



Loretta Thielen, Fr. Jonathan Kelly, Vicki Osborne, and MaryAnne Frank.

GIFTS FOR SEMINARIANS

by MaryAnne Frank

Marilyn's merry minions, Victoria Osborne, Loretta Thielen, and I were privileged to represent our Serra Club. We visited St. John Vianney Seminary and St. Paul Seminary bearing gifts from our most generous Serran compatriots. This gifting idea was one of the many 'brainstorms' of Marilyn Zappia.

We first stopped at SJV and were welcomed by Savannah Siegler who ushered us into the atrium where we could drop off sundries for the seminarians (gloves, warm hats, and socks). Father Jonathan Kelly, Rector, warmly greeted us and accepted an additional gift of fuel cards to be doled out to seminarians as needed. He even graciously allowed us a 'photo op' to share in our newsletter.

No visit to the seminary is complete without a long moment in the Chapel, so we entered their Holy Space with prayer and appreciation for the beauty that encompasses each visitor.

We then set out for St. Paul Seminary and met with Patty McQuillan, coordinator for the Office of Vocations, and seminarians Peter Romens, Elias Budke, and Dominic Wolters. Our timing was perfect. We were invited to attend Mass with the seminarians!

Following Mass, we presented Patty with fuel cards and some additional sundries for the seminarians.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 13 – Membership Meeting 12:15 pm
Church of St. William (downstairs)
Speaker: Darray Hartig

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

Jan 22-25 - Serra Leadership Rally
Augustine Institute

Jan 27 – Membership Meeting 12:15 pm
Church of St. William (downstairs)
Speaker: Janae Bower
The Holy Face of Jesus

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: Fr. Robert Altier (or TBD)

Feb 17 – Board Meeting 8:45am
St. Charles Borromeo (Doran Hall)

Feb 24 – Membership Meeting 12:15 pm
Church of St. William (downstairs)
Speaker: Marci Franzen

Mar 10 - Serra/KofC Seminarian Awards Dinner

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Tim Regan

TWO “GREAT” AMERICAN CATHOLICS NAMED JOHN NEUMANN

Greetings Serrans! Let me tell you about two great people, both immigrants.

January 5 is the feast day of St. John Neumann. He was born in what we now call the Czech Republic, then part of the Austrian empire. He was a child of a faithful Catholic family, and from early boyhood wanted to be ordained. But, the bishop said there were already too many priests in the diocese (!!) and suggested that John should go instead to the American missions, which had too few priests.

Young John did exactly as the bishop suggested. He was ordained a priest in the Redemptorist Order. In the missions he was passionately devoted to serving poor immigrants, especially Italians, Irish, and Germans. He was ultimately appointed fourth bishop of Philadelphia. He founded 41 Catholic schools in his diocese, and he is now regarded as the “Father of the American Catholic school system.” He was the first American man to be canonized a saint.

I used quotes in the title of this Message because my second John (Von) Neumann was “great” due to his genius as a mathematician, and not necessarily to his Catholicism.

In the 20th century, there were three brilliant Hungarian Jewish mathematicians who had a profound impact on modern physics: Edward Teller, Eugene Wigner, and John Von Neumann. All three emigrated to America and became American citizens, and during World War II all three worked on the Manhattan Project. John Von Neumann was a pioneer in the development of quantum physics. He created the mathematics that underlay the discovery of DNA. He also invented the digital mathematics which runs the operating systems of all modern computers. Edward Teller, no slouch himself, called him “the smartest man I ever met.”

According to his friends, “Johnny” was also a very funny guy.

John Von Neumann was so smart that he became a Catholic. Toward the end of his life he got interested in Catholicism through the influence of a friend, an American Benedictine. After much study and reflection, he finally decided, “Heck, I’ve got to be Catholic,” and was ultimately received into the Church.

What do these two stories have to do with our Serra apostolate? Just this: they illustrate the strength and vibrancy of the American Catholic Church. We are a Church of immigrants, for immigrants. As I write this, and as we have our monthly meetings, new immigrants filled with the Holy Spirit are reinvigorating our churches, our schools, our convents, and our seminaries. With God’s help, we can be part of their spiritual support. Viva Cristo Rey!

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2025-2026

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SPEAKER HIGHLIGHTS



PACEM IN TERRIS

hermitage retreat center

Tom Pomeroy and his wife, Carrie, are the newest members of our Serra Club. Tom shared with us his experience and call into ministry at Pacem in Terris. After 35 years working in the secular world in a variety of accounting/finance and project management roles, he found himself, in the Fall of 2015, at his first ever silent retreat and it was at Pacem in Terris. Within twenty hours of leaving from his hermitage at Pacem, the Holy Spirit rushed in like a November wind answering his prayers. He spent two and a half years serving at Pacem in Terris. Tom talked about how Pacem in Terris can help us all draw closer to our Lord, enriching our spiritual life, and fostering vocations in the Church.

The Pacem in Terris hermitage is located less than forty minutes north of the Twin Cities. It provides a wonderful opportunity to pilgrimage to a peaceful place of silence and solitude that is invigorating for your spirit. What is a hermitage? A hermitage is a holy dwelling, blessed by God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Holy Mary, the Blessed Mother of Jesus, and the heavenly community of angels and saints delight in your presence. At your invitation, they will pray with you, and you will be blessed by their love and support.

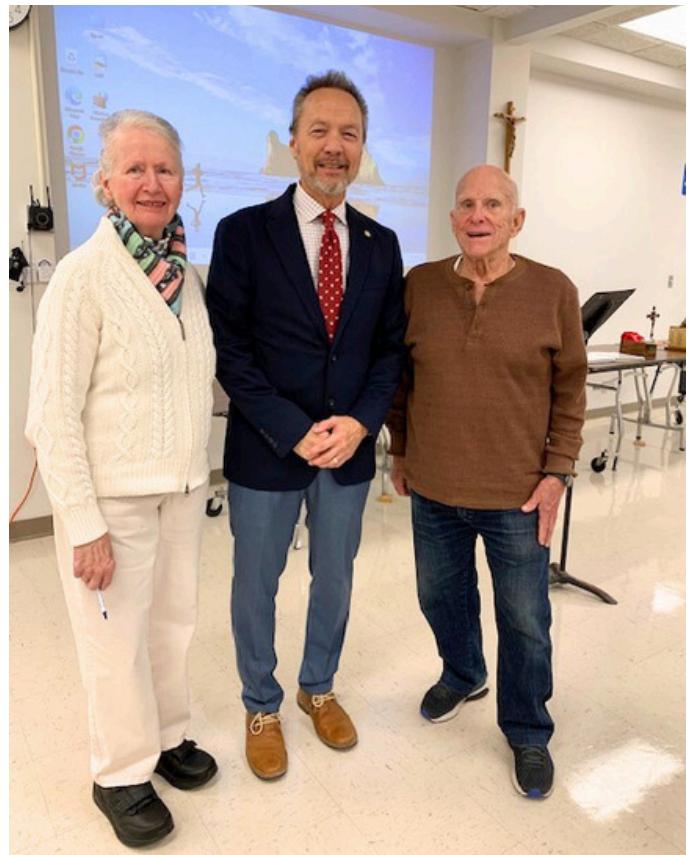
The mission seeks to be a channel of God's peace in the world and welcomes all faiths. It is a Franciscan center of spirituality that welcomes guests who seek to be alone with God. As a community committed to living the gospel of Jesus Christ, they provide a simple restful environment where you can respond to God's call to **"Be still and know that I am God."** *Psalm 46:10 (11)*

The prayerful solitude of a simple hermitage, nestled in the beauty of a wooded setting, provides an opportunity for God to heal, nourish, and restore His people. He delights in us as we approach Him with grateful hearts, offer Him praise and thanksgiving, and intercede for the needs of our family, friends, community, and the world.

Besides the hermitage being a beautiful, quiet place away from all distractions, a pilgrim will be in the hands of an excellent spiritual director during their retreat.

Since 1987, Pacem in Terris has been welcoming hermits who have pilgrimaged from all parts of the world. It has been the same for every hermit. You enter your hermitage to be alone with God, and you surrender your will to Him. It is then that He will lead you.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and find life burdensome, and I will refresh you." *Matthew 11:28*



Loretta Thielen, Tom Pomeroy, and Larry Gillespie.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

November 12, 2025

VOCATIONS BUS TRIP

by MaryAnne Frank and Ken Cobian

The Buses arrived at St. Charles Borromeo per plan at 8:15am on a sunny Wednesday morning. Twenty eighth grade girls along with chaperones Vicki Paine, teacher, Katie Walker, youth director, and MaryAnne met the students. We directed the boys and girls to their buses. The buses were to pick up additional students at Immaculate Conception School. But, for the girls, it soon became apparent that the bus driver was taking the 'scenic route!' As the driver headed east and south on Old Highway 88, we had him pull up by the St Anthony Dairy Queen to recheck his GPS. (The girls were disappointed the store was closed). After safely arriving at Immaculate Conception School, we welcomed thirteen more students along with Bridget Knisely, teacher and chaperone. As the girls settled into the bus, Father Matthew Quail came aboard and gave us his blessing along with supportive words to be attentive to how God calls each of us. Sister Joseph Marie welcomed us warmly as we arrived at the Little Sisters of the Poor. After showing a video about St. Jeanne Jugan and the beginnings of the Sisters and sharing her vocation story, we met Sisters Paul, Mary Therese, Amy and Mary Pasqual. A number of sisters shared their own vocation stories on a more individual basis. Each resonated a beautiful joy, reflective of their "fiat" to God's call. The girls had the opportunity to interact with many residents. They played games and helped to put a challenging puzzle together. Mass was celebrated mid-day in the Chapel and a student from each school participated by reading the Epistle and Antiphons. We wait with anticipation, the essays that the students write to share their experience and to hopefully find that a seed has been planted.

Sixteen boys boarded the bus at St. Charles Borromeo School along with an 8th grade teacher, Michael Hartnett, and North-Minneapolis Serra chaperones, Matt Bona and Ken Cobian. A student's parent, Nick Corbett, also assisted as a chaperone for the boys. At Immaculate Conception School, eight 8th grade boys boarded, along with Father Matthew Quail. He gave his blessing to those on the bus and then we proceeded to St. John Vianney Seminary on the University of St. Thomas campus. When the boys settled into their seats, Ken gave a brief description of the day's itinerary with heavy emphasis on being respectful and paying close attention to the speakers.



At SJV Seminary we were greeted by two seminarians: Gregory Maloney, a college junior seminarian from St Charles Borromeo parish, and Lucien, a freshman seminarian, from Chicago. Another junior seminarian, Jacob, met the group in the lobby outside the Chapel and pointed out the beautiful mosaics in the hallway. He then led the group into the chapel and explained the altar layout and the beautiful religious artistry of paintings and statues. Each of the three seminarians talked about their discernment experiences. Greg outlined what a day is like for a seminarian at SJV. Jacob and Lucien then led the group of boys on a tour of the campus, which included the Anderson Athletic Complex, football field, and the Student Union, then across Summit Avenue and past the Science and Engineering Buildings, ending up at the Saint Paul Seminary (SPS).



Photos by Matt Bona.

Continued on next page ...

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

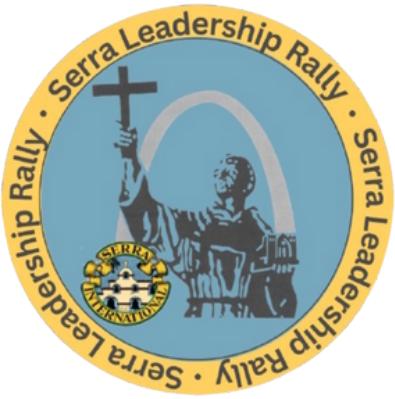
Vocations Bus Trip continued ...



Photos by Matt Bona.

At SPS, the boys were greeted by Father Mark Pavlak, Archdiocesan Director of Vocations, and were escorted to the St. Olaf Room where we ate lunch. After lunch, the boys were escorted to St. Mary's Chapel where Deacon Sebastian Spencer, Theology IV Seminarian from St. Charles Borromeo parish, and Elias Budke, Theology II Seminarian from St. Timothy parish in Maple Lake, spoke to the students.

We took a quick walk across campus to attend Mass at the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel. Following the Mass we boarded the bus where the boys were reminded that their essay should include how the Holy Spirit moved them during their vocation tour.



Join your fellow Serrans
on the banks of the Missouri River at the
AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE
for the
2026 SERRA LEADERSHIP RALLY
January 22-25, 2026

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.



by Don Makowske

ONE THING ABOUT GROWING OLD IS THAT YOU DON'T FEEL YOUR OATS AS MUCH AS YOUR CORNS.

THE ONE THING MOST OF US KNOW ABOUT THE SPEED OF LIGHT IS THAT IT GETS HERE TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING.

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

PRAYER INTENTIONS.



OFFICE OF VOCATIONS
ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS
www.10000vocations.org • 651.962.6890

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
Call: 651.962.6890 • Email: stpaulvocations@10000vocations.org

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER!



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
- For the women attending the Miriam Dinner

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 & NEWS

CALL TO HOLINESS



by MaryAnne Frank

We are well on our way in Liturgical Year A. Readings from Matthew will serve as our guide. Celebrating a different 'new year' within the secular world, we are reminded by our Serra mission of our call to be holy.

As we make our resolutions for change in the coming year, we might well ask ourselves: "How will I serve the coming of God's kingdom in the next twelve months?" Will our offerings be barren or fruitful?

Our faith is something that if we give it away, it will come home to stay. Sharing our riches and our faith creates a bond that holds it all the more closely. A faith declared, is a faith shared. A faith affirmed is a faith confirmed. Love and joy cannot be kept inside, they must burst out, in a devout shout, our faith cannot hide—we must abide!

Join me in making a New Year's resolution that can actually become a New Year's *revolution*! What if I resolve to make a daily comment to someone that reflects God's hand such as "what a beautiful day the Lord has given us," or "have a blessed day," or "I will hold you in prayer today," (on that note, stop and offer a prayer at that very moment!) or endless possibilities initiated by YOU! I'm still learning from a casual friend that offering prayer should not be mere promise, but can be offered spontaneously in the here and now (a practice that a prayer offer is sincere and real) not just casual words of comfort.



SERRA INTERNATIONAL

2026 First Quarter

SPIRITUAL BENEFITS FOR A SERRAN

The following benefits/blessings are available to members of all Serra Clubs because of the affiliation of Serra International with the Pontifical work for priestly vocations: A plenary indulgence is granted the day a person joins Serra and on specific feast days under the usual conditions (Confession, Holy Communion, visit to a Church or Oratory and prayer for the Holy Father's intention).



JANUARY:

Feast of Mary Mother of God, January 1
Feast of the Epiphany, January 6
St. Peter's Chair at Rome, January 18

FEBRUARY:

Feast of the Purification, February 2
Feast of the Apparition of Lourdes, February 11
St. Mathias, February 24 or 25

MARCH:

Feast of St. Joseph, March 19
The Annunciation, March 25

NOTABLE NEWS

MAILBAG

Dear MaryAnne and Serrans,



Thank you for the Serran generosity to the seminarians! The gift cards, gloves, and hat will be a welcoming sight for these men before they depart for Christmas break.

We pray that your Christmas is a wonderful season with friends and family. Please extend our heartfelt appreciation to ALL of the members of the North-Minneapolis Serra Club.

Patty McQuillan, Office Coordinator
Office of Vocations, Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis

SPS AND SJV SEMINARIANS IN OUR CHARTER AREA

Seminarians at St. Paul Seminary:

Deacon Peter Romens, Theology IV, St. Paul, Ham Lake
Deacon Sebastian Spencer, Theology IV, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony
Joshua Gerads, Theology II, St. Vincent de Paul, Brooklyn Park
Jacob O'Meara, Theology II, St. Paul, Ham Lake
Samuel Mishler, Pre-Theology II, St. Lawrence/Newman, Minneapolis
Joshua Bohl, Propaedeutic Year, Epiphany, Coon Rapids
Nathaniel Weniger, Propaedeutic, Year, St. Stephen, Anoka
Christopher Wickstrom, Propaedeutic Year, St. Lawrence/Newman, Minneapolis

Seminarians at St. John Vianney College Seminary:

Joseph Etnier, Senior, Epiphany, Coon Rapids
Alex Lara Becerra, Junior, St. Stephen, Anoka
Gregory Maloney, Junior, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony
Patrick Storms, Junior, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony
Nathan Kavanaugh, Sophomore, Epiphany, Coon Rapids
Ezra Kuznia, Sophomore, St. Charles Borromeo, St. Anthony
Mathias Lundgren, Sophomore, Holy Cross, Minneapolis



Serra MEETS

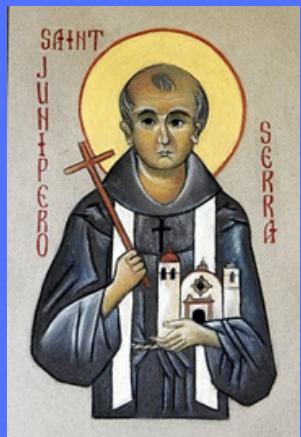
SERRA, NOW MORE THAN EVER!
An online speaker series
with vocations in mind



Msgr. James Shea
University of Mary

◆◆◆
Date: Mon, Jan 19th, 7 pm CDT
Webinar Link:
pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVlKVIhyYXNlNkpkUT09#success

Phone Access:
+1 312 626 6799
Webinar ID: 959 9245 1924
Passcode: 853558



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)

MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

JANUARY

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28  ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS	29	30	31	1 POPE LEO XIV	2 YOUR PASTOR	3 REV. NGAH (EDWIN) NYUYDINE CFIC ORD 2013
4 REV. LYLE MATTHEW (MATTHEW) EHMKE ORD 1970	5 REV. BENJAMIN PETER EICHEN ORD 2025	6 REV. ALLAN PAUL EILEN ORD 2009	7 REV. JOAH TIMOTHY ELLIS ORD 2013	8 REV. JOHN PAUL ERICKSON ORD 2006	9 REV. MICHAEL ANTHONY ERLANDER ORD 1968	10 REV. GREGORY LEE ESTY ORD 1975
11 REV. TIMOTHY ESHIKHENA ETSENAMHE ORD UNKNOWN	12 REV. KYLE JAMES ETZEL ORD 2023	13 REV. PETER JOSEPH ETZEL SJ ORD 1994	14 REV. BRYCE ANDREW EVANS ORD 2017	15 REV. PATRICK EVANS BELLO PES ORD 2018	16 REV. GIOVANNI FASANI F.S.C.B ORD 2016	17 REV. PAUL F FEELA ORD 1978
18 REV. JEROME WILFRID FEHN ORD 1978	19 REV. RICHARD JOHN (RJ) FICHTINGER SJ ORD 2017	20 REV. BRIAN JAMES FIER ORD 1989	21 REV. JOSEPH PATRICK (JOE) FINK ORD 1983	22 REV. J KEVIN (KEVIN) FINNEGAN ORD 1996	23 REV. BRIAN KENNETH FISCHER ORD 2021	24 REV. ROBERT JAMES FITZPATRICK ORD 1973
25 REV. FRANCIS BRUNO (FRANKIE) FLOEDER ORD 2024	26 REV. JOHN PATRICK FLOEDER ORD 2007	27 REV. LOUIS SEBASTIAN (LOUIS) FLOEDER ORD 2019	28 REV. JOHN EDWARD FORLITI ORD 1962	29 REV. CLAYTON ANDREW FORNER ORD 2020	30 REV. DANIEL WILLIAM FRIBERG ORD 1962	31 ARCHBISHOP BERNARD HEBDA AUXBP. MICHAEL IZEN AUXBP. KEVIN KENNEY

To be added to the email recipients,
send an email to Marie Ziesmer at:
ziesmers@usfamily.net

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

Lord Jesus, Chief Shepherd of the Flock, we pray that in the great love and mercy of Your Sacred Heart You attend to all the needs of Your priest-shepherds throughout the world. We ask that You draw back to Your Heart all those priests who have seriously strayed from Your path, that You rekindle the desire for holiness in the hearts of those priests who have become lukewarm, and that you continue to give Your fervent priests the desire for the highest holiness. United with Your Heart and Mary's Heart, we ask that You take this petition to Your heavenly Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Imprimatur: (Most Rev. Carl K. Moeddel, Vicar General and Auxiliary Bishop of Cincinnati)

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.

SERRA CLUB OF NORTH-MINNEAPOLIS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Ken Cobian, Maureen Collins, Judie Collodora, MaryAnne Frank, Rosemary Franzese, Jo Lohnes, Judy Makowske, Ted McCrossan, Jim McGuire, Tim Regan, Norma Swanson.

Meeting Opened with prayer led by **President T Regan** at 8:50 am. Minutes from the previous meeting on 11/18/25 were moved, seconded, and approved. **K Cobian** relayed a warm hello from homebound Serran **Joe Spano**.

VOCATIONS VP: MA Frank began her report with an inspiration from **J Makowske** who told us about finding a beautifully done brochure at our recent Serran retreat entitled the "Rosary for Vocations" - Reflections on the Luminous Mysteries by Vianney Vocations Press. She distributed copies and explained how each of the luminous mysteries is set up for one type of vocation. **MA Frank** ordered 50 copies for us to use. **J McGuire** told how he has already used this brochure to pray with students who read aloud from it on his recent vocational field trip to the Franciscan Brothers of Peace. The brochure is a good example of a nugget found by attending retreats. Next, **Vicky Osborne** and **Loretta Theilen** presented our Christmas gifts to **Patty McQuillan**, the Vocations Office Coordinator for **Fr Pavlak** at SPS and secretary **Savannah** at SJV. **Fr Kelly** came to share his gratitude for our annual gifts which are very meaningful to the seminarians. **Vicky Osborne** will oversee arrangements for next year's delivery of seminary gifts and accord this pleasurable volunteer opportunity to newer Serrans. Next, six volunteers are needed (trying to incorporate new members) for the annual Miriam Dinner on Jan 27. Lastly, **MA Frank** brought Christmas cards for **Loretta Theilen** who is in charge of outreach, sending out cards for illness, anniversaries, etc to priests and Serrans as has been done so beautifully over many years by homebound Serran **Michaeline Loomis**. **MA Frank** asked board members to sign and give the cards to their pastors, on behalf of our Serra Club. **M Collins** inquired about the availability of posters: they can be obtained at the SPS. There are now three posters: for the seminarians, religious, and permanent diaconate. The posters are double sided, in English and Spanish. The Archdiocese mailed posters to individual parishes this year, in lieu of being delivered by Serrans.

COMMUNICATIONS VP: J Makowske asks for everyone's indulgence of a very early deadline for Newsletter submittals this month. She will be delighted to receive information from each VP this week. There will be a new feature prompted by **MA Frank** each month for holy days which have a special indulgence available to Serrans. Also, a list of seminarians and religious from our charter area will be printed in order that we are reminded to pray for them. Lastly, **J Makowske** voiced concern that progress is not being made on our website. Web designer **Mary Krawczynski** is awaiting content before going live, such as basic documentation about the standing committees. The Newsletters have already been added. She needs basic questions answered: why does Serra want a website; who is it for; and what is the bandwidth (the usage speed for access/downloads, etc). **President T Regan** would like to volunteer for the committee because he has changed his mind about having a website after being in San Diego and trying in vain to connect with a Serra Club online.

VOCATION BUS TRIP VPs: Mark Eastham and J McGuire: **J McGuire** talked about securing the essays from students who were on the fall bus trips. He and **Mary Szydlik** gave a presentation yesterday at St Raphael, and will give another one tomorrow at St Stephen (at which only boys will be turning in essays) and one more on Thurs at St John Paul II. A meeting is scheduled with **Fr Pavlak** and **Fr Kelly** to obtain feedback and suggestions from the seminaries which will be helpful in planning spring bus trips. Scheduling is very difficult, even with Patty's assistance. St Charles and Immaculate Conception may not have essays ready until Jan. from the most recent vocation trips. **J Collodora** mentioned she received a letter announcing the merger of Immaculate Conception and Holy Cross Schools which could present huge class sizes for bussing. These delays are impacting the planning for spring bus trips for Sacred Heart, Epiphany, and St John the Baptist schools. **J McGuire** mused why his four children have no recall of going on a bus trip to the seminaries as St Raphael students and he speculates that perhaps all Catholic schools were not included in Serra sponsored bus trips.

MEMBERSHIP VPs: M Collins and J Collodora explained how they're implementing a new member protocol learned from the St Paul Serra Club. They are meeting potential new members 'for coffee' at which to present their personal enthusiasm for Serra and learn about the potential new member. They're providing a warm welcome to supplement the documentation about joining Serra and making themselves available to answer questions. **M Collins** next asked for input about attendees for the Serra Christmas Party, working from a master list to firm up the number of reservations. **J Collodora** passed around a worksheet she had compiled detailing the current club dues and expenses. **President T Regan** asked to defer this issue of lunches and meetings until a Jan mtg.

TREASURER'S Report - T McCrossan confirmed he's ready for the Christmas Party which begins at 12:15 pm. He and his wife, **Mary**, will collect the checks (only) as people enter. There will be no cash box. **T McCrossan** will meet w/ **President T Regan** about some banking matters in the new year. We're in good shape financially. Working on the budget. As a year end summary of the big items, we're pretty much as was expected. The cost of bus trips benefited from a literature fund which was not used. The Phantom Garage Sale came in over budget. St Raphael's KofC sent in a check to help cover the cost of vocation bus trips for their 8th graders. The 2026 dues are coming in. Corrected name badges have arrived for new Serrans. Many memorial checks have arrived. Names will be passed on to **MA Frank** to be recorded in the Memorial Book after they are processed.

PROGRAMS VP: J Lohnes reports a roster of speakers for Serra Membership Lunch Meetings is filling up. **Darray Hartig** is scheduled for Jan 13; **Janae Bower** for Jan 27; **Father Robert Altier** (pending) for Feb 10; **Marci Franzen** for Feb 24; and **Father Michael Van Sloun** for Mar 24. Be sure to put the Annual Serra/KC Seminarian Awards Dinner on your calendar for Mar 12. **J Lohnes** has expended oodles of energy in planning and arranging for our our annual Advent/Christmas Party next week at JAX Cafe on Tues, Dec 23, 12:15. Checks (only) payable at the door made out to Serra Club of North-Mpls. Reservations being taken by **Maureen Collins**, 612-850-3003. Come for a fun sing-a-long by Immaculate Conception friends of **J Collodora** and a chance to win 19 gifts being raffled off.

New Business: It's time to start thinking about the process of selecting officers for the upcoming year. A Nominating Comm will be formed in Jan to undertake this important process. ---- **President T Regan** called our attention to a letter he received from National Serra President **Anne Roat**. It generated a lot discussion. The philosophy of working closer with Archbishop Hebda is good. **N Swanson** found a treasure, an old radio interview with **Cy Laurent**. Suggestions flowed what to do with it.

Next Membership Events/Meetings:

Dec 23 - Serra Advent Christmas Party 12:15 - 3:30 pm at JAX Cafe, 1928 University Ave NE, Mpls
 Jan 13 - Membership Lunch Mtg, 12:15 pm at St William's Church (downstairs) Speaker: **Darray Hartig**
 Jan 20 - Board Mtg, 8:45 am at St Charles Borromeo (Doran Hall)
 Jan 27 - Membership Lunch Mtg, 12:15 pm at St William's Church (downstairs) Speaker **Janae Bower**
Meeting Adjourned with prayer led by **President T Regan** at 10:20.