SERRA CLUB CITY OF ORANGE

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A Voice for Vocations



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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.

MARCH

3rd Anne Champagne

10th Gloria Suess

13th Loretta Callopy

20th Sister Louise

28th Raul Serna

PREZ SEZ



A TIME FOR LOVE



We have left the Christmas season in mid-January. However, that time set aside for giving has not ended. We are now entering February, the month of love celebrated on Valentine's Day. It actually originated as a Christian feast day honoring an early martyr named Valentine, who was executed on February 14th in the third century A.D. by Emperor Claudius II, who had banned all marriages and engagements in Rome. Realizing the injustice of the decree, Valentine defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret.

What is the best way to observe this yearly event which has found its way into the Christian Calendar? The best way is to remember the love of God. He gifts us with everything we need in this life. His grace is sheer gift, unasked for. We are reminded of his most precious gift given to all of us, his Son.

Do we recognize and accept this gift that God has offered? If so, what is expected of us? We must love the way God loves, that is, unconditionally and sacrificially, without any strings attached. We should use this occasion to rekindle that love in our hearts by making it a spiritual day, something that will glorify God. So, we can truly say that love happens when hearts blend together without limitations to be shared, not just with spouses, but extended to family, friends, and the community around us. Yes, Jesus challenges us. But this imitation of him must be our life. We cannot get bogged down, wondering what trials would lie in our paths (there will be many), but we know only

SEE PG 2, "PREZ SEZ"

DISTRICT DOINGS

Anne Champagne Governor, District #79



LET'S PROMOTE VOCATIONS IN OUR PARISHES!

In November 2019, the newly appointed Vocation Director, Fr. Brandon Dang presided over a "Vocations Fair" which was held at St Edward the Confessor Parish in South Orange County. The day was well-organized and Fr. Brandon Dang and Joan Patten, Delegate for Consecrated Life for the Diocese of Orange, were both in attendance. There was a short video on the topic of vocations presented, and the two directors had prepared for the day by visiting the school on the Monday before, talking with the students at their assembly in the school hall. All of these activities have at their core "establishing a culture of vocations." There were 14 religious groups represented at this vocations fair.

Fast forward to January 2022: Here is the update for us Serrans on work that has been done on the national level by the Serra US Council, in collaboration with the NCDVD (National Council of Diocesan Vocation Directors) to promote vocations at the parish

Although hampered by pandemic restrictions, the offer was made by our national Serra team that if any diocese in the parish vocation ministries, U.S. would like to bring together representatives from at least 5 parishes to participate in the establishment of

SEE PG 3, "PREZ SEZ"

A Voice for Vocations

DREZ SEZ CONT.

that God will see us through. After all, he has given us the gift of his divine friendship...yet we know that it still takes a lot of courage to say "yes" when Christ calls!

SPECIAL INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR FEBRUARY

"We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women, thanking them for their mission and their courage. May they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times."

Valentine Blessings!





Serra Clubs Lenten Day of Recollection

Saturday, March 12, 2022 HOLY FAMILY CHURCH 8:15 am Mass—Lunch12:30



Presented by Fr. Cheeyoon Chun
"FINAL WORDS FROM THE CROSS:

ALL ARE WELCOME! \$25 PER PERSON IN ADVANCE

Reservations: Beverly Truzzolino 714-642-6455

FEBRUARY MEDITATION FOR LOVERS IN THE LORD

In the words of Pope Francis . . .

"We are losing the ability to listen to those in front of us, both in the normal course of everyday relationships and when debating the most important issues of civil life. At the same time, listening is undergoing an important new development in the field of communication and information through the various podcasts and audio messages available that serve to confirm that listening is still essential in human communication... Listening corresponds to the humble style of God. It is the action that allows God to reveal Himself as the One who, by speaking, creates man and woman in His image, and by listening recognizes them as His partners in dialogue. God loves humanity: that is why He addresses His word to them, and why He "inclines His ear" to listen to them... Fundamentally, listening is a dimension of love."



Sisters of Saint Joseph of Orange

ART IN THE GARDEN
Saturday, May 21 3:00-6:00pm

City Club Newz

FEBRUARY SPEAKERS

FEB 1 Fr. Brandon Dang, Vocations Dir.



Subject:

"Seminarian Update"



FEB 15 Deacon Bill Weeks



Subject:

"Grandparents' Role" (Manual p.86)

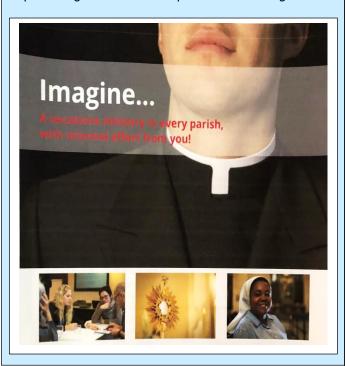
DISTRICT DOINGS CONT.

local parish vocation ministries, Serra USA would host a workshop to present all the material and plans that this national group has been working on and would assist that diocese in forming vocation ministries within their parishes. Below are some of the criteria necessary for any Diocese in the United States to take part:

- Requests for the Serra S.P.A.R.K. Parish Vocation Ministry workshop must be at the invitation of the vocation director with the support of the local bishop. At least 5 parishes (preferably 10), with 3-5 representatives each, would need to attend the workshop. Upon conclusion of the workshop, there should be a report submitted to the VP for Vocations (Anne Roat-US Council of Serra) containing a full evaluation of the workshop.
- To date, there have been 4 workshops completed by Serra US in Pittsburg, PA; Tucson, AZ; San Angelo, TX; and Colorado Springs, CO. There are 5 upcoming workshops scheduled in the following dioceses: St. Petersburg, FL; Omaha, NE; Bridgeport, CT (2 workshops--one in English and one in Spanish); and Oklahoma City, OK.

On January 15, 2022 Serra had a one-hour appointment with Brandon Dang, Vocation Director of the Diocese of Orange, to lay out the Parish Vocation Ministry materials to see if, within our 62 parishes, we could initiate ministries in at least 5 of those parishes. Currently, this is where the initiative stands and any further developments will be reported to our members at a future time.

If any of you would be interested in participating within your parish as a Serra ambassador, or in training to be a mentor to assist the national team, please advise us, as they are looking for volunteers. This is a real "hands on" effort to establish the "culture of vocations" which we know is very effective in nurturing any young people who are experiencing God's call to the priesthood and religious life.



Meet Our New Member Ann Yates



Ann is very involved in her parish, St. John Neumann, with several ministries. She has a passion for the Eucharist and in particular Eucharistic adoration. Her adopted seminarian is Benjamin Nguyen who is covered with prayer along with seminarian Zachary Fier. She has five sons and eight grandchildren (six boys, two girls) and expecting a new grandchild sometime after Christmas. Ann and her husband Gary love to travel. Her favorite destination is Hawaii, her sacred space. One memorable travel was a Baltic cruise to several countries where she and Gary's main focus was to visit as many churches as possible. The trip she highlights the most is Rome where they visited many basilicas. We welcome Ann as a Serran prayer warrior.

JANUARY SPEAKERS





MARY BANNER spoke on JAN 4th, charmingly convincing us that our **DECISION MAKING** should always looking for and surrendering to God's will. She recommends a "Surrender Novena," it all to give God!

JIM DAZE, long time member of our club, on JAN 18th spoke on SAINT PADRE PIO: mystical powers, his mystical powers and his bearing the stigmata. The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to him, but he was also assisted in all his good works by his guardian angel.