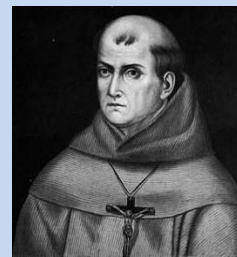




# SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



May 2025

Pacific Region

District 79

Charter 438

**OUR MISSION IS TO FOSTER, AFFIRM AND PROMOTE VOCATION TO MINISTRY IN THE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

## FUTURE EVENTS

**May 1 – Club Meeting, Speaker: Father Hoa Tran**

**May 1 – Religious Brothers Day**

**June 5 – Club Meeting, Speaker: TBD**

**June 7 – Priesthood Ordination – 10am - Christ  
Cathedral**

**June 13 – Priests and Seminarians Basketball  
Game – Mater Dei – 5 – 9pm**

**June 26 – 29 – Serra International Convention**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Serrans,

For centuries the Catholic Church has set aside the month of May to honor our Blessed Mother. Not just a day in May, but the entire month! It has always been my favorite month as this month one generally enjoys beautiful weather, bountiful flora and fauna and the tradition to increase devotions to Our Lady. Catholic parishes and schools all over the world celebrate and crown Mary as Queen of Heaven and by such we give her due honor for her faith, her Fiat and humility since the Annunciation.

The Archangel Gabriel announced her not by her name but as “Full of Grace” for that is how God created her. Her mission has always been (and continues to be) to bring forth God’s children closer to her son. She was there for Our Lord’s Incarnation and remained steadfast even upon His death on the Cross. Like a loving mother and a faithful servant of Our Lord, she stood there at the foot of the Cross, never faltering or rejecting God’s will at the Crucifixion.

Our Lord suffered brutal torture, humiliation and death and yet so great is His love that shortly before He drew His last breath, He gave us a great gift: “When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son!” Then he said to the disciple, “Behold, your mother! (John 19:26-27) He knew His Church, His bride, needed a mother like our Blessed Mother. She is our greatest inheritance, and she will never cease to help us, guide us and draw us back to her son, Jesus Christ.

As a model and mother of vocations, guiding and supporting those called to the priesthood, let us pray to our greatest intercessor:

Blessed Mother wrap your mantle around our priests and seminarians and strengthen them for their ministry and that they may have the heart of St. Joseph, your most chaste spouse. May your own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross, may they be holy, filled with the fire of God's love seeking nothing but His greater glory and the salvation of souls. Amen.

God bless you always,  
Gabriella Negrete

### SPEAKER



Monsignor Kerry Beaulieu graciously joined us in April as our Luncheon Speaker. He spoke to us in February, and we were blessed to have this joy filled cleric in our midst for a second time. Monsignor opened his talk with a meditation on Spring, the Season of Hope. Recalling how he was raised like a happy healthy plant in a Catholic Culture, enriched by Serra Clubs, Papal Audiences, clergy as dear family friends, Catholic schooling, and daily familial sacrifices of love, he referred us to the large and healthy rose garden at the front of the church. Monsignor mused that in his retirement he had taken up gardening and reminded us it is hard work. He asked us, "What does it take to grow a healthy plant?" He answered, "Need good soil, sun, fertilizer, some time left alone, and pruning." Weeds want some of that good soil for themselves. Weeds are relentless. They must be eliminated regularly and often. Tip: Mulch often because mulch slows down the weeds. Sun. At least 8 hours of sun every day for good vegetables. Fertilizer must be given. Periodically the gardener must step back and leave

the garden alone for its own good. Pruning. He did not like pruning because it is hard on the gardener and on the plant. But pruning is necessary for the best results.

Monsignor then shared with us details of his family's history that weren't mentioned in his February talk. We learned that the Beaulieu family migrated from France to Canada around 1660 and settled along the St Lawrence River. In the 1900's the Beaulieu family moved from Canada to the United States and settled in Vermont. In the 1930's his grandparents, with their 2 boys, traveled to California to hospitalize his grandfather who, like his father before him, was suffering from the lung disease tuberculosis caused by inhaling stone dust. The Beaulieu family were stone cutters and the dust from cutting stones is a cause of the disease. His grandfather died in California leaving his grandmother a widow with two boys to raise. One of the boys was Monsignor's father who after high school entered the seminary but left the seminary to join the World War II fight. He enlisted in the then Army Air Corp and was stationed in England where he met his future wife, Monsignor's mother. She was one of four daughters of an Irish family that was living in Norwich, England. Two of the sisters contracted tuberculosis and due only to the persistent effort of their father to get them out of the hospital survived that disease. Three of the four daughters married U.S. Flyboys. Monsignor's mother was raised as an Anglican and converted to Catholicism. In 1947 his parents married in the San Fernando Mission. Life in the United States was a culture shock for Monsignor's mother. For example, when an English man says he has "Property" that means something very different from an American who has one quarter of an acre of "property" in Southern California. Monsignor's mother never stopped eating hamburgers with a knife and a fork, and "athletic" socks were forever "perspiration" socks, making shopping a bit difficult.

A priest for over 50 years, Monsignor has had many assignments. You can read about them in the February speaker article. At this luncheon he shared a few details about his time as Pastor of Our Lady Queen of Angels in Newport Beach. If you listen between the words, you heard that Monsignor is a diplomatic man who working with, through, and in his Lord Jesus Christ, was able to negotiate a very

complex web of events that resulted in the growth and beauty of that church today.

Virginia Mort brought our afternoon to a close with the recommendation that Monsignor stop by Home Depot to take advantage of the “Black Friday in Spring” super good price of \$10 for 3 Bags of mulch.

Jeanne Bullington  
Secretary

## VOCATIONS REPORT



The May Gift Card was presented to Alan Hoetker. Alan is a parishioner at St. Timothy Church in Laguna Niguel and is in Configuration Stage 2 while attending Mt. Angel Seminary in St. Benedict, Oregon. His Amazon Gift Card was donated by Jeanne Bullington.

The June Gift Card will be presented to Edward "Eddie" Huber and donated by Lulu Papac. Eddie is also at Mt. Angel Seminary.

Any questions concerning discernment, contact our Vocations Director, Fr. Cheeyoon Chun or his assistant Elizabeth Sandoval at [esandoval@rcbo.org](mailto:esandoval@rcbo.org).

**VOCATIONS PRAYER:** Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitations continue to respond: come follow me! Amen.

Phyllis Soloy  
Vice President, Vocations

**SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN MAY**  
SARA ADAMO  
THOMAS WOORE  
MAUREEN KOSINSKI  
DIANE SALINGER



June 26 – 29 2025

Registration Link:

[82nd Serra International  
Convention | Kansas City, MO](#)

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Who do you know that may be waiting to receive a personal invitation from you to be your guest at a Serra Club meeting? You won't know until you ask them.

Did you know that in the first three months of 2025, the United States Serra Club membership gained an increase of 237 new members? The top three clubs with new members are: Miami, Florida, added 34 new members, Nativity, Tennessee, added 25 new members, and Reno, Nevada, added 18 new members.

Potential new members are just waiting for you to ask them. I was amazed to learn that there are thousands of good Catholics that have NEVER heard of the Serra Club. Why is that? Let each of us ask ourselves, who do I know that would make a positive difference in their lives by becoming a Serran? We have an obligation to pray for an increase in religious vocations. This June only one seminarian will be ordained into the priesthood, and next year we have only one ordination. Who will fill the vacancies for all those priests soon to retire? We Serrans need to get moving to invite our friends and families to pray for an increase of religious vocations and to become a Serran. Each of us has a very important role to increase our membership and to pray for an increase of religious vocations to the priesthood.,

Virginia Mort,  
Vice President, Membership