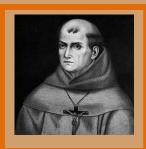


SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



November 2025

Pacific Region

District 79

Charter 438

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

FUTURE EVENTS

Nov. 2 – 8 – National Vocation Awareness Week

Nov. 4 – Feast of St. Charles Borromeo, Patron Saint of Seminarians

Nov. 6- Club Meeting, Speaker: Fr. Cheeyoon Chun

Nov. 28 – Priests and Seminarians Soccer Match 2pm – St. Jeanne de Lestonnac

Dec. 4 – Christmas Party – Noon - Virginia Mort's home

Dec. 6 – Transitional Deacon Ordination – 10am Christ Cathedral

Jan. 22 – 25 – Serra Rally – St. Louis, Mo.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



November, the season of Generosity, Kindness and Gratitude. Jim and I experienced so much kindness, generosity and gratitude when we went to present the Norbertine Sisters with a check for \$500.00 from our Serra Club. The Sisters were so grateful for our generous gift. We met with Sr. Roberta Spilakova, S. Praem. She was a nurse in Slovakia, now retired, and the Mother Superior of the convent at St. John the Baptist parish. We also met with Sr. Gemma



Hugoboom, S. Praem, who just took her final vows in August of 2024. There are 6 sisters living in the convent and they teach there at St. John the Baptist school. The Norbertine Fathers asked the Sisters to come to California in 2019. Six of them are at St. John the Baptist parish and eight Sisters are in San Pedro. All 14 Norbertine Sisters are the only non-cloistered ones in the entire United States. The Sisters are highly educated and are taking online classes while still teaching at the elementary school. Sr. Gemma is studying for her Masters in Consecrated Life and Theology, and she will be returning to Christendom College in Virginia to finish her education.

The Sisters gave us a tour of the Convent, the Chapel where they pray and have Masses, the kitchen, dining room and backyard where we took our pictures. They have a garden which was donated to them by the Eagle Scouts. I explained to them what the Serra Club is all about, how we pray, promote and support vocations to the religious life, that we "adopt" our seminarians and have priests come and share their stories on how they experienced the call from God. I asked if they would come and speak at one of our meetings and Sr. Roberta said that they would consider it in the future.

Jim and I had such a lovely visit with them, and they were delighted to hear that I will be bringing them some fresh eggs from my chickens. The Sisters presented me with a beautiful rosary, a book entitled "Consecration to St. Joseph", a beautiful orchid plant and holy cards to give to our Club members.

Jim and I wish you all much kindness, generosity and gratitude during this Thanksgiving season.

God bless us all,

Lourdes Papac President

SERRA DUES

Remember to pay your Serra dues. You can give your check to Pat Manzo at the meeting this Thursday.

SPEAKER



God continues to give to us this honored priest, Monsignor Kerry Beaulieu, as a spiritual guide for our Serra Club of Orange County. Monsignor Kerry presided at our Mass and spoke at our luncheon in February on the Feast of St. Paul Miki & Companions, in April with a springtime exhortation, and now again in October on the Feast of the Guardian Angels when he asked us to practice *the presence of God* in our lives as taught by Brother Lawrence, a 17th Century Carmelite Monk. We pray and we hope Monsignor will continue to guide us with the blessing of our Bishop.

Here are 10 quotes from <u>The Practice of the</u> Presence of God:

- 1.He [God] does not ask much of us, merely a thought of Him from time to time, a little act of adoration, sometimes to ask for His grace, sometimes to offer Him your sufferings, at other times to thank Him for the graces, past and present, He has bestowed on you, in the midst of your troubles to take solace in Him as often as you can. Lift up your heart to Him during your meals and in company; the least little remembrance will always be the most pleasing to Him. One need not cry out very loudly; He is nearer to us than we think.
- 2.Let us think often that our only business in this life is to please God. Perhaps all besides is but folly and vanity.
- 3. I cannot imagine how religious persons can live satisfied without the practice of the presence of God.
- 4. We should establish ourselves in a sense of God's presence, by continually conversing with Him.
- 5. Think often on God, by day, by night, in your business and even in your diversions. He is always near you and with you; leave him not alone.
- 6. Along with this total abandonment must go a complete acceptance of God's will with equanimity and resignation. No matter what troubles and ills come our way, they are to be willingly and indeed joyously endured since they come from God, and God knows what He is doing.
- 7. The King, full of mercy and goodness, very far from chastising me, embraces me with love, makes me eat at His table, serves me with His own hands, gives me the key of His treasures; He converses and delights Himself with me incessantly, in a thousand and a thousand ways and treats me in all respects as His favorite. It is thus I consider myself from time to time in His holy presence.

- 8. We ought not to be weary of doing little things for the love of God, who regards not the greatness of the work, but the love with which it is performed.
- 9. Do not pray for relief from pain, but pray for strength to suffer with courage, humility and love.
- 10. We can do little things for God; I turn the cake that is frying on the pan for love of Him, and that done, if there is nothing else to call me, I prostrate myself in worship before Him, who has given me grace to work; afterwards I rise happier than a king. It is enough for me to pick up but a straw from the ground for the love of God.

Monsignor has done many "little things for God" and some big ones.

He obediently went to work "way out beyond the Orange Curtain" at St. John the Baptist Parish in Orange County before Orange County became an independent diocese. There he fostered "Share Our Selves," known as SOS, which performed Corporal Works of Mercy, directed to improve the conditions of the Farm Workers in Orange County. SOS took the farm workers to Mass, made doctor appointments and took the farm workers to those appointments. SOS worked to provide the workers with mattresses, TVs, and telephone booths in their barracks. On two occasions when the Patronnes alerted Immigration Officers to the presences of "illegal farm workers" days before it was time to pay them for the labor they had provided, SOS worked to get justice for those laborers.

In 1977 at St Joachim Parish, Monsignor started Adult Catechism classes. Prior to these classes, catechism was done one-on-one with a priest.

Monsignor became known as the Back Bay Priest when he bravely tackled the building project for Our Lady Queen of the Angels parish in Newport Beach, deftly navigating the choppy waters of property, finance, and personalities to build something beautiful and God centered.

"Time is up," called Virginia Mort. "But you haven't heard the last of me," replied Monsignor Kerry. Thanks be to God

Jeanne Bullington Secretary

VOCATIONS REPORT



October has come and gone. The holidays are upon us.

Ivan Lopez received the October Gift Card that was donated by Silvia Uriarte. The Gift Card for November is being presented to John Huan Nguyen and was donated by Phyllis Soloy. John is studying at St. John's Seminary. I had the opportunity of meeting John at Christ Cathedral a while back and had a great conversation with him and again at the Seminary.

I also made sure that Alvin Huynh received a Birthday Card with a little note included.

This coming month is full of preparations, both for Thanksgiving and for something new. There is scheduled a Soccer Game between the Priests and the Seminarians. This is scheduled for November 28 at St. Jeanne de Lestonnac. (Further news on the Diocese app).

SAVE THE DATE: December 6, 2025, at 10:00 A.M for the Diaconate of our own Francis Ang. Let's pack the Cathedral as we continue to pray for his Ordination into the Priesthood in June of 2026.

Any questions concerning discernment, contact our Vocations Director Fr. Cheeyoon Chun or his assistant Elizabeth Sandoval at (714) 282-3036.

VOCATIONS PRAYER: Oh God, you have constituted Your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of Your majesty and the salvation of mankind.; grant that those whom He has chosen ministers and dispensers of His mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. Amen.

Phyllis Soloy Vice President, Vocations

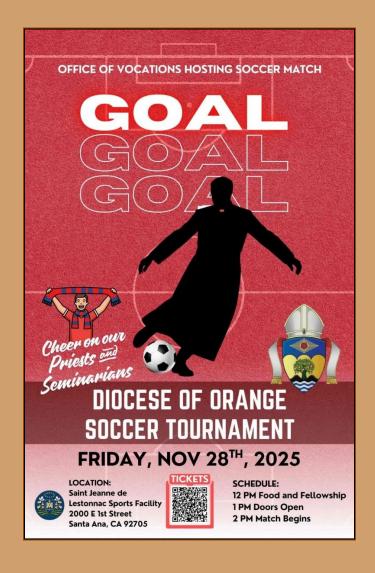
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US Leadership Rally | Serra Club of St. Louis



OCTOBER MEETING



















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VP Vocations Phyllis Soloy

VP Communications Catherine Walton

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Lunch Barbara Benneville

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Maureen Kosinski

Chaplain Msgr. Kerry Beaulieu

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