# SERRA CLUB CITY OF ORANGE

Reg. 11, Distr. 79, Charter 643

# **SPECIAL EDITION**

COVID SHUTDOWN ISSUE Volume 12

**JUNE 2021** 

# A Voice for Vocations



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Chaplain:
Father Nicolaus Thai
Spiritual Advisor:
Sister Louise Ann Micek, CSJ

#### **OUR MISSION** is to foster,

affirm and promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life, deaconate and lay ministries and, through this, to deepen our members' personal faith. life.



JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup> MATT IVARY

### PREZ SEZ



# SO MANY REASONS TO CELEBRATE IN JUNE!

Springtime brings the opportunity for many blessings. This past weekend (May 23rd), Jim and I celebrated a nephew's 8th grade graduation and a niece's Confirmation. I know others of you have celebrated a Baptism, a First Communion, or possibly a wedding. All these occasions are times of growth, both for the recipient and the observers. God invites, and the response is "Yes." God is still at work, despite challenges, forming us into new relationships with Christ and his Church.

I have just completed my first year of a twoyear term as president, as have all of you board members in your positions. I give a big shoutout of thanks to all of you for the dedication you've shown throughout these crazy, unforeseen months. Your conforming to the changes we've had to make to continue our meetings speaks well of your adaptability in all circumstances. I appreciate all of you!

June is a month of celebrations. The feast of Corpus Christi is observed on the 6th. We are not just passive recipients of God's covenant; we renew our love and commitment to him every time we receive the Eucharist. During the same week, on the 11th, we celebrate the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, a devotion rooted in John's Gospel, where blood and water flowed from Jesus' side at his crucifixion. We gaze at his pierced heart and marvel at his boundless love for us. The next day is the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. She found favor with God, but knew that she needed to make room in her heart, ridding it of clutter. A pure heart treasures the Word and ponders it. May the heart of each of us become so. "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to you."

SEE PG 2, "PREZ SEZ"

#### **DISTRICT DOINGS**

Anne Champagne Governor, District #79



#### A TIME FOR ORDINATIONS, NEW PRIESTS WED THE CHURCH

We currently are in the season of ordinations throughout our world. On April 25, 2021 in Rome on the Feast of the Good Shepherd, Pope Francis ordained nine deacons to the priesthood. Below are some excerpts from his homily. That day is on our Serra Calendar as "World Day of Prayer for Vocations".

Pope Francis urged the nine men to "focus their gaze always on Christ as they serve His people". He said, "their ministry is an expression of Christ's own office of Teacher, Priest, and Shepherd."

"Priests are established co-workers of the Order of Bishops, with whom they are joined in the priestly office and with whom they are called to the service of the people of God".

Their (priests') task is to "preach the Gospel, to shepherd God's people, and to celebrate the sacred Liturgy, <u>especially the Lord's sacrifice."</u>

We have had the Feast of the Good Shepherd on April 25<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Corpus Christi on June 6<sup>th</sup> and later that week, the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, which is the "World Day of Prayer for Sanctification of Priests". These devotions remind us of the critical role of the priest in our Church, whereby all members of the Body of Christ are nourished by the Holy

SEE PG 3, "DISTRICT DOINGS"

### DREZSEZ CONT.

Father's Day on June 20th this year is the first day of summer. In this year dedicated to St. Joseph, we honor him as patron of all fathers. Our prayer to him could be: "Blessed Joseph, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen." On that day, many of us will attend the "leaving" reception for our chaplain of four years, Fr. Nicolaus Thai. He has shown us an endearing example of faithfulness and support to our club functions amidst his busy-ness as a parish vicar. We will miss his smiles and humor, as well as lessons from his Finally, we honor all the fathers among our membership. We ask God to bless them with his wisdom. Let the example of their faith and love for their children shine forth. Grant that their families may honor them with respect

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist is observed on the 24th. As we recall his mission to proclaim God's Word, we ask to be kept humble, so that Christ may increase while we decrease. The 29th commemorates the two preeminent apostles of the early church, Peter and Paul. They were very different individuals: Peter, was a fisherman who spent his days amid boats and nets, and Paul was a learned Pharisee who taught in synagogues. Peter spoke primarily to Jews and Paul principally to pagans. When their paths crossed, they argued heatedly. Yet they saw one another as brothers, as happens in families where there may be frequent arguments but unfailing love. They had the humble ability to learn from their failings and were willing to keep serving the Lord in spite of them. May we all learn, as they did, how to keep moving forward, growing through our mistakes, as we serve God's people, no matter what!

#### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE:

"Lord, we pray that the beauty of marriage shines brightly. We especially pray for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of a Christian community; may they grow in love, with generosity, faithfulness and patience."

# Blessings to all Fathers!



## City Club Newz



We are going to greatly miss FR. NICOLAUS THAI who has served us long and lovingly as our Serra Club Chaplain. We wish him many blessings in his new position at Mt. Angel.

## JUNE SPEAKERS

JUNE 1 St. Cecilia's Deacon Bill Weeks Subject: DEACON'S VIEW OF PANDEMIC





JUNE 15 Fr. Darrin Merlino Subject: VOCATION, NEW BOOK AND RADIO MINISTRY





# DISTRICT DOINGS CONT.

Eucharist, precisely as instructed by Jesus Christ on the occasion of the "Last Supper".

The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was introduced to the general calendar of the Roman Catholic Church in 1856 by Pope Pius IX and is celebrated on the Friday of the third week after Pentecost. However, its foundation can be found as early as the second century in the writings of Saint Justin, Martyr. By the Middle Ages, the focus of the devotion shifted from the Sacred Heart as a symbol of the sacraments, to being a symbol of divine love. When Jesus appeared to Margaret Mary Alacoque, he said that his heart was "so passionately inflamed with love" that it was unable to contain the flames which must "spread abroad" through priests' actions. Jesus asked for a communion of reparation on the First Friday of every month, a weekly Holy Hour every Thursday and a special feast in honor of the Heart of Christ on which communion would be offered in reparation for acts of sacrilege committed against the Eucharist.

Therefore, inspired by our Holy Father, and the rich imagery of our church's liturgy, I pray that all Serrans, during this time of multiple ordinations throughout our world, will pray diligently for them.

Pope Francis asked the priests to adopt four forms of closeness in their service: closeness to God, closeness to the Bishop, closeness to each other, and closeness to the people of God. All of these must be performed with "a style of compassion and tenderness. . .Don't close your heart to problems," urged the Pope. He explained, "It is so important to take time to listen and console those who present themselves with problems. This is compassion, which leads to forgiveness, to mercy. Please be merciful, be forgiving, because God forgives everything. He does not get tired of forgiving."

One final message to the new priests from Pope Francis:

"Seek consolation in Jesus, and carry the crosses in your lives.

Do not be afraid, everything will be alright."





BE NOT AFRAID: Moving Forward with Hope Serra's 78th International Convention October 7-10, 2021

Register for the Serra International Convention in Chicago

Register by July 31, 2021 and pay only \$350! (After July 31, pay \$450)

#### Get to Know Our Convention Presenters



Father Nathan Cromly, C.S.J., is an nformative and engaging speaker, writer, etreat leader, explorer, innovator, educator, ind fire-starter for the Lord. Born and aised in Toledo, Ohio, he has joyfully erved as a Catholic priest of the Brothers of laint John for 13 years, and currently ninisters in Denver, Colorado. Father Vathan's spiritual direction, teaching, and lynamic witness has touched the lives of ens of thousands of children, teenagers, narried couples, business professionals, and families.

Father Cromly will address convention attendees on Friday afternoon. Click here to read more about Fr. Cromly's exciting and dyamic ministry.

#### Father Brian Welter moved to Omaha, Nebraska, on July 1, 2020, to become the Executive Director of the Institute for Priestly Formation (IPF), which is based in Omaha. The mission of IPF is to help seminarians, priests, and bishops in their

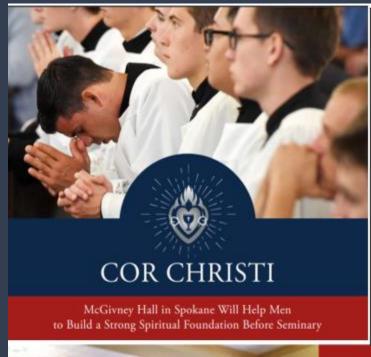
ongoing spiritual growth so



they may better lead others to Christ. Fr. Welter is a priest from the Archdiocese of Chicago and has been affiliated with IPF as an adjunct faculty member since 2010.



Reserve Your Room at the Palmer House Hilton



Cor Christi is a new program that fulfills the Vatican's new requirement for a "propaedeutic phase" before men begin seminary. Its purpose is to form strong Catholic men in the heart of Christ, so that they have a solid foundation for their journey through seminary. Men in the new program will live in McGivney Hall, a building just one block from Bishop White Seminary. Renovations on the building will begin in summer 2021 so that Cor Christi can launch in Fall 2022. Cor Christi is a new program that fulfills the Vatican's new requirement for a "propaedeutic phase" before men begin seminary. Its purpose is to form strong Catholic men in the heart of Christ, so that they have a solid foundation for their journey through seminary.

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# A Call to Action for Catholics in the Northwest

Catholics are asked to help with many needs in the Church, but rarely is one so close to our hearts as happy, healthy priests. The new Cor Christi program will be a "spiritual powerhouse" to raise up holy priests throughout the Northwest. Will you invest in the health of our Church with a generous financial gift?

GIVE HERE: Bishop WhiteSem.org

If you prefer to give by check, make it out to "McGivney Hall"
and mail to 429 E. Sharp Ave., Spokane, WA 99202

# **SPRING MEETING SCHEDULE**

June 1st, 2021 from 10:15 AM -12:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81420237639?pwd=ZXM0Sk41Z21RNEp5NWlGLzhmQ2hiUT09

Meeting ID: 814 2023 7639

Passcode: 225407

Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128

June 15th, 2021 from 10:15 AM -12:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88320810771?pwd=QVJmR1hYYldzTElCQklqUWdTMXhpQT09

Meeting ID: 883 2081 0771

Passcode: 550483

Join by phone: 1-669-900-9128