



Pictured standing are: Judie Collodora, Mary Szydlik, Ken Cobian, Tom and Carrie Pomeroy, and Rosemary Franzese. Seated are: Judy Makowske, MaryAnne Frank, and Maureen Collins. Also in attendance and missing from the photo are Tim Regan and Larry Gillespie.

## 2025 SERRA CONFERENCE & RETREAT

by Judy Makowske

Over sixty Serrans participated in the North Central Regional Conference to hear from Director of Human Formation and Counseling, Dr. Paul Ruff, on staff at the St. Paul Seminary, Dr. Anne Roat, US Council of Serra President, and ten of the Regional Serra Clubs. Our President, Tim Regan, presented the North-Minneapolis "Year in Review" including Vocation Committee initiatives of Priesthood Sunday Spiritual Bouquets, Holy Hours, and School Traveling Crucifixes along with a recap of Membership, Programs, and Communications activities. Of particular note, speakers pointed out that the priesthood can be a lonely life which was recognized by Pope Francis, when he called on Serrans to be "friends to priests." Just how should we as North-Minneapolis Serrans follow through on this? Another challenge to Serrans called for more awareness of the gifts offered by our Permanent Deacons. A valuable presentation on the structure of Serra, and the final two days of spiritual retreat with Fr. Eric Hollas, OSB rounded out the weekend.

**Continued on page 7 ...**

North-Minneapolis   District 7   Club #418

Chartered on February 22, 1974

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Dec 16 – Board Meeting** 8:45am  
St. Charles Borromeo (Doran Hall)

**December 23, 2025**  
**Serra Advent Christmas Party**  
**JAX Cafe**  
**1928 University Ave NE**

**Jan 13 – Membership Meeting** 12:15 pm  
Church of St. William (downstairs)  
Speaker: Janae Bower  
The Holy Face of Jesus

**Jan 20 – Board Meeting** 8:45am  
St. Charles Borromeo (Doran Hall)

**Jan 27 – Membership Meeting** 12:15 pm  
Church of St. William (downstairs)  
Speaker: TBD

**Jan 27 – Miriam Dinner** 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
North-Minneapolis Serrans Serve Dinner  
Archdiocesan Catholic Center  
777 Forest Street, St. Paul

**Feb 10 – Membership Meeting** 12:15 pm  
Church of St. William (downstairs)  
Speaker: TBD



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Tim Regan

## THE FATHER OF RETREATS

Greetings Serrans!

Recently we heard the sad news that our retreat venue will soon be sold. We men will still have Demontreville – Serrans who have done retreats there know the wonderful gift we have that this facility is located in Minnesota. Why don't the Jesuits offer retreats to women also? I don't know, but retreatants' wives universally report that their husbands are "nicer" when they come home from their weekend!

Why do we use the word "retreat" – clearly a military term – for this form of spiritual exercise? It is because of St. Ignatius of Loyola, founder of the Jesuits and the "Father of Retreats." Let me tell you his story.

St. Ignatius came from a family of minor nobility in the Basque country of Northwestern Spain. The Basques are known for their fiery temperaments and their military traditions. As a young man, Ignatius was ambitious to make his mark. He was a soldier, a courtier, and he even had a reputation as a womanizer. Unfortunately for his plans, he was severely injured in a battle in which he was struck in the leg by a cannon ball. He survived the injury but had to endure a series of extremely painful surgeries on his leg (in the days before modern anesthetics!), and a very long period of recuperation. He walked with a severe limp for the rest of his life.

During his healing, Ignatius took to extensive reading. He was fond of books about battles and knight-errantry, but the home manor soon ran out of its supply of these. Then, somebody gave him a copy of The Life of Christ, which he read with acute attention. It changed his life.

Following his recuperation, Ignatius made a "retreat" from what he came to regard as his life's spiritual battle. Near the little town of Manresa, Ignatius discovered a small cave where he made his abode. In the Manresa cave he spent many months in prayer and contemplation, reflecting on his own spiritual journey. He then wrote his great work, The Spiritual Exercises, which described the format for a long retreat, and offered guidance for spiritual directors giving what came to be called the Ignatian Retreat.

The Spiritual Exercises became one of the most influential writings in the history of Western Civilization. It changed men's lives; it changed kingdoms and empires.

The Jesuits, and the retreats which St. Ignatius inspired, are still changing lives. After our retreat this year, we Serrans can, in our own way, continue to live out the dream of the "Father of Retreats."

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## SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS



# Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

ST. PAUL PROVINCE

10-14-25

## SISTERS JILL AND CAROLYN

by Jo Lohnes



Serra members were blessed with two Sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet, Sister Jill Underdahl and Sister Carolyn Puccio. First, Sister Jill shared with us the early history of the Order in Saint Paul, and then Sister Carolyn told us her vocation story.

**Early History of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Carondelet**

The founding site of the Sisters of Saint Joseph in St. Paul is at Kellogg and Robert streets. Prior to the sisters' arrival in 1851, this site essentially established the name of the City of St. Paul and the Archdiocese. Back then, Minnesota was a territory and would not become the 32<sup>nd</sup> state until seven years later in 1858.

On the night of November 2, 1851, campfires were burning in tepees and log cabins in the pioneer village of St. Paul when the four Sisters of St. Joseph arrived. Snow-covered bluffs and ice floating on the river greeted them. Mother St. John Fournier and Sister Philomene Villaine, who had come from France, and American born Sister Scholistica Valasquez, a French and Spanish Creole, and Sister Francis Joseph Ivory arrived at Lambert Landing at the foot of Jackson Street.

The next morning, they met Bishop Cretin who introduced them to their convent which had formerly been his home. It was a log shanty, 18 feet square, one and one-half stories high, facing the river. It had two rooms on the ground floor, a parlor and refectory, an attic for a dormitory, and an annex which served as a kitchen. The log church was located to the right of the convent. At first, eight men volunteered for the work; others offered themselves later. The crude chapel, 25 feet in length, 18 feet in width, and 10 feet high, had two windows, one on each side, and faced the river. Labor expenditures did not exceed \$75.00. The sisters eagerly set up the first Catholic school in Minnesota dedicated to St. Mary. Sister Francis Joseph taught subjects in English, and Sister Philomene taught them in French. In 1852, a two-story brick building was built to house the school and boarders.

In early 1852, the river, the primary means for transportation for thousands of new settlers, became the source of the dreaded disease, cholera. It was a highly infectious and contagious disease caused by bacteria found in the river water, the only source of water for boatmen and passengers. By late 1852, the spread of cholera grew to epidemic proportions. Bishop Cretin offered the log cabin chapel as a place to care for cholera patients, and the four Sisters of St. Joseph offered to care for the sick. Sister-teachers became sister-nurses overnight. The log cabin chapel became a hospital fittingly named St. Joseph. Before cholera reached epidemic proportions, recognizing the need for a hospital in the pioneer community, Bishop Cretin reached out to Mother Celestine Pommerel, on her first visit to St. Paul in 1852, about the possibility of securing additional sisters to staff the hospital.

Two men stepped forward to offer assistance to Bishop Cretin. They were Henry Rice, a prominent Protestant layman who offered a plot of land well situated on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi River (at now Exchange and St. Peter), and White Cloud, a Chippewa Indian chief, who donated lumber from his land in an area now part of the city of Minneapolis. Bishop Cretin donated 10,000 francs from his family inheritance. Currently in St. Joseph Hospital, the mission legacy wall in the main lobby highlights some of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet's impact at the hospital and beyond. The chapel on the second floor matches the dimensions, 18 X 25 feet of the original cabin and hospital at Kellogg and Robert Street.

St. Joseph's Hospital was, from the beginning, an ecumenical project because of the vision and generosity of a Catholic bishop, a Protestant layman, an Indian Chief, and the Sisters of St. Joseph.

**The Vocation Story of Sister Carolyn Puccio (CSJ)**

Sister Carolyn Puccio is a sister of Saint Joseph of Carondelet (CSJ) and has been part of the order for 65 years. She is the middle of five children. She had an older brother, younger brother, older sister, and a younger sister. She had an Italian father and an Irish/German mother (which explains a lot). She grew up in North Minneapolis and entered the Sisters of St. Joseph at age 17 in 1960. Her early impression of being a sister was that she thought it would be boring, but it is far from boring!

Continued on page 7 ...

## SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS

# LABOURÉ

## HELP RESCUE VOCATIONS

by Jo Lohnes

Tony Kuplic is the Advancement Director for the Labouré Society. Serra invited him to come and share the start and mission of Labouré.



Tony Kuplic  
October 28, 2025

### How Labouré Got Started

In 2001 the founder, Cy Laurent, met a young woman who was called to be a nun, but was unable to enter a community because of her college debt. Cy provided her financial support so she could pursue her vocation. When he discovered that thousands of men and women were in a similar situation, he founded the Labouré Society to rescue more vocations before it was too late.

Since the founding, Labouré has helped over 450 aspirants resolve their personal debt and pursue their vocation.

### The Mission and Vision

The Labouré Society envisions a world where Catholic vocations thrive, with no one held back from God's call to serve as a Catholic priest, brother, or sister due to education debt.

Student loans and/or formation expenses can stand in the way of a vocation. The Labouré Society helps those called raise funds to resolve financial obstacles that stand between them and their vocation, while providing lifelong skills that prepare them for a life of service.

The Labouré Society trains its members in Catholic based, collective, relational fundraising and gives them the tools they need to thrive. Aspirants are aided in getting over the fear of public speaking and learn to ask for help. They share their vocation story personally with 300+ people. They present the Good News to thousands that God continues to call individuals to serve the Church as sisters, priests, and brothers while inviting others to join them in such a vocation. Lasting relationships are built centered in Christ.



## CLUB EVENTS &amp; NEWS

**SERRA STUDENT VOCATIONS VISIT**

**Little Sisters  
of the Poor**  
HOSPITALITY AT HEART  
10-29-25



*Students from St. Raphael with Sister Mary Paschal.*

Eighth grade students from St. Raphael and St. John Paul II Schools joined forces for a day of discovery (how God calls each of us to serve Him in a way no other person can) and to learn how God calls each of us.

Mark Eastham and MaryAnne Frank met the bus with students from John Paul II joining Jim McGuire and students from St. Raphael. After everyone found their seats, Mark introduced the mission of Serra and shared the plan for the day, setting the tone for our encounters in convent and seminary.

After dropping the boys off at St. John Vianney, we continued on to meet the Little Sisters of the Poor at the Holy Family Residence. A vivacious Sister, Sr. Mary Paschal, welcomed us and brought us to the brightly lit Jeanne Jugan Welcome Room and showed a video of the Little Sisters' origins in France and their mission and work.

Mass was scheduled within the visit and we shared space in the Chapel with a number of residents. A student from JPII served as Lector. Following Mass, we met the activities director and returned to the welcome room to find tables filled with games and puzzles and surrounded by many of the residents. Games were interspersed with conversation!

We joined the residents for lunch in the Cafeteria, once again, giving students the opportunity to interact with the residents. I was particularly touched to witness a student gently ask to join a table, and later shook the hands of those with whom she shared lunch, thanking them, and promising to pray for them.



*St. John Paul II students in Little Sisters of the Poor Chapel.*



## CLUB EVENTS &amp; NEWS

**Serra Student Vocations Visit Continued ...**

The boys arrived at St. John Vianney seminary and were greeted by two wonderful seminarians, Jonas and Trent. An informal discussion was held in the chapel about their discernment stories, and wonderful insights regarding the chapel and its numerous stained-glass windows was shared. The boys from St. Raphael had prepared an extensive list of questions for the seminarians.

Next, we trekked over to the major seminary after a great tour led by Mr. Joseph Turner, the religious education teacher at St. Raphael. Since we arrived late, the two seminarians had to get to class. Mr. Turner had attended the minor seminary years ago and, on the spot, I asked him to give the tour. He was more than willing to step up and share many great insights.

With our revised agenda at SPS, we went down to the St. Olaf room to have lunch. Afterwards, Fr. Pavlak, the Vocations Director, and Fr. Nick from St. Raphael, spoke to the boys briefly about seminary life and about making wise decisions in life starting now. Fr. Pavlak emphasized that you will not, all of sudden, be called to be a priest. It takes a lot of time, prayer, and discernment before you know that you are being called. Next, we went up to St. Mary's Chapel for a discussion with seminarians, Peter Flynn (Theo. I) and Jacob O'Meara (Theo. II), to hear their stories and to get a quick tour of the chapel. We learned that the chapel contains a first-class relic of St. Teresa of Calcutta - a strand of her hair. We took the traditional group photo in front of the St. Paul Chapel and started our journey back across campus to the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel for Mass.

Before arriving, Mr. Turner took us to the Catholic Studies Building. It was a bonus to see its small Adoration Chapel.

Fr. Nick celebrated Mass in the beautiful chapel that is used by the college students. He gave a great homily about Christ knocking on the door. We must open the door and allow Him in, so that when we knock on the door to heaven, it will be opened up to us. Mr. Turner and Fr. Nick showed us the sacristy and, after Mass, gave us a tour of the chapel and its history. What stood out was art scenes from the book of Revelation that is not typically seen in a Catholic church.



**SAINT JOHN VIANNEY  
COLLEGE SEMINARY**



## CLUB EVENTS &amp; NEWS

**Sisters of St. Joseph continued ...**

Sister Carolyn received a BA in Elementary Education from St. Catherine in 1965, an MA in Religious Education from Seattle University in 1973, an MA in Counseling and Psychotherapy from the Adler Institute in 1993, and was licensed in 1998.

In 1965, her first mission was to Marshall, Minnesota, and Sister thought she would die. Instead, she fell in love with the country and stayed for 39 years in the New Ulm Diocese. She lived and/or ministered in Marshall, Vesta, Milroy, Taunton, St. Leo, Lake Benton, Tyler, Redwood Falls, Montevideo, Olivia and Hutchinson.

Sister's ministries included those of classroom teacher, Director of Religious Education, Pastoral Minister, Worship Coordinator, Licensed Psychologist in private practice and Employee Assistance Program Professional serving a variety of businesses.

Sister Carolyn returned to the Twin Cities in June of 2004 to assume responsibilities as a member of the Province Leadership Team with Joan Mitchell and Gina Webb until 2009.

She was then employed by Presbyterian Homes and Services, from 2009-2012, for Development efforts including a Capital Campaign for Carondelet Village.

In 2013, she accepted an appointment to serve as the Delegate for Consecrated Life for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and continued in this role until 2023.

Sister continues to see clients in private practice and serves on a variety of committees and boards within the CSJ community and beyond.

It is fair to say that Sister Carolyn has been very busy and has never been bored!



**Join your fellow Serrans  
on the banks of the  
Missouri River at the  
Augustine Institute  
for the 2026  
Serra Leadership Rally.**

The Serra US Council invites new and seasoned Serrans for training, workshops, and spiritual inspiration so your club can take its mission to the next level.

**January 22-25, 2026**



*Holy hour participants visited with Father.*

## **HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS**

Eucharistic Days! Does it get any more special than that? Yes, it does! Embedded in the Feast Day of St. Charles Borromeo (Patron of seminarians), Father Troy Przybilla, once again, quickly agreed to designate a Holy Hour for Vocations, shared a Gospel passage, and offered a homily including his own vocation story. Flyers were sent out to Twin City Serra Clubs to invite them to take part in the Holy Hour. Our local Serrans, joined by St. Charles parishioners and Mary Lou Monighan from the NW Hennepin Serra Club, paid homage to the Lord of the Harvest!

**Serra Conference & Retreat continued ...**

"Carrie and I did not know what to expect from the conference and retreat with us being first year Serrans, but we were pleasantly surprised by the excellence of the sessions at the Friday conference and by the depth of the retreat which Fr. Eric Hollas led. It was uncanny how his "tag lines" of "keep your death always before you" and "build a legacy" fed almost perfectly with the moving Memorial Service for the Serrans who passed away this past year. Also, we greatly enjoyed getting to meet so many wonderful Serrans who are on fire for living out their strong Catholic faith, and we left King's House already looking forward to next year's conference and retreat. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in helping to put this together."

Tom Pomeroy

## CLUB EVENTS &amp; NEWS

# Remembering

## Deceased Serrans

North-Minneapolis Serrans who died in the past year are remembered and prayed for during our November Members Meeting. Candles were lit to honor the memory and names of **Darrell Lane** and **David Loomis**. Other deceased members who were active in our Serra Apostolate over the years are listed below with a request for prayers for their souls. We pray for:

**Mary (Pat) Anton - Jovita Baker - Adrian Born**  
**Marlys Baerwold - Tom Biernat - Larry Boeser**  
**Fr. Bob Boller - John Braden - Roger Carr**  
**Joe Casserly - Jim Cassidy - Louis Cellette**  
**Jerry Choromanski - Msgr. Patrick Coates**  
**Laura Cremisino - Jack Crowley - Charlie Dahl**  
**Bob Delmore - Dcn. Dominic & Helen Ehrmantraut**  
**Ray Eklund - Barb & Fran Feyereisen**  
**Mark Feyereisen - Pat Floeder - Marie George**  
**Joe Gazda - Virgil Gottwalt**  
**Albert & Colleen Haik - Jack Hunt**  
**Howard Homme - Leo (Pat) Jahnke**  
**Edward Jasinski - Vincent Johnson - Joe Kapala**  
**Dick Kennedy - Kathy Kopka - Arlene Kosak**  
**Richard Larson - Wilfrid Leitschuh**  
**John Litchy - Ed Lohnes - Rich Ludwig**  
**Don & Gerry Machowicz - Margaret Manley**  
**Frank Matlon - Dcn. John Matlon**  
**George Merriam - George Meyers**  
**Donald Moorhead - Elizabeth (Liz) Mueller**  
**Rose Murphy - Judy Nemeth - Jim Nolan**  
**Loretta O'Keefe - Katie Oleen - Leo Paquette**  
**James Paul - Peter Perri - Jerry Petron**  
**LeRoy Piche - Art Popehn - Greg Prom**  
**Ed Rainville - Noble Rainville - Dottie Roman**  
**Bill Rose - Ginger Sarych - Ray Sheehan**  
**Jan Sivanich - Walter (Red) Sochacki**  
**Eileen Spano - Gene Sullivan - Art Swanson**  
**John Symanitz - Lorraine Thomas - Don Thull**  
**Clare Volp - Walt Vennewitz - Walter Warpeha**  
**Lorraine Weinmeyer - Donna Zroka**

*Eternal Father,*

We commend to Your mercy and love  
our fellow Serrans.

May Your perpetual light shine upon them.  
Amen.



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep in your prayers:

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

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

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR:

- Repose of the soul of Marilyn Zappia

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

- Archbishop Hebda and Patrice Zangs
- Fr. Mark Pavlak and Patty McQuillan
- "Walk with Me Deacon," Alexander Hall
- Safety of the Sisters of Jesus the Lord in Russia

## CLUB EVENTS &amp; NEWS

## CALL TO HOLINESS



## WAITING TO BE HOLY?

by MaryAnne Frank

With Advent, the Season of waiting, we wait in anticipation for Christ to come. As we prepare for Christmas, we wait in readiness and expectation. But if we are waiting to be holy, we are procrastinating, postponing, perhaps even like St. Augustine as a teenager we say . . .

***"Lord help me to be pure, but not yet."***

Like developing a good habit, holiness is achieved in small incremental steps. When our Father asks us to be holy:

***"Therefore, since you are called to be holy, be holy in all you do; for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.' " (1 Peter 1:15-16)***

He is calling us with an urgency that cannot be deferred. While our culture tends to shun holiness as unreachable and even inaccessible, we know that God grants us grace when we act with an awareness that moves us closer to Him. We must be intentional, always! And, we must follow those urgings of grace that direct us closer to the One Who is Holy.



## IN THE PEACE OF THE LORD, MARILYN!

How fitting that our Serran godmother, Marilyn Zappia, should spend the new Church year celebrating in eternity! Although unable to attend Serra meetings in person for the past few years, Marilyn was actively present by thought and by phone.



She was aptly described as "Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a locomotive, able to leap tall buildings in a single bound . . ." when presented with the Speeter Award in 2021. Marilyn was a member of our apostolate for 17 years.

Marilyn constantly brought ideas to the table: *When our fundraising Garage Sales activities became a physical challenge for the Club, she conceived the idea of a "Phantom Garage Sale" which has financed Bus Trips to seminaries and convents and other vocation activities.*

*Recognizing that our annual Christmas Party needed to be more than a local celebration, Marilyn conceived "Sundries for Seminarians" providing fuel cards, gloves, stockings and other essentials distributed to St. Paul and St. John Vianney Seminaries.*

*Seeing beyond the immediate activities of the Club, she developed budgets and calendars to keep us on pace.*

*For 12 years, Marilyn nurtured us as Program VP, nourished Club members with outstanding speakers and programs, and graciously trained new Serrans to share the position.*

Marilyn's life was one of generous affirmation, responding with love and prayerful attention to the needs of others. She was a loving mother to her four sons and selflessly cared for her husband, Peter, before his death. We have prayed her into the arms of our Heavenly Father.

May she rest in peace!

## NOTABLE NEWS

**MIRIAM DINNER***Discerning your vocation?*

YOU ARE NEVER ALONE...

TUESDAY  
**JANUARY 27**  
 6 - 8 P.M.

ARCHDIOCESAN  
 CATHOLIC CENTER  
 777 Forest Street  
 St. Paul, 55106

Archbishop Bernard A. Hebda, Bishop Michael J. Izen, Bishop Kevin T. Kenney, and Fr. Mark Pavlak, Vocation Director invite women, ages 16 – 35, who are discerning consecrated life to join us for a Miriam Dinner

*It is typical for women discerners to be accompanied by their pastor, consecrated religious, or youth minister.*

**REGISTER ONLINE**

before Thursday, January 22 at [10000vocations.org/events](http://10000vocations.org/events)  
 Call: 651.962.6890 • Email: [stpaulvocations@10000vocations.org](mailto:stpaulvocations@10000vocations.org)



**OFFICE OF VOCATIONS**  
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[www.10000vocations.org](http://www.10000vocations.org) • 651.962.6890

**CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER!**



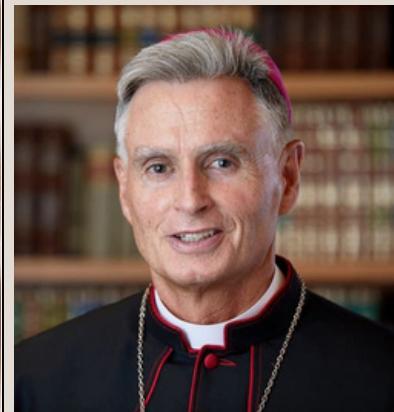
**SUBMIT NEWSLETTER CONTENT HERE:** [SerraClub418@gmail.com](mailto:SerraClub418@gmail.com)

**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

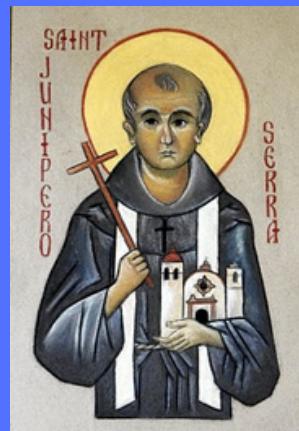
**Bishop Thomas Daly**

Episcopal Advisor  
 US Council of Serra International  
**Advent Reflections**

**Date:** Mon, Dec 15th, 7 pm CDT  
**Webinar Link:**

[pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVlKVlhyYXNlNkpkUT09#success](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVlKVlhyYXNlNkpkUT09#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

DECEMBER

2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30  SAINT PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS	1 <b>POPE LEO XIV</b>	2 <b>YOUR PASTOR</b>	3 REV. CHRISTOPHER STEPHEN (CHRIS) COLINS SJ ORD 2006	4 REV. STEFANO COLOMBO S.S.C.B. ORD 1999	5 REV. FRANCISCO PEREZ (PACO) COUNGA C.S.S.R. ORD 1978	6 REV. TIMOTHY MARY COMBS OP ORD 2014
7 REV. PHILIP MICHAEL CONKLIN ORD 2024	8 REV. JOSEPH MATTHEW CONNELLY ORD 2019	9 REV. JOSE MARIA DE SOUSA ALVIM CALADO CORTES F.S.C.B. ORD 1995	10 REV. MICHAEL SHAUGHN CREAGAN ORD 1997	11 REV. RINALDO BENEDICTO CUSTODIO ORD 1962	12 REV. CYPRIAN CZOP OMI ORD 2001	13 REV. MICHAEL PETER DALY ORD 2016
14 REV. DIDA WANZO DAMICHA C.S.S.P. ORD 2006	15 REV. DOUGLAS EDWARD DANDURAND ORD 1982	16 REV. DENNIS JOSEPH DEASE ORD 1969	17 REV. JAMES ROBERT DEBRUYCKER ORD 1982	18 REV. JAMES W. (JIM) DEVORAK ORD 1972	19 REV. WILLIAM THOMAS (BILL) DEZIEL ORD 1997	20 REV. GORDON MATHIAS DOFFING ORD 1960
21 REV. TIMOTHY EDMUND DOLAN 1983	22 REV. ROBERT ALDEN DOW FSSP ORD 2014	23 REV. JOHN MATTHEW DREES ORD 2013	24 REV. WILLIAM DUANE (BILL) DUFFERT ORD 2021	25 REV. THOMAS WILLIAM DUFNER ORD 1983	26 REV. DEPORRES CHARLES DURHAM OP ORD 1990	27 REV. GERALD LEO (JERRY) DVORAK ORD 1979
28 REV. ISAAC PREST EBEIGBE ORD 1986	29 REV. DOUGLAS ALLEN EBERT ORD 2009	30 REV. JOHN PAUL ECHERT ORD 1987	31 ARCHBISHOP BERNARD HEBDA AUXBP. MICHAEL IZEN AUXBP. KEVIN KENNEY	1	2	3

To be added to the email recipients,  
send an email to Marie Ziesmer at:  
[ziesmers@usfamily.net](mailto:ziesmers@usfamily.net)

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

Eternal Father,

We lift up to You

these and all the priests of the world.

Sanctify them.

Heal and guide them.

Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son,

Jesus, the Eternal High Priest.

May their lives be pleasing to You.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

**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:** Ken Cobian, Judie Collodora, Bonnie Conroy, Rosemary Franzese, Jo Lohnes, Judy Makowske, Ted McCrossan, Jim McGuire, Tim Regan, Norma Swanson.

**Meeting Opened** with prayer led by **President T Regan** at 8:55 am. Minutes from the previous meeting on 10/21/25 were amended by adding the following sentence at the end of the Treasurer's Report: "Treasurer Ted McCrossan will invite Steve Frank to join him in developing a spreadsheet to designate specific monies for vocation efforts." The minutes as amended were moved, seconded and approved.

**Programs VP: J Lohnes** is reviewing options for future membership luncheon speakers and encourages suggestions which she will pursue. Next, she focused on our annual Advent/Christmas Party which will be at JAX on Dec 23, reminding us it's a good time to invite potential members as well as religious. She will be soliciting gifts/certificates from businesses to be given out at the party, following in the footsteps of Marilyn Zappia, and encourages others who would be comfortable to do the same. Rave reviews made about the beautiful invitation designed by Michelle Eastham.

**Vocation Bus Trips: J McGuire and M Eastham: J McGuire** recapped the completed fall bus trips for 8th graders. On Oct 27 a trip was made to Demontreville to visit the Jesuits and Carmelite Monastery and on Oct 29 and Nov 12 trips were made to SPS and SJV for the boys and Little Sisters of the Poor for the girls. There were a total of 70+ girls and 65 boys on the three bus trips from five schools: St Charles, Immaculate Conception, St Raphael, John Paul II, and St Stephens, with participation of two clergy: **Fr Matthew Quail** of Immaculate Conception and **Fr Nick Hagen** of St Raphael. Overall, a very successful fall program! Awaiting feedback from Patty McQuillan of Arch. Vocation Office. Teachers at the schools are becoming more involved. **K Cobian** offered observations and suggestions from his role as chaperone. **J McGuire** has reached out to Franciscan Bros. plus a few other sites and is awaiting call backs. Students are in the process of writing their essays. Planning is underway to accommodate Sacred Heart, St John the Baptist, Epiphany and home schools for bus trips this spring.

**Vocations VP: MA Frank: J Makowske** reported on behalf of **MA Frank** that a signed letter to go into the **Homebound and Suffering Booklet** was received from the Archbishop. We are prayerfully awaiting word from Patrice, the Archbishop's secretary, for a shorter copy in order to move forward and print the booklet. **Christmas gifting** from our generous Serrans for the seminarians is ongoing. Awaiting dates from the seminaries when gifts can be delivered. **Holy Hour for Vocations** at StChB went very well, and attendance included members from other Serran Clubs. We need to be aware of what other clubs are doing. There is interest in setting up Holy Hours at other parishes. **MA Frank** is actively pursuing sign-ups for the **Seven Serrans for Vocation Directors** for New Ulm and Helena. **M Eastham** is writing a history of our 50 year school busing program and has reached out to other members to review what has been written so far. After board approval it will ultimately be submitted to the Serran Magazine and The Catholic Spirit. N Swanson will provide old letters which are informative about the program. K Cobian was asked to write up his role as a Foundation Rep for our club. It appears in the latest Serran News.

**Membership VP'S: M Collins and J Collodora: J Collodora** said she and **M Collins** are working on a letter to pastors at St Stephens requesting a mtg to explain how Serra can work with their Vocations Comm by bringing Serra materials already available. Apparently, the Archbishop is requesting every parish to form a Vocations Comm. **J Collodora** will contact the Archbishop's secretary to get some clarification on the support and function of parish Vocation Committees. Mention was made of the new **Serra Application Form** worked on by **Marilyn Zappia** and **M Collins** and its importance for new members to become familiar and involved with one of the committees. Next, a discussion focused on a worksheet compiled by a task force consisting of **J Collodora, MA Frank and J Lohnes to help determine future club financial needs**. A discussion ensued about the allocation of funds and operation of the club. A decision was made to involve the entire membership in looking at the operations of our club which will be formalized with an email generated for all members at our next board mtg in Dec 18.

**Communications: J Makowske** spoke on behalf of identifying someone to present a brief overview of our club programs at the Regional Mtg on Fri Nov 22. **President T Regan** volunteered to make the presentation. We were reminded of the Nov 25 deadline for the December Newsletter. The names of seminarians from our Serra club jurisdiction will be included. The Website SubComm needs to meet to ensure forward progress.

**NEW BUSINESS: K Cobian** asked for board approval to honor seminarians at the annual joint KC/Serra Awards Dinner which is scheduled for Mar 12 in Doran Hall at StChB. We voted to honor three seminarians from SPS selected by the Seminary Voc. Dir from our jurisdiction of 28 parishes.

#### **Next Membership Events/Meetings:**

Nov 21 - North Central Regional Conference

Nov 21 - 23 Serra Reg. Retreat, Christ the King Retreat Center, Buffalo, MN.

Dec 16 - Board Mtg, 8:45 am at St Charles Borromeo (Doran Hall)

Dec 23 - Serra Advent Christmas Party 12:15 - 3:30 pm at JAX Cafe, 1928 University Ave NE, Mpls. RSVP to Maureen Collins by Dec 16: 612-850-3003 OR [maureen.okane.collins@gmail.com](mailto:maureen.okane.collins@gmail.com)

Jan 13 - Membership Mtg, 12:15 pm, St William (downstairs) Speaker: TBD

**Meeting Adjourned** with prayer led by **President T Regan** at 10:35 am.