

A Voice for Vocations

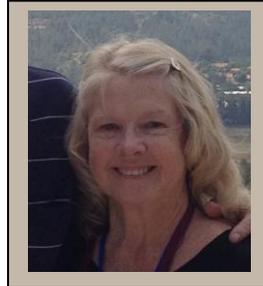
March 2018

Serra Club City of Orange
Region 11, District 127, Charter 643



PREZ SEZ

Anne Champagne, President



Officer Roster

2017-2018

President Anne Champagne
Pres- Elect Beverly Truzzolino
Treasurer Ed Haske
Programs Patty Baer
Vocations Carol & Phil Frank
John Le Duc
Hospitality Maureen Neglia
Carol DeFeo
Membership Beverly Truzzolino
Communications Nancy Ivary
Rec. Secretary Brigid Noonan
Corres Sec Carol DeFeo
Sergeant-at-Arms Joe Costanza
Trustees: Jim Baer
Maureen Neglia
Chic Ryan

Chaplain:

Fr. Nicolaus Thai

Spiritual Advisor:

Sr. Louise Ann Micek, CSJ

District 127 Governor:

Matt Ivary

Upcoming Events

MARCH 6: MEETING

Speaker: **Tristen**

Seagondollar

Topic: **Habitat for Humanity**

SAVE THE DATE: March 11

Bus Trip to St. John's

Seminary – flyer inside

MARCH 20: MEETING

Speaker: **Fr. Glenn Baaten**

Topic: **Journey of Faith**

APRIL 3: MEETING

Speaker: **Loretta Callopy**

Topic: **Easter**

APRIL 17: MEETING

Speaker: **Fr. Domenico Di Raimondo**

Topic: **House of Prayer**

Pope Francis on Lent

As we journey through our Lenten season this year, with a focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, below are some excerpts from Pope Francis' homilies recently on Lenten themes.

Pope Francis reminded believers that fasting is one of the tasks of Lent, and said that even "if you cannot commit to a total fast, the kind that makes you feel hunger in your bones" you can still fast humbly and consistently.

Isaiah, he said, highlights so many inconsistencies in the practice of virtue, like "carrying out your own pursuits, driving all your laborers, and yes, your fast ends in quarreling and fighting".

Fasting, the Pope said, is a little like "stripping oneself of pride". He said that to thank the Lord and at the same time despise your laborers that are forced to fast because they do not have enough to eat is inconsistent and unchristian. Inviting those present to perform penance in peace, he said "you cannot talk to God on the one hand and to the devil on the other". He also warned against the temptation of "showing off" by fasting: "by making a fuss of it and letting people know that we are practicing Catholics and we do penance, so that people think (cont.)

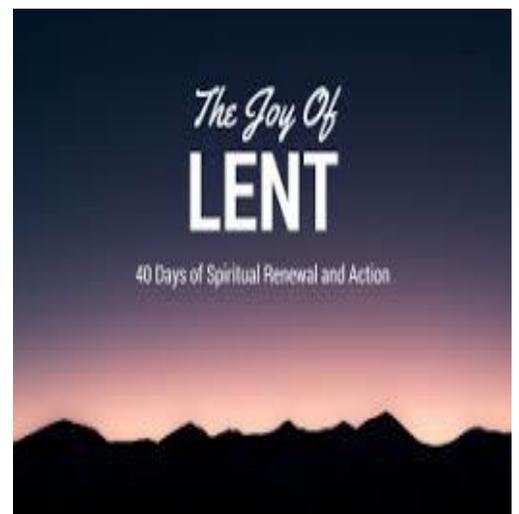
Our Mission... to foster, affirm and promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and all ministries in the Catholic Church, and through this support of all ministries, to deepen our members' personal faith lives.

(Prez Sez.....continued)

What a good person". This is a trick" he said "it's pretending to be virtuous". He invited the faithful to fast in order "to help others. But always with a smile". Fasting he said also involves lowering oneself by reflecting on one's sins asking forgiveness from the Lord. He exhorted Christians to "do penance", to "feel a little hunger", "to pray more during Lent", and to ask themselves how they behave towards the other:

"Does my fast help others? If it does not, it's fake, it's inconsistent and it takes you on the path to a double life, pretending to be a just Christian, like the Pharisees or the Sadducees", he said. Let us ask for the grace of consistency he concluded "if I am unable to do something, I will not do it. I will do only what I can with the consistency of a true Christian".

Pope Francis has reminded the faithful to give up something for Lent, only if it demonstrates compassion and enriches others.



Club Newz

Londa Woods

Londa Woods spoke with our Serra group on February 6. After spending 40 years as an elementary school teacher, she found a new passion as part of the jail ministry. Specifically, she works with Friends of the Orange County Detainees. They are a group of community volunteers who offer regular visits to immigration detainees. Visits which usually occur until the detainee is released, take place at the James A. Musick facility in Irvine. Londa believes all she can do is to listen. These young men are detainees, not inmates. Each person has worth. She is able to spend 30 minutes with the young man each week. These detainees are not allowed to go to school and there are no court appointed attorneys. She sincerely believes that as a volunteer you give a lot, but you receive so much more in return. The detainees are from Mexico and Central America. Having come to the US at a very young age, they are fearful of being deported because they don't know these countries. She has also visited with asylum seekers who are from Somalia, Ghana, Nepal and India. Londa has been a part of this ministry for five years and she has visited with her 14th detainee.



Deacon Bill Weeks

On February 20 we were privileged to hear from Deacon Bill Weeks about his journey to the Diaconate. Newly ordained, Bill reports that it was a road filled with mixed emotions, one of which was fear. He begins by telling us that he was having the time of his life until one Sunday morning in December, 2012, outside Holy Family Cathedral. In speaking with Deacon Rich & Georgeann Lovett, Georgeann posed the question - have you ever thought of becoming a deacon? In his own words he said my skin started to crawl. I was Jonah. His wife Carrie encouraged him to go to an informational meeting. Georgeann followed up again with a phone call about the paperwork. All along Carrie kept encouraging him and he fought it every step of the way. During the first year, he felt dry and barren. Still wanting to run in the opposite direction, Carrie kept at it - God will give us clarity. During his second year as an aspirant, with more responsibilities at his job and in classes in the evening, he went emotionally downhill. He reports that he wasn't happy, but Carrie kept saying to Trust. During 2015 and 2016 he faced some very challenging medical issues. At one point prior to going into surgery for a blown aneurysm he called his wife with the possibility that he may not survive. The nurse prayed with him and in that moment he realized that all things are possible. "It became clear that God was by my side. I just didn't see it." Carrie was the voice of reason and his young son Brendan, with his joy, doubts and frustration. God had rescued him from the belly of the whale. He was able to eventually finish his studies and was ordained to the Diaconate in October, 2017. He asked us where God is calling us out of our comfort zones. He encouraged us to read the signs and trust that signs will materialize. Have faith in Him. Together with God we are better. Apart we are not.

Day of Recollection

Fr David Robinson

THANK YOU!



Attendees at the Day of Recollection on February 10th



- March 3 - Anne Champagne*
- March 10 - Gloria Suess*
- March 13 - Loretta Callopy*
- March 20 - Sr. Louise*
- March 28 - Raul Serna*

Welcome new members

Jeanne Warren

Cecilia Vu

Who might you invite to a future Serra Meeting?

The Serra Clubs of Orange County are invited
by the
Seminarians and Staff of
ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY
to visit them on
SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

We will gather at CSJ Motherhouse parking lot at 8:15 am for a continental breakfast before boarding a luxury bus at 8:30 for our trip to Camarillo. We'll get there in plenty of time for guided tours of the campus, Mass in the beautiful chapel, and lunch with our seminarians. We will be back by 4 pm.

The fee for the bus trip is \$20 each; students \$10.
Please pay your club treasurer or call Matt Ivary 714/679-5239.

This is how we show our seminarians that we support and encourage them. It's not for us, it's for them.

PLEASE PLAN TO GO!

Vocation Prayer

2018

Pray Always

God our Father, You made each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask that You inspire young people whom you call to priesthood and consecrated life to courageously follow Your will.
 Send workers into Your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and Your people are strengthened by the sacraments.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SET-UP

Ministers for Serra Masses

CLEAN-UP

MAR 6 Matt Ivary
 Nancy Ivary

MAR 20 Sr. Louise

APR 3 Beverly Truzzolino



Betty Padilla
 Loretta Callopy

Loretta Callopy
 Rosemarie Tsutsumi

Betty Padilla
 Rosemarie Tsutsumi

“Always forward, never back!”
 Junipero Serra



Carol DeFeo
 608 S. Breezy Way
 Orange, CA 92869

