Memorial Book and reminded everyone to provide names when giving donations to our treasurer. Priesthood Sunday approaches at the end of September and anyone who wishes to have a special bookmark for their parish should contact her. Promoting spiritual bouquets by parishioners has also become very well received by parish priests who are being celebrated. Contact **MA Frank** soon with any special request for your parishes. Classroom crucifixes are still being collected for updating. **Bette Litchy** is actively seeking supporters for the 31 club and suggests signing up on the numeral date of your birthday because it's easy to remember. "Walk With Me," **Deacon Alexander Hall** - continuing prayerful support is requested. **MA Frank** sent a nicely crafted letter to the Archbishop with the assistance of **M Collins** and **J Collodora** requesting the assignment of a chaplain to our Serra Club. Our prayers are needed.

Communications: J Makowske: **J Makowske** reported that vocation directors change July 1 and she will be checking for names of vocation directors in New Ulm, MN and Helena, MT. **J McGuire** read a thank you letter re the bus trip visits to the Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver. Newsletter articles are requested by July 25 for the August Serran Newsletter.

Pres. T Regan prefaced the Treasurer's Report directing the board to wait until a budget has been approved before discussing donations to speakers and Serra dues.

Treasurer: Ted McCrossan: **T McCrossan** provided a summary of expenses and income. The data is a result of a detailed study and analysis. These financial facts will be the basis of future board discussions to cut expenses and increase income. **Pres. T Regan** requested additional information and discussion at the next board meeting Aug. 19. **T McCrossan** requested a meeting with **M Zappia** and **Pres. T Regan** prior to the Aug meeting. **J McGuire** is exploring a request to the KofC for a donation. A discussion followed of other entities to approach for a donation.

Programs: J Lohnes in abstentia: encouraged members to provide suggestions and leads for speakers at our membership meetings.

Next Membership Events/Meetings:

July 22 - Serra Induction Ceremony 12:15 pm at St. William followed by Membership Meeting Speaker: **Tim Regan**
Aug 12 - Membership Meeting 12:15 pm at St. William's (Annex downstairs.) Speakers: **Sharon Hedman** and **Phillip Rief**

Aug 19 - Board Meeting 8:45 am at St. Charles Borromeo Church (Doran Hall) Budget Discussion

Aug 26 - Membership Meeting 12:15 pm at St. William: Speaker: **Natasha Sager**

Meeting Adjourned with prayer led by **Pres. T Regan** at 10:20 am.