



Serrans who helped serve the dinner are pictured with Archbishop Hebda, Bishop Kenney, and Bishop Izen.

## MIRIAM DINNER

by Mark Eastham

Our Serra Club had the honor again to serve at the Miriam dinner that is hosted by the Archdiocese and the Vocations office. The event took place at the offices of the Archdiocese in St. Paul.

A special shout-out goes to Tom and Carrie Pomeroy, Pat and Chris Shannon, Loretta Thielen, and of course my lovely bride, Michelle, for helping out with the set-up, serving, and cleaning. We were blessed during this time together to pray the Rosary and Angelus before the women arrived for the event.

There were a total of 51 guests present at the Miriam Dinner, including Archbishop Hebda, Bishops Kenney & Izen, Vocations Director Fr. Pavlak, two priests, a number of Religious/Consecrated, and many young discerning women seeking God's plan for their life!

The following Religious Orders were present:

- Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus
- Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist (at St. Agnes)
- Little Sisters of the Poor
- Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia (Nashville Dominicans) who are at Providence Academy
- Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia (Nashville Dominicans) who are at St. Croix Catholic in Stillwater
- Pro Ecclesia Sancta Sisters
- Consecrated Virgins
- Caritas Christi Secular Institute

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Feb 1 – World Day for Consecrated Life**  
Notes and gifts for men & women religious.

**Feb 10 – Membership Meeting** 12:15 pm  
Church of St. William (downstairs)  
Speaker: **Sister Jacinta Jackson**  
Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration

**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**  
Catholic Services Appeal

**Mar 12 - 6 pm** Rosary, Social, & Dinner  
**Serra/KofC Seminarian Awards Dinner**  
Church of St. Charles Borromeo  
Doran Hall  
Speakers: **Seminarians**

**Mar 17 – Board Meeting** 8:45 am  
Church of St. Charles (Doran Hall)

**Mar 24 - Membership Meeting** 12:15 pm  
Church of St. William (downstairs)  
Speaker: **Fr. Michael Van Sloun**

**Apr 18 – District 7 - Spring Leadership**  
Our Lady of Grace - 8:30 am Mass  
followed by workshop sessions.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Tim Regan

## ALL THE KINGDOMS OF THIS WORLD AND THEIR SPLENDOR

The Church did not give us the discipline of Lent, many centuries ago, because she wanted us to get tough. Rather, we go out into the desert for forty days with Jesus because we are His disciples. He leads us out there.

The gospel reading for Ash Wednesday is the story of Jesus in the desert, Matthew 4, 1-11. The text says that the Holy Spirit led Jesus out into the wilderness. There Jesus fasted for forty days, after which, he was hungry. Then Satan came to him and tempted him three times.

Here's a suggestion for the beginning of our Lenten practice this year: Focus on the third temptation. Let's picture ourselves in the desert with Jesus - hungry, thirsty, uncomfortable after sleeping on the ground for forty days (and, in my case, crabby!).

Now, let us put ourselves, as St. Paul says, in the mind of Christ. The text says:

*Satan then took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you, if you will bow down and worship me. Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.' Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.*

What is the meaning of these words for this Lent, as Christians and as Serrans, at this time of our lives?

Did Satan really think that Jesus would be tempted by "the kingdoms of the world," with all their wealth and splendor? I doubt it. The Devil knew that Jesus already was the "King of Kings," and that Jesus already held the real riches of all kingdoms in Himself. What then? Why the elaborate temptation, and what does it mean for us?

In my view, the Devil's real game was to alienate Jesus from his Father. He, Satan, was jealous. He wanted the love of Jesus for himself, or, at least, he wanted to destroy the intimacy of love between Jesus and his Father. And so, he was willing to commit the greatest ever sin of blasphemy to accomplish his desire.

The love of Jesus for his Father, and his dedication to the Divine will – these can be our model for the beginning of Lent this year. We strive not to be tempted by riches, fame, power, or pleasures. Fasting in the desert, giving up chocolate pie, the "mortification of the flesh," are not themselves the goal. Rather, they are a reminder for us: our real purpose on earth is to "know, love, and serve God."

Have a good 40-day journey this year my friends!

## CLUB OFFICERS

2025-2026

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## CLUB EVENTS &amp; NEWS



# VOCATION VISIT



AN ASCENSION CATHOLIC ACADEMY SCHOOL

Left to right:  
Jim McGuire,  
Illia (winner),  
Ivanna (runner-up),  
Elizabeth (winner),  
and not pictured  
is Andy (runner-up).



## First Place Boys - Illia

The trip to the Saint John Vianney College Seminary and Saint Paul seminary holds a special place in my faith. I had no idea how a seminary works, or what it kind of was, until I went to one of them and saw for myself. And the two we went to on the trip were great examples. I learned many things, such as how faith affects a person, a community, and how the Holy Spirit guides people to their vocations.

First we went to Saint John Vianney College Seminary, where I saw many interesting things. First was the camaraderie, and the organization of the place. It is structured and works like a college does, with lessons, and a normal life the students can follow, and follow God in their free time, mass, sessions, and events. But what struck me was the camaraderie, and it didn't just seem like a workplace, or a school, but more like a family house, where the members have fun and learn together with the Holy Spirit guiding them. In the chapel, the men talked about their lives and what brought them here. What surprised me is how vague their faith was in the beginning. Some only found out that they want to be priests suddenly after an event in their life, and some from childhood.

Secondly, we went to the Saint Paul Seminary. This was a more traditional and senior seminary, where I saw many interesting things. First I saw the chapel inside, and the artifacts around it, and it struck me how unique the place was. There were many worship rooms, religious artifacts on the walls, and the chapel was really beautiful. For me it showed how much they dedicate their time to God, and the Holy Spirit brought to me the fact how spending a lot of time can make life more worthy and interesting.

In conclusion, the Holy Spirit let me find out that faith isn't instant and being in a seminary or religious community enhances it further. The men at the seminaries were different, some less and more wise and educated. But both were learning about their future entire life very closely. Honestly I hadn't had a moment that revealed what the Holy spirit brought to me, but now I know that visiting those places had shown me that being together, and being faithful together makes it better than being alone.

## First Place Girls - Elizabeth

Growing up I always questioned why in the Catholic faith men had the option to become a priest. Priests have always been viewed as high and full of knowledge. Priests are viewed as sons of God meant to guide and help the Catholic faith grow in faith. Priests have the option to go out, drive a car, visit their family and become leaders of the Church. But what about women? Women can become nuns. Growing up I have rarely ever had a conversation about a nun, although I have heard from not properly spoken people, that nuns basically do not have as much rights as a priest. I learned nuns can't have phones, wear whatever they want, show their hair, visit the outside world whenever they want, visit their families and even own property. I was genuinely so shocked to find out nuns don't even get paid! After having these stereotypes I was nervous to go into a place where maybe nuns could be strict and boring. As I entered the building I was shocked by the colors. There were colors! But I was most shocked by the sense of calmness and happiness I got as I barely spent a minute there. I saw beautiful smiles coming from nuns and such a welcoming presence. I listened to the video and saw what I have never seen before. I saw a story of a wonderful lady who devoted her life to expanding the convent. Then I saw a wonderful nun with the ability to stand in the middle of a group of confused teenage girls and answer their questions in the most loving way. I saw kindness coming from the staff and gorgeous elderly ladies. I left the convent with a smile. It is so crazy how the typical stereotype of nuns is far and far from the truth. I know I might not be a nun in the future because it is not my calling but I will for sure teach as many people as I can to respect and talk to nuns, because there is way too much knowledge you can learn from nuns who don't have access to worldly knowledge. Even though I know that nuns and priest are not the same they are both equally needed and loved by God just like everybody else is loved equally by God our Father. So thank you.

Continued next page . . .

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS

Essay winners continued . . .



**First Place Winner - Ethan**

*The Holy Spirit brought to my heart and mind how even if you are committed to the faith you don't have to talk about God all the time. You can be blessed with God's mercy and faith but still love football and basketball. You can still enjoy your passions and what you love and be a wonderful priest or family member. The father that I spent all of my time with taught me that because he said he still loved football and basketball and watched it all the time but he still loved God and that really shined through to me. He probably knew the whole Bible if you asked. I even told him Zacchaeus was my favorite Bible story and he knew the whole story right off the top of his head. I really realized how human and real priests and their lives are and it really put my life into perspective in how it could or couldn't fit into that role of a priest and being God's muse. I think that I have always considered being a priest and felt that vocation but during and after this retreat I found that God could be calling me to this and I could be God's way of talking to people and teaching them. I think that I could be called to helping people out in a more holy way and maybe even help them hear their calling. I think that when I went to the retreat that God was calling me not in the voice of the priest but in nature and in the silence of the retreat. I think God really calls me through nature and it's beauty to just spend time with Him in silence or hear His soft voice in the wind or the chatter of squirrels around me all the time. I hear the calling of God's voice everywhere. I just want to respond to God's calling and really fill my life with God's love.*

**VOCATION VISIT**



Left to right:  
Jim McGuire  
Ethan and Mason

**First Place Winner - Mason**

*I learned about how some priests live in an area together. They are very holy and pray all the time. It is very peaceful there and a good place to go and clear your mind. The priest talking to us told us about how Jesus can save our lives. My faith before the trip wasn't as strong as I wanted it to be. The trip helped me realize that God will always be here for us. I now have more of a desire to pray and be in deeper prayer.*

*He talked about Jesus's miracles and how great he was on earth. He asked us what our favorite story about Jesus was and I said when he resurrected from the dead. That shows that Jesus loves us and everything on earth has a meaning to it.*

*The priest told us many things but one thing that stood out to me was that we should not be lazy. He gave an example on how he watches a show that he really likes. And sometimes he just wants to keep watching episode after episode. That he will even forget to give time to pray to God. That lesson teaches me to give time to God. I sometimes just want to sit on my couch and be lazy all day long. When in reality I should be giving thanks and doing productive things.*

*I felt God calling me to get closer to him that day. Listening to the priest talk it sounded like God telling me what to do. I felt the presence of Jesus in me and empowering me. It was a good place to talk with God and pray. I also learned about the history there and it is very holy. It goes way back and it was a very fun trip for me to get close to God.*

**Sites visited by St. John Paul II and St. Stephen's Schools:**



CLUB EVENTS & NEWS



# SAINT JOHN VIANNEY COLLEGE SEMINARY

## "Persevere in Christ!"



This beautiful photo was sent by Fr. Jonathan Kelly in a recent request for prayers and funding for SJV College Seminarians. Another recent note is the following from Serra member Loretta Thielen who publishes the St. Boniface Catholic Church Sunday Bulletin. She sent the December 28<sup>th</sup> church bulletin in which she wrote:

*Sidebar by Loretta Thielen.*

**“Adopt a Seminarian.”** *The St. John Vianney Seminary of St. Paul, Minnesota is the largest Catholic college seminary in the United States. It’s important to remember that the main work of seminary is for the man to continue to discern clearly, prayerfully and in community. It is not necessarily a commitment to be ordained a priest, especially in the earlier stages of formation. It’s not a failure if a seminarian discerns out and is not ordained. In fact, it’s a win! We want what is best for the man, whether that is the ministerial priesthood or not. We are most concerned about their freedom to clearly discern God’s will.*

*The best way to support seminarians is by offering for them your consistent, persevering prayer. It is the most powerful thing you can do.”*

The article was a response to her December Seminary visit to deliver Christmas gifts, and also partially spurred by an article in the Serra Magazine about how to support our seminarians and the value of prayer for them.

PRAYER INTENTIONS



Please keep in your prayers:

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

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

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR:

- Repose of the soul of Annie Thirlwall\*
- Health of Virginia Krawczynski\*\*

\* Sister-in-law of Ken Cobian  
\*\*Mother of Mary Krawczynski

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

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

CLUB EVENTS & NEWS



ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH

A Redemptorist Community

# VOCATIONS UPDATE

by Maureen Collins

Our old friend, and former Serra Club of North-Minneapolis member, Lois Taylor, donated a treasure trove of vocations related items last summer to St Alphonsus parish. Among the bounty was a nearly life-size pop-up poster of a Redemptorist priest with the face cut out, similar to our Club's "God Stuff" signs. Serra member Maureen Collins, and parishioner at St Alphonsus, has been given the responsibility of maintaining two large glass-enclosed parish vocations-oriented bulletin boards.



Maureen updated the content last week with fresh seminarian posters, items related to the upcoming Miriam Dinner and World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life, and a 20-point quiz for men discerning a vocation to the priesthood. Last Sunday at Mass, Paster John Schmidt, CSsR, introduced a new Redemptorist seminarian, Brother Scott Partin, who has joined the staff at St Al's. Brother Scott will become a transitional deacon this spring and, God willing, he will join his older brother, Fr. Lamar Partin, in becoming a Redemptorist priest in the summer of 2027. Maureen and Brother Scott are pictured in the St. Al's hallway, between the vocations bulletin boards and the Redemptorist cut-out, after setting it up this week in anticipation of the January 25<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast. Maureen plans to host a table with Serra prayer cards and Serra membership invitations near the display. Maureen is happy to share the vocations displays she creates for St. Alphonsus with other members who can find a way to use them at their parishes.



CLUB EVENTS & NEWS



2026 District 7 Annual Serra Spring Leadership Training  
 Saturday, April 18, 2026  
 Opening with 8:30 a.m. Mass  
 Our Lady of Grace Church  
 5071 Eden Ave.,  
 Edina, MN 55436

A simple breakfast and lunch will be served.  
 (Minimal cost to be determined.)  
 This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about club leadership, review the job duties of each office, share ideas that work, and learn more about what Serra's USA Council is doing.

Training Closing: 2 p.m.  
 Reservations to **Maureen Collins: 612-850-3003**

Miriam Dinner Continued . . .



The sisters who spoke were:

- Sr. Teresa Rose, Handmaid
- Sr. Teresa Joy, OP (Nashville in Stillwater) shared her vocation testimony
- Sr. Joseph Marie, Little Sisters of the Poor, shared her vocation testimony

Father Pavlak directed a panel where guests could ask questions. Some examples of questions included: How did you get your name? What is a day in the life like? How do you keep the silence?

Patty McQuillian, Vocations Office Coordinator, said, "Again, we just set it up and the Holy Spirit shows up! There was a lot of peace and joy present and we, in the Office of Vocations, are so glad to be a part of this event planning. We rely heavily on the Serrans to make the Andrew Dinner and Miriam Dinners happen. Their role in praying for the attendees, executing the event and hard work with graciousness serving make all the difference. It is apparent how much Archbishop and our office appreciate the Serrans role in these dinners. Thank you so very much for your service!"

A legacy of loving  
**FRIENDS**



by Don Makowske

THERE SHALL ALWAYS BE REJOICING  
 AND HAPPINESS IN WHAT I CREATE;  
 FOR I CREATE JERUSALEM TO BE A JOY  
 AND ITS PEOPLE TO BE A DELIGHT;  
 I WILL REJOICE IN JERUSALEM  
 AND EXULT IN MY PEOPLE.  
 ISAIAH 65:18-19

**DUES ARE DUE**



You will note in the January Serra Board Meeting Minutes (last page of this newsletter) that our Treasurer has paid the first half annual dues for Calendar Year 2026 to Serra International and USA Council. However, some members have not yet sent

in their membership dues (either 1<sup>st</sup> half or full amount) to our treasurer. Invoices were mailed to members last November. If you have not already updated your membership, please do so with a check made out to Serra Club of North-Minneapolis and remit to Ted McCrossan, 1618 Lake Johanna Blvd., Arden Hills, MN 55112. Questions? Please contact him! Thanks for your attention to this detail.

## CLUB EVENTS &amp; NEWS

## CALL TO HOLINESS



by MaryAnne Frank

In his address to the faithful on the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, Pope Leo XIV reflected on how God's plan of hope is written in the hearts of the humble. Hope, a 'virtue infused by sanctifying grace gives us assurance of salvation, moves (us) to place our faith in God and brings us to perform morally good actions' (OSV's, Catholic Encyclopedia). As Serrans, this virtue, this grace of hope is focused on our work to serve the Church by promoting vocations that will support the sacramental future of the Church. Our Serra mission is one of certainty and intent, and consequently, gives us an opportunity to do good so that we can perfect and fulfill ourselves.

"Hope is entrusted to the humble." As I puzzled over Pope Leo's words, I again, sought out an assist from the Catholic Encyclopedia, which reads:

*"Humility is the basis of authentic love of others, and draws us into closer conformity with Christ . . . Humility governs our entire relationship to God and nature . . . Humility is the basis of all good action, for it acknowledges our obligations to serve and be lovingly obedient to God."*

Just as our vocation as Serrans calls us to service, it additionally calls us to holiness, and provides a pathway to achieve the grace needed for our salvation.

## WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

February 2, 2026

**(Celebrated in Parishes Jan 31 - Feb 1, 2026)**

World Day for Consecrated Life is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ, who is the light of the world. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. Those men and women living in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all people. The celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life is transferred to a Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church. In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted this day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. The objective is to help the Church esteem the witness of those who follow Christ through the evangelical counsels (poverty, chastity, and obedience) and to provide consecrated persons an opportunity to renew their commitment. In the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, there are many orders of men and women religious serving our church community. You can honor them with a personal note of appreciation or keep them in prayer. You may also wish to recognize a religious community with a donation. And, know that you can suggest or invite consideration of religious life to those in your parish. Consecrated life is a beautiful holy calling, a generous, loving response to God.

Several times a year, the Church provides opportunities for the faithful to celebrate vocations. World Day for Consecrated Life is one of four National Vocations Awareness Events. Others are: World Day of Prayer for Vocations in May, Priesthood Sunday in September, and National Vocations Awareness Week in November. We do not need a special day, however, to say thanks. Every day is appropriate to thank God and thank the men and women who answer a call to ordained or consecrated life.



The Presentation at the Temple  
WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

## NOTABLE NEWS

MAILBAG *Thank You*

Dear Serra Club Members,  
Praying the love of God will fill your heart with joy!

Christmas Blessings,  
**Immaculate Heart Sisters,**  
Champlin Community

Dear Serrans of North-Minneapolis,  
Thank you for your very generous Christmas gift. It is so deeply appreciated especially when driving home to Faribault on Christmas break. Please know of my prayers for your families. May God bless you and thank you again for your very generous gift.

In Christ Jesus, **Joseph R. Seidel,** Theology I

Dear Serrans of North-Minneapolis,  
Thank you for the kind Christmas gift. I am so grateful for your generosity and thoughtfulness! I am especially grateful for all of your prayers and support throughout my time of seminary formation. Know that I am praying for all of you as well. I hope that you all have a blessed Advent and Christmas.

In Christ, **Rev. Mr. Sebastian Spencer**

Dear Bonnie and Serrans,  
Thanks so much for the wonderful Christmas card – a gift of money. Your generosity is very much appreciated. Know of my prayers for you and the Serrans this Holiday Season. May His Christmas presence bring hope, peace, and joy to your world and your families.

God Bless, **Samuel Mishler,** Pre-Theology II

Serrans,  
Thank you for the generous gift! It is awesome to have you all supporting me as I pursue the Priesthood. It means a lot to me! Please continue to keep me in your prayers and know of mine for you in return. Merry Christmas!

In Christ, **Aston Lacko,**Theology I

Dear Serra Club,  
Thank you so much for your generous gift of a gas card. I really appreciate you choosing to help me and my brother seminarians in this way. I also want to say thank you for all the wonderful work you do to encourage vocations. I'm glad to have such wonderful people like y'all beside me

as I discern a vocation. Have a blessed rest of your Advent (or Merry Christmas if you receive this during the Christmas Season).

In Christ, **Mark Mosser,**Pre-Theology I

Dear Members of the Serra Club,  
Thank you for your generous support of seminarians! Every year I am reminded of the goodness of the people of God, and it fills my heart with gratitude and excitement to be a priest. Your prayers are so important for all of us so please continue to remember us! May you all have a blessed Christmas!

In Christ, **Elias Budke,**Theology II

Dear Serra Club,  
Thank you for the gas cards the seminarians received before going on Christmas break. Also, thank you for bringing us cookies and other treats during vocations week. I appreciate the support throughout the year.

Have a Merry Christmas!

**Joshua Bohl,** Propaedeutic Year

Dear friends at the Serra Club,  
Thank you so much for the gas card. It will be put to good use!

Warmly, **Colin Miller,** Theology III

Dear Serrans,  
Thank you for the work you do in supporting my vocation! I am not sure what I would do without your and many other peoples faithful prayers for me and all other seminarians. Thank you so much for the gas card this Christmas Season. Thank you for the cookies made earlier this year, for the help at different meals, and for all the other unseen things you do for us! May God bless you in this ministry of supporting seminarians.

God bless, **Noah Orham,** Pre-Theology II

Dear Serrans,  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you so much for your generous gifts and for all that you do for vocations. Please know of my prayers for you all and please continue to pray for me and my classmates as we prepare for our ordinations this spring.

Yours in Christ,

**Rev. Mr. Peter Romens**

NOTABLE NEWS

**THE 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
SERRA & KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
SEMINARIAN AWARDS DINNER**

**THURSDAY  
MARCH 12, 2026**

6:00 pm ROSARY,  
*In the Church*

6:30 pm SOCIAL  
7 PM DINNER  
St. Charles Borromeo,  
*Doran Hall*

The St. Charles Knights of Columbus Council #14832 is sponsoring one seminarian and the Serra Club of North-Minneapolis #418 is sponsoring three seminarians, all from St. Paul Seminary.

Each seminarian will receive a \$500 cash award and will be asked to give a short presentation on their discernment experience.

**RSVP by March 2 to Mark Eastham, 651-788-3396**

[meastham92@gmail.com](mailto:meastham92@gmail.com)

Please invite guests to join us for dinner—an excellent opportunity to introduce them to the shared vocation discernment mission of the Serra Club and the Knights of Columbus. Cost is \$30 per person and is payable by check at the door.



**Serra MEETS**

SERRA, NOW MORE THAN EVER!

An online speaker series  
with vocations in mind



**Cardinal Tom Collins**

**Date:** Mon, Feb 16th, 7 pm CDT  
**Webinar Link:**

[pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVIkVihyYXNlbnRkUT09#success](https://www.zoom.us/j/95992451924?pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVIkVihyYXNlbnRkUT09#success)

**Phone Access:**

+1 312 626 6799

**Webinar ID:** 959 9245 1924

**Passcode:** 853558

**SERRAN CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**



With thanks to all who helped make this a grand event.  
**Immaculate Conception Choir Members**

**Marilyn Zappia** – Arrangements with JAX.  
(May she be with Jesus in Heaven.)

**Jo Lohnes** who planned the details and procured prizes,  
**Maureen Collins** for taking reservations,  
and **Ted and Mary McCrossan** for check-in at Jax.

**Advent/Christmas Party Gift Card Donors**

Sarna's  
We are Nuts

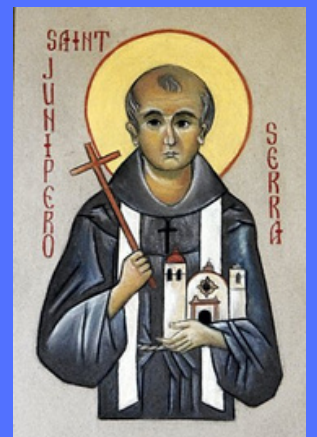
Parkway Pizza  
Cub Foods  
Lund's & Byerlys

Nails & Company  
Jax Cafe

**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)



MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF  
SAINT PAUL &  
MINNEAPOLIS

FEBRUARY

2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 <b>POPE LEO XIV</b>	2 <b>YOUR PASTOR</b>	3 REV. FRANCIS LAWRENCE FRIED ORD 1968	4 REV. NICHOLAS JOHN FROEHLE ORD 2017	5 REV. EDISON HERNAN GALARZA O.CC.SS ORD 1999	6 REV. JOHN ALVIN GALLAS ORD 2005	7 REV. MSGR. STEPHEN GILL GIDEON ORD 1997
8 REV. JOSEPH LEO GIFFORD ORD 2019	9 REV. SAMUEL ROBERT (SAM) GILBERTSON ORD 2022	10 REV. DEREK JUSTIN GILDE ORD 2024	11 REV. JOSEPH PATRICK (JOE) GILLESPIE OP ORD 1970	12 REV. PAUL RICHARD GITTER ORD 1993	13 REV. NELS HENDRICK GJENGDAHL ORD 2007	14 REV. RYAN JEROME GLASER ORD 2023
15 REV. MICHAEL JOHN GOODAVISH ORD 1987	16 REV. ROBERT J GRABNER ORD 2000	17 REV. GEORGE JEROME GRAFSKY ORD 1971	18 REV. WILLIAM HARRY GREEN ORD 1963	19 REV. GERALD GEORGE GRIEMAN ORD 1979	20 VERY REV. DANIEL FRANCIS GRIFFITH ORD 2002	21 REV. PATRICK GRILE C.SS.R ORD 1971
22 REV. BRIAN GROSS ORD 2010	23 REV. JAMES E GRUMMER SJ ORD 1982	24 REV. HJALMAR BLONDAL GUDJONSSON ORD 2024	25 REV. JEROME BERNARD HACKENMUELLER ORD 1969	26 REV. BYRON STEFAN HAGAN ORD 2015	27 REV. NICHOLAS JOHN (NICK) HAGEN ORD 2017	28 ARCHBISHOP BERNARD HEBDA AUXBP. MICHAEL IZEN AUXBP. KEVIN KENNEY

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

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

[ziesmers@usfamily.net](mailto:ziesmers@usfamily.net)

*Eternal Father,  
We lift up to You  
these and all the priests of the world.  
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 men to the priesthood and diaconate to continue Your work in our Archdiocese.

**Club Officers Present:** Ken Cobian, Maureen Collins, Judie Collodora, Mark Eastham, MaryAnne Frank, Rosemary Franzese, Jo Lohnes, Judy Makowske, Ted McCrossan, Jim McGuire, Tim Regan.

**Members present:** Carrie Pomeroy, Tom Pomeroy.

**MEETING OPENED** with prayer by **President T Regan** at 8:55 am. Minutes from the previous meeting on 12/16/25 were moved, seconded and approved.

**PRESIDENT'S ITEMS:** **President T Regan** initiated discussion of club dues, operation, membership meetings and lunches. Many ideas/suggestions were put forth: Retaining two membership meetings a month (**MA Frank**); Associate membership fees (**T Pomeroy, M Eastham**); Replacing box lunches with pizza or pot luck; Comparison of our club meetings, fees/lunches with other clubs (**M Collins**); Laying out all the info coming from other clubs to evaluate best practices and be basis for decision making (**J McGuire**), Who are the decision makers - board or members (**J Collodora**), When board mtgs SB held (**M Collins, J Makowske**), Overview sheet of club dues and expenses (**J Collodora**), Need to look at actual figures of mtg attendance/lunch costs from our treasurer. Motion made by **J Makowske**, seconded/approved to raise associate dues to \$80 in 2027. **T. Regan** designated a mtg in Mar for a full discussion led by Membership Co-Chairs **M Collins** and **J Collodora**, assisted by Treasurer **T McCrossan** and **T Pomeroy. M Eastham** spoke to enumerate all the benefits of membership in our Club, above and beyond an itemized cost. Next, President **T Regan** mentioned the opportunity to introduce Serra to new members at St Williams: the West African Francophone Community who moved mid-Jan from St Boniface.

**PROGRAMS VP:** **J Lohnes** reports the following speakers have been scheduled for future Serra Membership Lunch Mtgs: **Sister Jacinta Jackson**--Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration on Feb 10; **Marci Franzen**--Catholic Services Appeal on Feb 24; Serra/KC Seminarian Awards Dinner on Mar 12; **Father Michael Van Sloun** on Mar 24; Apr 14 and 28 speakers TBD; **Sister Teresa Rose** and **Sister Angelica**-Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus. Please submit suggestions for future speakers. **J Lohnes** deserves kudos for chairing our dazzling Christmas Party at JAX on Dec 23!

**VOCATIONS VP:** **MA Frank** is looking forward to the annual Miriam Dinner on Jan 27 with seven volunteers eager to help: **M Eastham, T and C Pomeroy, Stella Roman, Pat/Chris Shannon** and **Loretta Thielen**. The Benedict XVI Monstrance will be available Feb 22-24 for Holy Hour at a parish. Next, moved/seconded/passed to remember on World Day for Consecrated Life seven orders with gift cards: Handmaids of the Heart of Jesus, Little Sisters of the Poor, St Peter Claver Missionary Sisters, Pro Ecclesia Sisters, Franciscan Clarist Sisters, Franciscan Brothers of Peace and Brothers of Hope. **MA Frank** also had a special request for a seminarian, **Mathias Lundgren** at SJV who transferred from St John's U/football scholarship and is in dire need of finances. Please feel generous and mail your personal check to **MA Frank**. Next, Bus Trip VPs **M Eastham** and **J McGuire** gave essay awards for St Raphael and JP II students following school trips made last Oct 29; and essay awards to St Charles and Immaculate Conception students following school trips made last Nov 12. Spring bus trips are planned for Epiphany, St John the Baptist and Sacred Heart schools. Plans are being made with the Franciscan Brothers of Peace and Handmaids and awaiting further communication from SJV and SPS. Eager to provide a copy of the 50-year history of bus trips. Need to nail down spring dates post Easter.

**MEMBERSHIP VPs M Collins and J Collodora:** **M Collins** announced a new member who has submitted her application: **Stella Roman. J Makowske** who sponsored **Stella** moved to accept her membership, which was seconded and approved. **M Collins** spoke about parish visits which involve coordinated membership and vocation comm members contacting a pastor and asking for a brief 30-60 min time frame to discuss Serra and vocation initiatives in the parish and to talk about getting the parishioners praying and more involved in working for vocations and possibly joining Serra. The ideal outcome would be to invite Serra to talk at or after Mass and to distribute Serra literature. Two parishes were contacted last year with no follow through. This year St Stephens in Anoka and Epiphany in Coon Rapids will be contacted and prep includes becoming familiar with the background of the pastors, assistants and current vocation activity in the parishes. Next, talked about registering for the Serra USA membership contest. Our count had been 45 members but now jumped to 52 with seven new members. The new application form has a second page.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** **T McCrossan** is submitting info on our newest member **Stella** to Serra International. He's pursuing another potential new member. He has submitted dues for first half to Serra International. Second half due by July 1. A reminder for payment of member dues will be placed in our Serra newsletter. Checks needed for upcoming activities: to **K Cobian** for the KC/Serra Seminarian Awards and to **M Eastham** for the student bus trip essay awards. Scheduled a bank visit with **President T Regan** to transfer signatory names. **M Collins, J Collodora, C and T Pomeroy** will set up a consulting mtg with **T McCrossan** to discuss club dues.

**COMMUNICATIONS VP:** **J Makowske** Newsletter submission deadline is (before) Jan 25 and asked if there are any news items to be covered. She will add a reminder to pay club dues and will also include the names of businesses who donated gift cards for the Christmas Party. **J Makowske** said the website is almost ready to go live but web creator **Mary Krawczynski** says it needs more content. **M Eastham** and **J McGuire** to the rescue, with articles about the school bus trips.

**NEW BUSINESS:** **Fr Michael Panka**, a Parochial Vicar at St Odilia's, has been contacted to be our chaplain - approval will be sought. A Nominating Committee of **MA Frank, K Cobian, and Mk Eastham** will make suggestions to fill the leadership positions for our club in 2026/2027. **K Cobian** said planning continues for the KC/Serra Seminarian Award Dinner. He indicated that there were 75 attendees last year and hopes to surpass that number this year. **Michelle Eastham** created a flyer to publicize the dinner event info. Invitations were sent to seminarians who have all RSVP'd, along with four priests. **M Eastham** agreed to emcee the event.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** with prayer led by **President T Regan** at 10:40 am.