

A Voice for Vocations



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Anne Champagne
2020-2022

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Chic Ryan

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Father Nicolaus Thai

Spiritual Advisor:

Sister Louise Ann Micek, CSJ

OUR MISSION is to foster, affirm and promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate and lay ministries and, through this, to deepen our members' personal faith. life.



OCTOBER

15th Jim Baer
29th Manny Padilla
NO B'DAYS IN NOV!

PREZ SEZ

Patty Baer, President



BOY, DO WE NEED PRAYER!

Oh, the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer... are they over? Did we even celebrate those months? The pandemic continues on into autumn now. The word churning within me is angst. It seems like it could not become more difficult and yet it does. The pandemic involved everyone in a sea of change. Then came racial bias, when our physical safety became less important to us and our values about who we are and how we treat each other in society took front and center. Now (as I write this), we are back to physical safety measures with the raging fires here in California, along with Oregon and Washington. It's interesting how much more dedicated one becomes in praying about a situation when personally affected (or a loved one is). Up in the Ukiah area, my son, who lost everything in the fire of two years ago, has a new spot this year that just got burned all the way to his firebreak, decimating Manzanita and oak trees across 77 acres. Thankfully, the house where he lives is not on that property, so not all was lost this time. Then I heard from a friend in Springfield, Oregon, who had to evacuate on September 10th when the fire was four miles away. So much change has occurred in these past seven months that many of us are taking baby steps in venturing out again into our world. It reminds me of entering a body of water. This summer, when walking into a lake or pool, I would sometimes hesitate, depending on the water's temperature. I do great up to my thighs, then venture a little more, each movement more tentative, until I am fully

SEE PG 2, "PREZ SEZ"

DISTRICT DOINGS

Anne Champagne
Governor, District #79



MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th.

Perhaps, before or after you say your rosary, you may want to reflect on this prayer written by Saint John Henry Newman.

Let Me Dwell with You

O Mother of Jesus,
and my Mother,
let me dwell with you,
cling to you,
and love you with ever-increasing love.
I promise the honor,
love, and trust of a child.
Give me a mother's protection,
for I need your watchful care.
You know better than any other
the thoughts and desires of the Sacred Heart.
Keep constantly before my mind the same thoughts,
the same desires,
that my heart may be filled with zeal
for the interests of the Sacred Heart of your divine Son.
Instill in me a love of all that is noble,
that I may no longer be easily turned to selfishness.

Help me, dearest Mother,
to acquire the virtues that God wants of me.

SEE PG 3, "DISTRICT DOINGS"

PREZ SEZ cont.

fully immersed. This action can be compared to going deeper in prayer. I begin, then get distracted or inattentive. I need to move out further, trusting that I will continue and find firm footing. Once I'm in, no longer hesitant, but moving forward, I can commit fully to God's Will...and pass control over to Him! In a Novena of Surrender to Jesus (before the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross), I said daily ten times, "O, Jesus, I surrender myself to You. Take care of everything."

The other day, reading in the car while waiting for Jim to come out from a doctor appointment, I felt so uplifted. I heard, then saw a bird chirping in a tree, smelled a hint of rain as drops were spitting on the windshield, while also enjoying the taste of my coffee. This awakening of my senses led me into prayer, praising God for these simple pleasures. Ah...

As we continue through this uncharted season, my prayer is that God will give us the graces to increase our desire to be flexible enough to adapt to what He's inviting us to do individually and as part of the Body of Christ. May no challenge distance us from Jesus.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: THE LAITY'S MISSION IN THE CHURCH. "Dear Lord, We pray that by the virtue of our Baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church."

BEFORE ALL SAINTS DAY . . .

*we thank our priests and deacons
for keeping a good sense of humor and adapting!*

Trick or Treat**PRAY ALWAYS**

Always *pray* to have
eyes that see the **best**,
a heart that *forgives*
the worst, a mind that
forgets the bad, & a soul
that never loses **faith**.

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**City Club Newz****OCTOBER SPEAKERS**

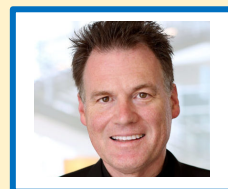
OCT 6 Beverly Truzzolino

Lead Rosary for Priests: Memorial O.L. Rosary



OCT 20 Msgr. Stephen Doktorczyk

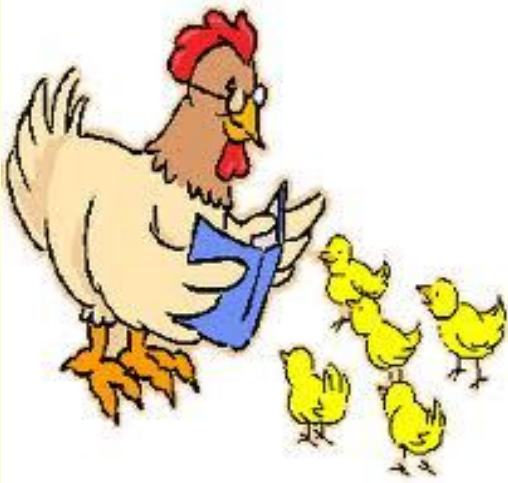
Vicar Gen'l & Curia Moderator



St. John Paul II, Pope

DISTRICT DOINGS CONT.

to forget myself always,
to work solely for him, without fear of sacrifice,
I shall always rely on your help
To be what Jesus wants me to be.
I am His, I am yours, my good Mother!
Give me each day your holy and maternal blessing
until my last evening on earth,
when your immaculate heart will present me
to the heart of Jesus in heaven
there to love and bless you
And your divine Son for all eternity.



NOTE FROM PATTY ON THE SEVEN SERRANS PROJECT:

Dear Members, I don't want to even pretend to be your mother hen, but let me know if any of you want to pick a day of the week to pray for a second Director of Vocations in another city. Loretta has chosen Friday for her one-hour commitment. Jim and I will take any remaining day not chosen. We need five more people to commit to a day to complete a new Seven Serrans Project. Those already praying for Father Raul need not step up.

Autumn blessings,

Patty

Our original SEVEN SERRANS PROJECT group:
Praying for **FR. RAUL LEMUS**, Vocation Director of San Jose: MON—John Le Duc, TUE—Beverly, WED—Chic Ryan/Jeanne Warren, THU—Joe Neglia, FRI—Carol DeFeo, SAT—Anne Champagne, SUN—Phil and Carol, *vigilant prayer warriors! Why not join them?*



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM FR. EDMUND PAGE, O.PRAEM.

Luke Bell, OSB. *The Meaning of Blue: Recovering a Contemplative Spirit*. Kettering, OH: Angelico Press, 2014.

▫ As I mentioned in my presentation, I have not yet finished this book, so I recommend it to you with a qualification: please feel free to email me or a theologian you trust if you read something which seems confusing or not quite right! So far it appears to be *completely* theologically sound, but I didn't realize it does not actually have an *imprimatur* on it. It is rather intellectual and poetic, and so far I have found it quite inspiring and uplifting.

Jacobus de Voragine. *The Golden Legend*.

▫ PDF available for download on Google Books.

▫ There is also an edition published by Princeton University Press.

Josef Pieper. *Leisure, the Basis of Culture*. United Kingdom: St. Augustine's Press, 1998.

▫ More of a philosophical book (no *imprimatur* here either, though the work is not strictly theological). Very beautiful thoughts.

The following two books come with high recommendations. I think they are very helpful for one's prayer life:

Br Lawrence of the Resurrection, OCD (critical edition edited by Conrad De Meester, OCD) Translated by Salvatore Scierba. *Writings and Conversations on the Practice of the Presence of God*. Washington, DC: ICS Publications, 1994.

Peter Thomas Rorhbach. *Conversation with Christ: The Teach*

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS FROM JIM DAZE

Mary of Nazareth. Michael Hesemann, Ignatious Press

History, Archeology, Legends: A historian and archeologist examines Marian legends and traditions. This book is available on Amazon.

Plans are already underway
**2021 Serra International
Convention**
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
July 1-4, 2021

City Club Newz**HOW DOES ONE GET TO BE A DEACON?**

On August 4th we were blessed to have as our guest speakers Deacon John Selig, his wife Michelle, and their seminarian-son, Zack. Deacon John was in the first diaconate class to be ordained inside the new Christ Cathedral. John asserted that vocations don't occur in a vacuum. They are part of God's universal plan to build up the Body of Christ. And God makes sure that when they're ordained, they have been carefully vetted and prepared. In the Diocese of Orange, Frank Chavez is the Director of the Office of the Diaconate. He guides the candidates through academic classes such as canon law and church history; directs their spiritual preparation in prayer and meditation; and supervises pastoral activities in hospitals, jails, and other community service. The original apostles chose 7 men, laid hands on them, and charged them with serving the needy, preaching, and performing some sacramental ministries. After several hundred years, the Order of Deacon disappeared in the Western Church. It was restored as a permanent, public ministry at the Second Vatican Council and was authorized in the U.S. in 1968. Deacon Chavez believes that Catholic deacons "bring the grace of the altar to the streets and bring the needs of the streets to the altar." Deacons' wives are very much a part of their ministry. They share in the preparatory training and activities, and they share in the church and community work that follows ordination. Both Michelle and John Selig whole-heartedly—and joyfully—serve the church. And they have inspired their son, Zachary to join seminary and discern a priestly vocation. Let us continue to pray for this "holy" family and for many more Catholic couples and young people to be inspired to consider dedicating their lives to serve the church.

FALL MEETING SCHEDULE

Serra Club Meeting on **October 6th**, 2020 from 9:45 AM-12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84445966880?pwd=TkRRWmRFTSsrY09QcTV0RDZKRmY5UT09>

Meeting ID: 844 4596 6880

Passcode: 095652

Serra Club Meeting on **October 20th**, 2020 from 9:45 AM-12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87334041606?pwd=QTY0eHBUSdEaTJEUWkzTkJEWRMUT09>

Meeting ID: 873 3404 1606

Passcode: 982529

Serra Club Meeting on **November 3rd**, 2020 from 9:45 AM-12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85140834610?pwd=VFR5SVVWSEJqeEhXM0hsZEpoUDVEQT09>

Meeting ID: 851 4083 4610

Passcode: 502814

Serra Club Meeting on **November 17th**, 2020 from 9:45 AM-12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82062299476?pwd=VVJQcDk3T3o4TjVleVc2anE0dGdTZz09>

Meeting ID: 820 6229 9476

Passcode: 885179

Serra Club Meeting on **December 1st**, 2020 from 9:45 AM-12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81275948065?pwd=YjFxbllzZkpDRnZsRjdZTHVOQ0pydz09>

Meeting ID: 812 7594 8065

Passcode: 520745

ALL MEETINGS: Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128

P.S. Please be sure to first figure out how to mute your phone /computer.