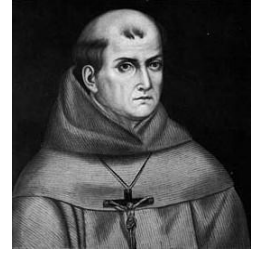




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



March, 2020

Region 11

District 79

Charter 438

Newsletter

FUTURE EVENTS

Mar 5 – Club Meeting Speaker: Fr. Wayne
Mar 14 – Day of Recollection Theme: Jesus and Me “An Ongoing Love Story”
Mar 22- St. John Seminary Trip
Apr 2 – Club Meeting
May 7 – Club Meeting
June 4 – Club Meeting
June 6 – Ordination at Christ Cathedral
June 27 – Transitional Deacon Ordination at Mission San Juan Basilica
June 27 – 2020 International Convention, New Orleans Louisiana
July 2 - Club Meeting
July 14 – Ordinati Mass and Luncheon
Aug 6 – Club Meeting
Sep 3 – Club Meeting
Sep 21 – Annual Golf Tournament
Sep 27 – Priesthood Sunday



Dear Fellow Serrans,
You know that I am not a Dora Downer; however, our Serra Club attendance at our monthly meetings has been less than stellar. It is very embarrassing to invite a busy guest priest to celebrate Mass for us at St.

Norbert's and have only a small group of attendees present. Yes, there are times when because of illness, or other pressing commitments or appointments that we can't attend our monthly meeting on the first Thursday of each month. Our membership must increase. If each of us could make the effort to bring a potential member as a guest, we could increase our membership roster.

The reason each of us members is a Serran is that we are committed to praying for an increase of vocations to the religious life, as well as, increasing our faith in the Catholic Church. Serra Club calls lay people to action in the push for ordination and con-



ON ST. PATRICK'S
DAY
MAY THE RAINDROPS
FALL LIGHTLY UPON
YOUR BROW.
MAY THE SOFT WINDS
FRESHEN YOUR
SPIRIT.
MAY THE SUNSHINE
BRIGHTEN YOUR
HEART.
MAY THE BURDENS OF
THE DAY REST LIGHTLY
UPON YOU.
AND
MAY GOD ENFOLD YOU IN THE MANTLE OF HIS
LOVE.

secrated religious The Serra Club is critical in the Church because of its call to action for an increase of priests and religious which gives the Church a foundation for the future. Yes, we Serrans pray for an increase in religious vocations, but we are also called to action. An increase in our membership would translate into more prayers and more action of doing our part to grow the ranks of religious vocations that are needed more today than ever before. Our Blessed Lord calls us to participate not only in prayer, but action, as we work for an abundance of religious vocations to serve the countless needs of all people of every race and every culture.

March brings us three separate Serran opportunities. The first is to attend the March 5 meeting at St. Norbert's Father Wayne will celebrate Mass and be our guest speaker.

Saturday, March 14 is the Lenten Day of Recollection presented by City of Orange Serra Club. 8:30-2:00pm at St. Joseph Center (Mother

House) Father Di Raimondo, Director of House of Prayer for Priests will conduct the theme program of "Jesus and Me: An Ongoing Love Story."

Sunday, March 22 is St. John Seminary visit. 11AM Mass & lunch. No matter how many times you have gone on this outing, each time is like a new experience.

I look forward to each of you and your guest at the March 5 meeting at St. Norbert's.

Father Dave Heney, Pastor of St. Bruno Catholic Church, Whittier, CA gave a stimulating presentation at the Serra Rally 2020 held in Ventura, CA. I always like to read the bio of each speaker so that I can get to know something about them before I hear them speak. Fr. Heney is a noted author as well as a co-host on Relevant Radio (AM930 in Los Angeles). Father Heney spoke on his latest book that is being published in February 2020, "Luke 10 Leadership: "How to Succeed at Parish Ministry." This is my synopsis of his very interesting talk.

Mass which means-Go and Serve the Lord
No other religion sought converts except the
Christians. It is done in love.

Catholics made the first book.

Jesus wants to change a person's life, but not in a
radical way.

The theory of mind is trying to figure out what's
in a person's mind.

Proactivity is to make the first move in peace.

The kingdom of God is a passenger cruise ship
and everyone is the crew. The crew works for
the kingdom of God.

Father Heney challenged us to ask ourselves what
kind of crew member am I? What am I doing in my
life as a crew member to build the kingdom of God?

In God's love,

Virginia Mort, President

VOCATION REPORT



The seminarian who received the gift card for March, donated by Pat Manzo, is Juan Carlos de Jesus. Juan Carlos is in his pastoral year at San Francisco Solano parish in Santa Margarita. He is Silvia Uriarte's adopted seminarian.

SEMINARIANS: Our Diocese of Orange is blessed to have twenty-nine seminarians studying at five different seminaries. Presently, there are five seminarians serving their pastoral year at one of our

parishes. Following their pastoral year they will be ordained deacons and the next year they will be ordained priests. This confirms for the Serra members that our prayers are helping vocations. Seminarian Mike Rizzo thanked our members for the many prayers and the gift card that he received. Many of our members know of Mike's vocation story. He is grateful that we have been unwavering advocates of his rather late calling. He does bring so much life experience to his vocation. Mike sends his blessing to all of us and is looking forward to having many of us attend his ordination on June 6th.

Please continue to pray for all the seminarians and young men discerning the priesthood. Any questions regarding discernment, please contact Father Brandon Dang at the Vocations Office at 714-282-3036 or bdang@rsbo.org. Discernment will be held at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 9 Hillgate Irvine. Holy Hour 7 p.m., gathering 8 p.m. in the Conference Room. Father's assistant in the Vocations Office is Kathy Debolt, 714-282-3036. Remember your day in the 31 Club and try to attend your parish monthly day of Perpetual Adoration.

VOCATION PRAYER: Heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life from our diocese and families. Inspire men to imitate Christ, the eternal high priest, in sacrificial service to your Church. Move the hearts of men and women to offer themselves wholly to you in poverty, chastity and obedience. Send them as labors for Your harvest. Inspire the faithful to support them with prayers and sacrifice. Raise up holy families who foster openness to your call. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary Brockschmidt
Vocations

FROM THE VATICAN

Loreto Sister Patricia Murray has a perfect view of the dome of St. Peter's Basilica from her office and, she said, almost every morning she thinks about how she got there.

The answer for the executive secretary of the women's International Union of Superiors General is that God put her there, her religious community put her there and a huge network of women religious around the globe put her there.

That network – related to, but broader than the UISG, an organization of some 2,000 superiors of religious orders of women – is where Sister Murray sees the "God of surprises" at work.

In an interview Jan. 29, just a few days before the annual celebration Feb 2 of the World day for Consecrated Life, she said, "The Holy Spirit is at work in building us as religious women into a global family."

"There's something extraordinary happening in terms of inter-congregational collaboration," she said. We're helping and sustaining and carrying one another as religious women."

For example, she said, in Sicily there is an inter congregational community of sisters which the locals refer to as "le suore del mondo," giving the sense of "sisters from the whole world"

"On one level, we are perceived as diminishing," since global numbers are declining, "but on a another level, in growing close to one another , we are mirroring a new reality that the world today needs "to counteract a situation in which people are increasingly divide and focused on protecting what is theirs," she said.

According to Vatican statistics released in 2019 there are close to 650,000 women religious in the world; there were more than 720,000 in 2010. Their numbers continue to increase in Africa and Asia, but to decline in the rest of the world.

Obviously, the sisters themselves are aware of the declining numbers and the need to live in a way that shows women , especially young women, the joy of dedicating oneself totally to Christ for life They, like sister Murray, are convinced that God still is calling women to consecrated life.

But focusing on the numbers can betray an attitude that sisters are simply a "workforce" for the church, she said.

"Religious life is always meant to be prophetic, so in other words, it's always meant to be responding to where the greatest need is," she said. "It calls for discernment, for knowing how we are to be and where we are to be."

"In the parts of the world where, in a sense, greater numbers are needed because one is helping to build up the local church, in terms of its institutions and so forth, the numbers are there," she said. In other parts of the world, where we're called to be more a leaven or a mustard seed – living among people and nurturing life and being part of the Christian community, and bringing our gifts to the Christian community but also receiving from the gifts of others - then we are a different kind of presence."

In Europe and North America, for instance, she said, God provides many good Catholic laymen and laywomen" who can teach in Catholic schools, so

"we sisters are called to move on" to places where there is no one else. So, they work with migrants and refugees, victims of human trafficking, the homeless and people who are lonely or have lost a sense of meaning in their lives.

They also bringing their voices to decision-making structure in the church.

Sister Murray has been at the UISG for five years and sees the change. It's not fast but, "space is being created in the church and, especially, at the Vatican for the voice of women to be heard" at Synod of bishops and other meetings and in the workings of a variety of Roman Curia offices.

They are very welcome signs of change," she said, and it is just about getting women at the table, but recognizing and benefitting from the work, experiences, expertise and talents of Catholic women, especially women religious.

In the past couple of years, many women's religious orders have had to come to terms with the church's abuse scandal, both with sisters as victims of priests, but also with the allegations within the women's orders of the abuse of power and mistreatment of sisters.

The UISG has been providing training not only on implementing programs for preventing abuse, but instructing superiors on the canonical procedures to follow when accusations are made, helping orders improve their formation programs, especially in the areas of sexuality and affectivity, and identify experts in every part of the world who can help orders with training or with investigating allegations. The World day of Consecrated Life is celebrated each year on the feast of the Presentation marking the occasion 40 days after Jesus' birth when Mary and Joseph present him in the temple in Jerusalem. There, the elderly Simeon and Anna, who had been praying and fasting in the temple, recognize Jesus as the messiah.

Sister Murray said it is a fitting time to honor consecrated men and women because, just as for Simeon and Anna, "prayer is at the heart of consecrated life and it is what sustains consecrated persons throughout their ministry.

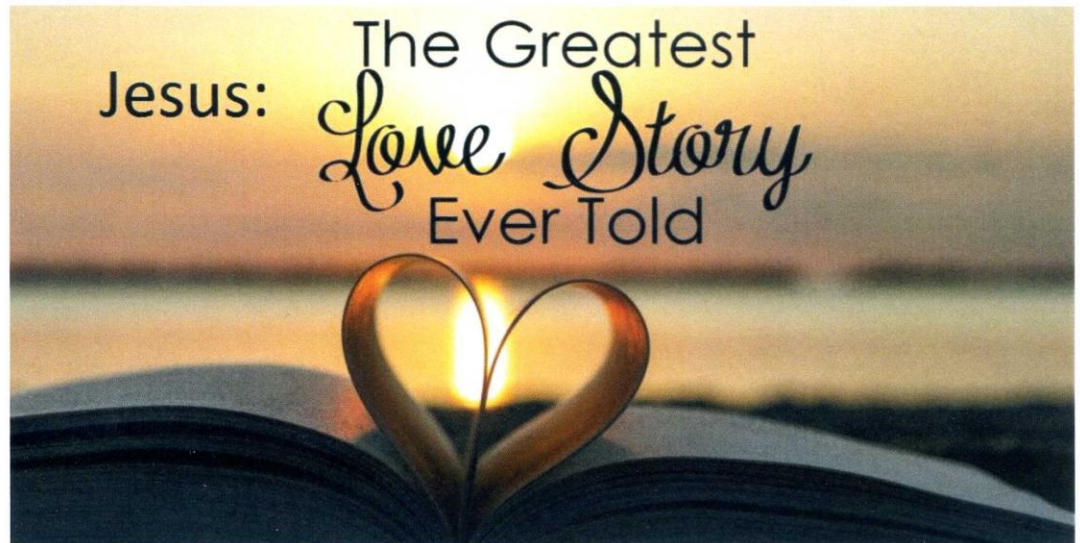
The feast day, she said, makes her think of all the elderly religious around the world who are sustaining their sisters with their prayers. "I depend on them, I have to say. And one day, I'll be among them."

Lenten Day of Recollection

Presented by City of Orange Serra Club,
"A Vocation Ministry"

Saturday, March 14, 2020

8:30 am-2:00 pm



Directed by Fr. Domenico Di Raimondo, MSpS

Director - House of Prayer for Priests

Theme: Jesus and Me, "an ongoing love story."

How do I recognize His love for me?

How do I receive and accept His love?

How do I love Him in return?

Location:

St. Joseph Center
480 S. Batavia
Orange, CA 92868

\$25 per person

All are welcome!

Highlights:

8:30 - Registration + Breakfast in Mother Louis Room

9:00 - Fr. Domenico - Speaker

10:15-10:30- Break

10:30-11:50-Fr. Domenico-Speaker

12 PM-Lunch

1:00-Mass in St. Joseph's Chapel

Contact Beverly Truzzolino # 714-642-6455

*Reservation deadline March 6.

The Serra Clubs of Orange County are invited
by the
Seminarians and Staff of

ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY

to visit them on

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020

We will gather at CSJ Motherhouse parking lot at 8:30 am for a continental breakfast before boarding a luxury bus at 8:45 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 \$25 each; students \$10.

Please pay Matt Ivary 714/679-5239 or email at mivary92@gmail.com

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!

