



VOCATION BUS TRIP

by MaryAnne Frank and Mark Eastham

Our heavenly Father gave us a beautiful October day replete with colorful fall foliage for a Vocation Bus Trip from St. Stephen School to the Demontreville Jesuit Retreat House and the Carmelite Monastery. A total of 18 girls and 14 boys attended, and this was the first retreat where both the boys and girls went to the same religious site. Father Kevin met the group and we walked over to a statue of St. Ignatius of Loyola. The Jesuit order was founded in 1540 by Ignatius of Loyola and six companions with the approval of Pope Paul III. The Society of Jesus is the largest religious order in the Catholic Church and has played a significant role in education, charity, humanitarian acts, and global policies. The story of St. Ignatius is beautiful and will be covered in another future article. Jesuits are a contemplative order. St. Ignatius put together a silent prayer period of 150 prayers whereby 5 are recited per day for a total of 150 days. Father Kevin emphasized God's Will and how He loves us and how the enemy wants us to place our will first. The boys were very engaged. Father was great at getting them to interact with him. You could feel the Jesuit presence with the teaching that was occurring.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 2nd - 8th
National Vocations Awareness Week

Nov 8 - Holy Hour for Vocations 2:00 pm
Church of St. Charles Borromeo
Led by Fr. Troy Przybilla

Nov 11 - Membership Meeting 12:15 pm
Church of St. William
Speaker: Tom Pomeroy, Pacem in Terris

Nov 18 - Board Meeting 8:45 am
St. Charles Borromeo, Doran Hall

Nov 21 - North Central Regional Conf.
See information on page 6.

Nov 21-23 - Serra Regional Retreat
See information on page 6.

December 23, 2005
Serra Advent Christmas Party
Jax Cafe
1928 University Ave NE
More information to follow.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE LORD HEARS THE CRY OF THE POOR

The Holy Father has issued an Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te (I Have Loved You)*, his first official message to the whole world. It's a corker.

The background of the letter is that when Pope Leo XIV assumed office, he found an unfinished draft of this very letter on Pope Francis' desk. Earlier, Pope Francis had written the Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexit Nos (He Has Loved Us)*, a reflection on the human and divine love of Jesus. Pope Francis had intended the second letter as a follow-up, emphasizing the essential connection between Christ's love for us and

His command that we must love and care for the poor. Pope Leo says that when he found the unfinished draft, he decided to develop the letter and make it his own. We can be glad he did.

At the core of the Exhortation is this profound Incarnational truth: God's love and care for the poor comes to fulfillment in Jesus. Pope Francis and Pope Leo both remind us of St. Paul's great theme: **"He emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness."** (Philemon 2:7) From the moment Jesus entered the world, He was poor with the poor. The "Good News" that He brought is good news for the poor: "God is near, and He loves you." That explains Christ's saying in the Beatitudes **"Blessed are the poor, for theirs is the kingdom of God."** The poor inherit the kingdom because of God's "preference" for the poor.

The Psalmist says, The Lord hears the cry of the poor! Pope Leo points out that poverty is more than just material destitution. There are many forms of poverty in today's world: cultural and spiritual poverty, boredom, fragility, fear caused by the internet, and the empty sterility of mechanical sex without the desire for children.

From my own point of view as a Serran, I found it striking that Pope Leo starts his letter at a surprising point: the story of Moses and the Burning Bush. Yahweh says to Moses: **"I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them.... So, I send you."**

Just as God sent Moses, Pope Leo says, so God sends us. He sends the Church as his emissary of Good News for the Poor. Pope St. John Paul II was fond of saying: *the Church makes the Eucharist, and the Eucharist makes the Church.* We Serrans have an important mission which is to pray for vocations, to pray for priests, so that the Church can keep bringing the Eucharist, and the healing good News, to the poor.

Siempre Adelante, etc!!!

Your Pres



Tim Regan

CLUB OFFICERS 2025-2026

- **Chaplain** – Open
- **President**
Tim Regan
 H 612-822-3082, C 612-619-3078
twregan77@gmail.com
- **President-Elect**
MaryAnne Frank
 C 612-669-4221
mafrank09@gmail.com
- **Secretary**
 Rosemary Franzese
 612-990-2363
rf3308@aol.com
- **Treasurer**
 Ted McCrossan
 612-490-4099
mccrossantmha@aol.com
- **Communications**
 - Judy Makowske 612-781-1163
judymakowske1@gmail.com
- **Vocations**
 - MaryAnne Frank 612-669-4221
mafrank09@gmail.com
 - Jim McGuire 612-804-0482
m McGuire.jim.e@gmail.com
 - Mark Eastham 651-788-3396
meastham92@gmail.com
- **Programs**
 - Jo Lohnes 763-757-2990
jolohnes512@yahoo.com
- **Membership**
 - Maureen Collins 612-850-3003
maureen.okane.collins@gmail.com
 - Judie Collodora 763-784-2886
7judie@gmail.com
- **Trustees**
 - Ken Cobian 612-789-2179
kscobian@msn.com
 - Bonnie Conroy 651-276-2898
bonconroy8@gmail.com
 - Larry Gillespie 651-253-2250
larryg@usfamily.net
 - Norma Swanson 763-571-3288
normaswanson@msn.com
- **Serra Foundation Rep**
 - Ken Cobian 612-789-2179
kscobian@msn.com

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

ST. MICHAEL BROADCASTING

Michael Bird

The Serra Club of North-Minneapolis invited Michael Bird to speak to our members. He is the volunteer President of Saint Michael Broadcasting, a Catholic television station. He shared his story with us as well as a topic he has been diving into of late—in vitro fertilization (IVF) and the rights of the unborn.

Michael Bird was born in Minneapolis and came from a close-knit family with two brothers and sisters. He attended Annunciation grade school from kindergarten through 8th grade, and was taught by dedicated Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, who he did not appreciate fully until later in life. He says he still remembers asking Sister, “Why don’t we genuflect when we come back to our pew after receiving communion?” To which she replied, “Well, Michael, what you have to realize is, at that moment, you are a tabernacle.”

Michael then attended Benilde High School, and enjoyed his time there, too much, but again did not take advantage of the educational opportunities afforded him as he should. In later years, he had many different entry level jobs. He was employed by the Minneapolis Public Schools for a very short time as a laborer and saw how poorly some of the public schools were run. He realized how blessed he had been to have attended Annunciation and Benilde.

Eventually, Michael received a degree in business from the University of Minnesota and became a stockbroker. Taking more interest in his faith, he did quite a bit of religious reading and watched a small local Catholic television station called Catholic Views Broadcasts. When the husband of the couple that was running it died in 2008, Michael was asked to take over the station. With the help of his wife and many volunteers since, he has managed the station.

Saint Michael Broadcasting, Channel 14 and formerly Catholic Views Broadcasts, is a Catholic, low power, over the air (not cable) television station broadcasting from the top of the IDS Tower in Minneapolis. The signal reaches about 40 miles from downtown Minneapolis, though some living farther away, such as in St. Cloud, Faribault, Hutchinson and western Wisconsin are able to receive the signal. They are completely funded by viewer contributions and staffed by volunteers. They are a non-profit 501(C)3 corporation.

And now for the topic of “in vitro fertilization (IVF).” Here is an excerpt of an article Michael wrote for The Catholic Servant this past January 2025. It is called “*IVF and the rights of the Unborn.*”

What is meant by the term in vitro fertilization? The word “vitro” comes from the Latin word meaning “glass.” Therefore, in vitro fertilization means “fertilized in glass.” Human beings who come into existence this way are more commonly called “test tube babies.” In the broad sense, however, the term “in vitro fertilization” means “obtaining a human conception in a manner other than through the sexual union of a man and a woman.”

Continued on page 6 . . .

SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS

09/23/25



School Sisters
of Notre Dame

SISTER MARY ANNE SCHAEENZER

by Jo Lohnes

For Sister Mary Anne Schaezner, the past 60 years have been a wonderful gift. She was 20 years old when, on July 17, 1965, she took her first vows with the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND), followed by her final vows in the summer of 1970. Our Serra Club invited her to come and share the history of her Order and update us with the status of the Order today.



The **School Sisters of Notre Dame** is an international congregation of about 1,700 women religious. The community was founded in 1833 by Blessed Theresa of Jesus Gerhardinger in Bavaria. The School Sisters of Notre Dame live and minister in 27 countries on five continents and continue to share in Christ's mission to proclaim the good news of God's reign. The Generalate is in Rome, Italy. They are organized into ten provinces of which two are in North America.

The French Connection: The original Congregation of Notre Dame was founded near the close of the 16th Century in France. During the "French Revolution" and the general ruin which followed in its train, the house ... were suppressed ... the last to be confiscated in 1809. The Congregation was reestablished in Germany in 1833.

SSND came to the United States in 1847 ... landing in New York and moving on to Pennsylvania. They have been serving in the Mankato area since 1865. As the name implies, they are a teaching Order.

When Sister Mary Anne entered the Community in 1963 – first vows in 1965 – most of the Sisters were teaching in Schools. There were always some Sisters who served in House Care basically cooking but doing other tasks also. The first community in which Sister lived as a teacher had 42 Sisters. One prepared all the meals, one did the laundry (that is a lot of bedding alone), and one helped both of them. The rest of them taught full time in either the grade school or high school. This was in Mankato, Minnesota which was just one parish grade school. There were two others in Mankato and one in North Mankato. The Catholic High School was for everyone. Eventually there was one school for all 7-8th graders, and each parish had its one grade school. Again eventually, all K-6th graders were in one school. Today, K-12 are all in one building on Good Counsel Hill, Catholic School.

The types of Ministries, involved in various types of education, has evolved over the years. Here in the Twin Cities, there are some special SSND ministries that bear highlighting:

Theresa Living Center/Caroline Family Services – (1987 - present) The Theresa Living Center provides housing for single women who find themselves homeless or in an abusive situation. This residential program, located in the former convent of St. Casimir's Catholic Church, initially served 12 expectant mothers or women with children.

MORE – (1980's - present) MORE began in the 1980's in the McDonough Housing Community in St. Paul. The School Sisters of Notre Dame saw an opportunity to attend to the needs of the Southeast Asian refugee residents when observing the cultural barriers limiting them from fully engaging in their wider community.

East Side Learning Center (ESLC) – (2001 - present) The School Sisters of Notre Dame founded the ESLC and ever since it has been supporting the local community's most vulnerable children including those facing barriers to education such as homelessness, poverty, trauma, disabilities, and racial bias.

School Sisters of Notre Dame

young adult
evening prayer
via Zoom

**Fourth Tuesday
of every month**

@ 8p ET / 7p CT / 6p MT / 5p PT

Register in advance at ssnd.org/events

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS



ARCHDIOCESAN PASSPORT ADVENTURE

by Maureen Collins

The Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis is celebrating their 175th anniversary of its founding on July 19, 1850. Archbishop Hebda invited Catholics to become Archdiocesan Jubilee Pilgrims by visiting seven parishes other than our own, much like Saint Philip Neri who led the faithful of his day to seven churches in Rome. St. Alphonsus in Brooklyn Center, selected Saturday, October 25th as our pilgrimage day.



Our tour was led by Redemptorist Transitional Deacon Steve Urban and began in the St. Alphonsus parking lot for an opening prayer and then headed to the Cathedral of St. Paul. The next stop was at St. Peter Claver in the Frogtown area of St. Paul where we were met by Permanent Deacon Will Pitts. This parish is made up of primarily black parishioners. To honor their culture and vocations, they displayed framed photos in their narthex of Cardinal Wilton Gregory and six black American Bishops, as well as six holy black American men and women religious.

We moved on to Holy Rosary, the first parish my husband and I joined after we were married. I thought it was interesting that three of the four parishes of my married life were stops on this pilgrimage. We passed by a large homeless encampment under an overpass just a few blocks from the church. This parish is located in the Little Earth neighborhood of Minneapolis close to the George Floyd site and is primarily made up of American Indians and Hispanics. Inside the church was a literature table, including quite a number of our *Serra Collection of Favorite Prayers* in Spanish. The Parish has an outdoor neighborhood Rosary Procession scheduled for the following week.

Following a lunch break, we headed over to Ascension parish. We were greeted by Francisco Escamilla Jr., the Faith Formation Director. His dad, Francisco Sr., is a biblical and philosophy professor at St. Thomas University. This parish gives out free food in their narthex after Mass on the first and third Sundays of each month.

At 3:00 pm, we received an official tour at the Basilica conducted by a docent. Our pastor, Fr. John Schmidt, joined our pilgrimage at the Basilica. Built in 1914, this was the first Basilica in the US and was later named a Co-Cathedral, after the archdiocese elected to remain intact rather than split into separate St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdioceses. The church will be closing next year for renovations. During construction, Mass will be held in the upper basement with a capacity of 500. One of my favorite chapels honored Our Lady of Lavang commemorating when Blessed Mother appeared to a group of persecuted Catholics in the 18th century. Above a statue of Mary and Baby Jesus wearing

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CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

DEACON ASSIGNED TO IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Serrans welcome **Deacon Jose Luis Rodriguez Alvarado** to Immaculate Conception Parish in Columbia Heights and look forward to working with him in our vocation efforts. He comes to us from Risen Savior in Burnsville. May God bless his ministry!

St. Michael Broadcasting continued . . .

What is wrong with IVF, and why should we oppose it? In vitro fertilization is wrong because the unborn child has rights. The child has the right to be conceived in an act of sexual love by his parents. He has the right to be protected from coming into existence in a laboratory, where he might be placed in his mother's womb, or a stranger's womb, discarded, used for research, or frozen for future use.

Both contraception and abortion have fostered the belief that we have the "right to do what we want with our own bodies." We do not. We are stewards of our bodies, not owners. The unborn child is not a "product of conception," a manufactured "thing," but a human being. *Donum Vitae*, the 1987 Instruction on Respect for Human Life, warns: "the abortion mentality . . . leads, whether one wants it to or not, to man's dominion over the life and death of his fellow human beings and can lead to a system of radical eugenics."

Unfortunately, "theologians" and "moralists" have not effectively communicated the truth about the immorality and consequences of IVF. It's up to us, the laity, to speak up, and act!

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

Demontreville Bus Trip continued . . .

The Demontreville retreat house is run by three Jesuit priests. It was started in 1948 and is located in Lake Elmo, MN. They host silent men's retreats from Thursday evening to Sunday every weekend with the exception of five weekends per year. The men receive 14 different talks along with confession and Mass during the retreat. We learned that Serran Larry Gillespie, who came on the trip, has been on retreat there every year for 35 years!

Jim McGuire and MaryAnne led thirteen 8th grade girls uphill from the retreat house to the Carmelite Monastery which was somewhat hidden by trees. They watched as Jim pressed a button and waited for a musical chime that welcomed us. Inside was a simple waiting room built of concrete blocks with 3 closed doors, lending to the mystery. After we assembled into the room, we noted a turnstile made of metal and wood as well as a small, round, perforated intercom that became our means of communication with an unseen sister.



The girls adapted to this new and strange way of communicating, asking the sister about their habits (brown) and what "Discalced" meant (Carmelite rule is similar to that of the Franciscans meaning they are "unshod" or without shoes

wearing sandals with no stockings as a means of living in poverty). Sister was asked how she knew that she was being called to serve God in this way and we received a lengthy answer. Another student asked Sister whether they had any technology available to them. As Sister spoke, the turnstile opened to reveal a shelf where one of the girls placed a bag of groceries. This enabled us to see how the sisters communicate and receive necessities without leaving their Carmel.

Both boys and girls gathered for Mass at the retreat center. The feedback after the trip was very positive and we hope to add this to our regular schedule of vocation site visits in the future. We need more Serran members to commit to Virtus training in order to be available to chaperone these school trips.

**ATTENTION**

Christmas Gifts for the Seminarians at St. John Vianney and St. Paul Seminary will be collected at our November 11th Membership Meeting at St. William. As always, the most popular and most appreciated gift is a gas card. Other useful gifts include warm gloves, socks, and hats for seminarians who are from other areas of the country (or the world). The November 11th collection date is earlier than usual since our Advent/Christmas Party is so close to Christmas this year. Warm seminarian spirits with your prayers, gas cards, or a gift for frosty fingers, toes, and ears.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

CALL TO HOLINESS

HOLINESS IS A UNIVERSAL CALLING



by MaryAnne Frank

Living a life of love for Christ is a calling for all, but especially for Serrans as this call is part of our mission. Pope Leo XIV speaks of holiness as the primary path, "demonstrated through faith, hope and charity." Jesus Christ must always be our focus in everything that we set out to do.

During a chance meeting in our Church Atrium, my sister and I witnessed a deliveryman entering the doors and making the Sign of the Cross finishing with a kiss blown to an image of Our Lady. We commented to him on the beauty of his witness and were touched to hear his response that "Jesus is my God and I love Him!" His words, simple and profound, resonated with me for the remainder of the day ~ his deep faith professed in a holy space was a weighty reminder that we each must live out our faith in the minutiae of our daily lives.

What a beautiful example, unknowingly presented to us by a deliveryman just going about his work, delivering his love and faith along with a package!

In our quest for holiness, our lives must be a continuous reflection of our love for Jesus, incorporated in all we do and say!

IN *Life* AND AT *Death*

WE NEED OUR PRIESTS

by Judy Makowske

How precious the sacraments in life and in death!

Our family was blessed with the presence of St. Charles Borromeo Pastor, Fr. Troy Przybilla, as my husband, Don, approached his last hours of life.

What a great consolation for family members to see their loved one receive the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist as Viaticum, and Anointing with the final Apostolic Blessing.

God bless the clergy God has given to us as true fathers.



Photo: Heather Makowske

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

Archdiocesan Passport Adventure continued . . .

traditional Vietnamese clothing was a round mosaic of a mother pelican and her three chicks. Blood was dripping from the mother's beak. Apparently, a pelican will pluck pieces of her own body and feed it to her young if she cannot find any other food. The image signifies Christ sacrificing His own body for His love of humanity.

Our last stop at 4:15 pm, was at Annunciation in south Minneapolis, the parish that was victim to the horrific shooting during a school Mass on August 27, 2025. The plan was to tour the site and stay for the 5:00 pm Mass, which is currently being held in the school auditorium. The pastor, Fr. Dennis Zehren, formerly of St. Vincent de Paul, introduced my pastor and seminarian to the congregation at the start of Mass just before he led the faithful in the Archdiocesan Vocations Prayer. Fr. John concelebrated Mass and Deacon Steve served during Mass. At the end of Mass, Fr. Zehren asked everyone to pray for Deacon Steve in advance of his ordination next spring. After Mass, he surprised the congregation by announcing that the pews in the church were about to be replaced and invited anyone who wanted to process out of the auditorium with him to have a look inside the church.

The mood was very somber and everyone was quiet and respectful. The stained-glass windows had already been repaired. Approximately 30 pews had blue painters tape marking the spots where bullets had punctured or grazed the wood. One of the pews also had a small framed photo of one of the young deceased students propped up on the seat. It was heartbreaking. The door on the east side wall just to the left of the altar still had three bullet holes. Many parishes and organizations had donated rosaries, Miraculous Medals, Holy Water containers, and prayer cards, to which Fr. Zehren invited us to help ourselves. Our St. Alphonsus Archdiocesan Passport Adventure ended with a prayer outside on this rainy, blustery day near the display of flowers outside the front of The Church of the Annunciation.



PRAYER INTENTIONS

*Please keep in your prayers:*

Jean Buchmann
 Larry Gillespie
 Terri Glaeser
 Mikki Gottwalt
 Esther Guzik
 Jackie Huber
 Michaeline Loomis
 Jackie Pavlak
 Jack Quesnell
 Christine Shannon
 Joe Spano
 Chris Struble*
 Marlene Tacheny
 Marilyn Zappia

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

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR:

- Vianney Visit Nov 13-15

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

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

NOTABLE NEWS

MAILBAG

Dear Loretta,
 Thank you for your thoughtfulness and your faith and charity. Please relay my sincere gratitude to all the members of the Serra club of North-Minneapolis.
 Gratefully,
Bishop Lee Piché

Dear Serrans of North-Minneapolis,
 Thank you for your recent card and promise of prayers on the occasion of Priesthood Sunday 2025.

Your dedicated support for our local priests and religious, and continued work to promote vocations for the church, is greatly appreciated.

May God bless you and strengthen you for your mission.
 Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Michael J. Izen
 Auxiliary Bishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis

Dear Don and Judy,
 Thank you so much for the package you sent in memory of my 20th Anniversary as a priest.

It was wonderful to remember where it all started, and the beautiful time I spent at St. Charles Borromeo.

May God bless you always!
Fr. Bobby Pish, St. John the Baptist - Savage, MN

Dear Serrans,
 Thank you for being a vessel of the Lord's love and generosity. We hope and pray that you may know of His desire to care for you in the deeper needs of your heart.

May His grace and peace be yours!

Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus

Dear Loretta and Serrans,
 Thank you so much for the thoughtful card and prayers. God is so good and generous! It's people like you, the Serrans, that He reveals His beauty. Know of my prayers. Please keep the prayers coming as the Lord is producing a harvest here of vocations!

Fr. Tim Tran

St. Stephen, Anoka

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SERRA CLUB ADVENT

Christmas
 Party

JAX CAFE

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)

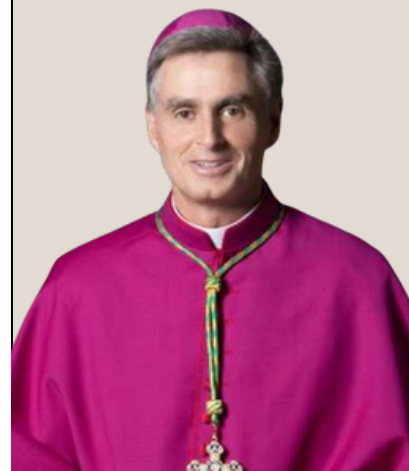
THANK YOU!



Serra MEETS

SERRA, NOW MORE THAN EVER!

An online speaker series
 with vocations in mind



Bishop Thomas Daly

Episcopal Advisor

US Serra

Advent Reflections

Date: Mon, Nov 17th, 7 pm CDT

Webinar Link:

[pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVIKVIhyYXNlbnRpbkUT09#success](https://www.zoom.us/j/92451924?pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVIKVIhyYXNlbnRpbkUT09#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

NOVEMBER

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26  ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS	27	28	29	30	31	1 POPE LEO XIV
2 YOUR PASTOR	3 REV. JOHN WENDELIN BERGER ORD 1998	4 REV. JAMES ANDREW (JIMMY) BERNARD ORD 2021	5 REV. LAWRENCE ROBERT (LARRY) BLAKE ORD 1999	6 REV. DAVID NEIL BLUME ORD 2004	7 REV. STEPHEN JOSEPH (STEVE) BOATWRIGHT ORD 2025	8 REV. DANIEL JAMES BODIN ORD 2005
9 REV. RONALD JOSEPH (RON) BOWERS ORD 1964	10 REV. BRENT MICHAEL BOWMAN ORD 2024	11 REV. CHARLES ALLEN BRAMBILLA ORD 1970	12 REV. PETER BRANDENHOFF ORD 1970	13 REV. ANDREW RONALD BRINKMAN ORD 2013	14 REV. EUGENE MAURICE BROWN ORD 1960	15 REV. JAMES PATRICK BURNS ORD 1993
16 REV. JOHN MARY BURNS O.CARM. ORD 1982	17 REV. HAROLD JOSEPH (HARRY) BURY ORD 1955	18 REV. JAMES FRANCIS (JIM) BURYSKA ORD 1965	19 VERY REV. MSGR. ALOYSIUS R. CALLAGHAN ORD 1971	20 REV. THEODORE CHARLES CAMPBELL ORD 1972	21 REV. SCOTT MICHAEL CARL ORD 2000	22 REV. ALEX BERNARD CARLSON ORD 2010
23 REV. PATRICK LUKE CASEY ORD 1965	24 REV. JAMES ALLEN CASSIDY ORD 1978	25 REV. MARIO CASTAGNOLA PES ORD 2010	26 REV. MATHAI CHACKO (JAMES) CHITTETH CFIC ORD 1986	27 REV. JOHNATHON RICHARD (JOHN) CHRISTIANSON ORD 2015	28 REV. KEVIN ISIDORE CLINTON ORD 1974	29 REV. TIMOTHY D CLOUTIER ORD 1983
30 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: Maureen Collins, Judie Collodora, MaryAnne Frank, Rosemary Franzese, Jo Lohnes, Judy Makowske, Ted McCrossan, Tim Regan, Norma Swanson. Trustees present: Bonnie Conroy,

Meeting Opened with prayer led by **President-Elect MA Frank** at 8:55 am. Minutes from the previous meeting on 9/16/25 were moved, seconded, and approved.

President's Items: **J Makowske** reminded us of a Novena for priestly vocations which begins Oct 24. She had read about it in a recent email from the St. Paul Seminary which she will forward. **N Swanson** mentioned the dedication of a *Walk With Me* seminarian who is on the Teaching Comm at St. William's named **Alex Tebockhost**. Next, **J Lohnes** led the discussion of when to collect our Christmas gifts/gas cards for seminarians this year because our annual Serra Christmas Party is scheduled too late in Dec to collect/deliver the gifts before the seminarians depart for Christmas break. It was decided to designate our Nov 11 membership lunch meeting as the date Serrans are requested to bring Christmas gifts for the seminarians. Next **MA Frank** said Nov 7 is the deadline for nominations for the annual Speeter Award for an Outstanding Serran in our district. Many of our current Serran leaders are past recipients of this award which is named after a previous governor from our district.

Programs VP: **J Lohnes** named the speaker scheduled for our two final Membership Lunch Mtgs scheduled in 2025: Oct 28: **Tony Kuplic** (Laboure Society); Nov 11: **Tom Pomeroy** (Pacem in Terris). Suggested names for future speakers are always requested and welcomed and will be pursued. Next, discussion focused on our annual Christmas Party which will be at JAX on Dec 23. Details will appear in the Nov Newsletter along with directives to RSVP for this special event.

Vocation Bus Trips: In the absence of **VPS Mark Eastham/Jim McGuire**, **MA Frank** repeated the plans for the upcoming fall bus trips of 8th grade students to visit seminaries and homes for religious. On Oct 27, students from St Stephens; on Oct 29, students from St Raphaels/with **Fr Nick** and St JP II; and on Nov 12, students from St Charles and Immaculate Conception/with **Fr Quail**. There is one significant change: on Nov 12 St Charles and Immaculate Conception schools will require two buses due to an increased number of students signed up. The boys and girls on the buses will be split up for efficiency. Chaperones on 10/29 still being finalized.

Vocations VP: **MA Frank** summed up a successful Priesthood Sunday with many participating in parish spiritual gifts for pastors and assistants. The efforts of a St Cyril's secretary to promote were commendable. Vocation Awareness Week occurs Nov 2-9, highlighted by our annual Holy Hour Rosary for Vocations at St Charles at 2:00 pm on Sat, Nov 8. The Seven Serrans for Vocation Directors is actively being pursued, whereby seven members of a Serra Club are assigned to pray for a specific vocation director for one hour a week for one year.

Membership VP'S: **M Collins** and **J Collodora**: St Stephen's and Epiphany parishes have been identified at which to focus for recruitment of new members. Efforts are centered on contacting the pastors and promoting Serra at parish festivals by setting up a booth containing pop-ups for taking photos of the children. St Alphonsus has materials generated by parishioner **Lois Taylor**, with pop-ups of a Redemptorist priest and a sister which will be employed at an upcoming festival on Nov 8-9. Planning is underway for the annual Serra Memorial Service at our Membership Lunch Mtg on Nov 11. Deceased Serra members will be prayerfully brought to mind as names are read aloud.

Communications VP: **J Makowske** mentioned the annual pre-college Archbishop's Discernment Retreat is being held at Christ the King Retreat Ctr on Oct 24-26 and the annual pre-college Vianney Visit will be on Nov 13-15 with **Fr Jonathan Kelly**. Important and relevant articles in the current issue of Serra Magazine were brought to our attention. Kudos to Serran **Loretta Thielen** for her continuing service of sending prayer-filled and beautifully crafted congratulatory notes to pastors in our Archdiocese plus **Archbishop Piche** on the anniversary of their ordinations. She has received many sincere thank you notes in return to the Serrans. A Proclamation of Appreciation will be awarded for her wonderful outreach on our behalf.

Treasurer's Report: **T McCrossan** informed us due to a successful Annual Garage Sale our finances are in good shape. However watchfulness and care is needed due to the cost of our programs promoting vocations. A signatory needs to be changed on our bank account due to a personnel change. **Marilyn Zappia** and **Ted** have spent considerable time working on our Serra Biannual Dues Statements to ensure they are clear and easily understood. They will be sent out early so that if there are any concerns or questions or changes that need to be addressed, corrections can be made in a timely manner. Dues are not due until January 2026!

Old Business: Sponsors need to invite new members to Board Meetings.

New Business: Discussion on how to meet future club financial needs. Need to designate specific monies donated for vocations. Multiple fund raising groups. A task force will be formed to address these issues consisting of **J Collodora, MA Frank** and **J Lohnes**.

Next Membership Events/Meetings:

Oct 28 - Membership Lunch Mtg, 12:15 pm at St William's (downstairs) Speaker: **Tony Kuplic**, Laboure Society
 Nov 11 - Membership Lunch Mtg, 12:15 pm at St William's (downstairs) Speaker: **Tom Pomeroy**, Pacem in Terris
 Nov 18 - Board Mtg, 8:45 am at St Charles Borromeo (Doran Hall)
 Dec 16 - Board Mtg, 8:45 am at St Charles Borromeo (Doran Hall)
 Dec 23 - Serra Club Christmas Party, JAX Cafe 1928 University Ave NE (More Information to follow.)

Meeting Adjourned with prayer led by **President-Elect MA Frank** at 10:20 am.