

Saint Serra Club of Colorado Springs

"Always forward, never back"



ST. SERRA CLUB OF COLORADO SPRINGS NEWSLETTER December 2024

President Janet Zabukovic's Message



Dear Fellow Serrans,

Thanksgiving has passed and the flurry of activity in preparation for Christmas has officially begun! Like many of you, I will be busy decorating, buying presents for loved ones, getting Christmas cards ready for mailing, and thinking about Christmas foods. December 3 marks the first anniversary of the day I had my medical crisis and almost died of sepsis from pneumonia and the effects of rhabdomyolysis from being unconscious on the hard bathroom floor for about 15 hours. It was not a given that I would be here to celebrate another Advent and Christmas season.

So today, I took some time to just sit in quiet and think. I thought about my always too busy schedule and came to the realization that I needed to be sure to make room in that schedule every day to prepare my soul for Christmas just as I am busy preparing my home. I need to take time to reflect on

the great gift of life and remember not to take any day or any season for granted and to always work on preparing myself to meet God. So, this year, I am going to participate in a new free program from Ascension Press featuring Fr. Mike Schmitz. Here is what the program is about: "**This Advent**, join Fr. Mike Schmitz in a journey through the daily readings as he confronts our doubts and reveals God's love with app-exclusive **daily video reflections and scripture passages.** Discover who God is, who we are, and how we are made worthy to stand in his presence. What if you knew that December 25th Christmas Day was the day that you were going to die? The way we live Advent would have to change. We'd have to live with intentionality. We'd have to live it with purpose. We'd have to live it with grace. Too often, we live life by "default". We forget that we are on a journey to an eternal destination of joy that we were made for. We are burdened by fears and questions: what if I am not worthy? What if I am not enough? **Live Advent differently this year. Prepare to meet God, face to face.**" It is easy to sign up to participate! Here is the link to sign up if you are interested:

https://ascensionpress.com/pages/frmikeadvent?srsltid=AfmBOoojmMFdit8SBk8MF1ClLzF0-R00WFbnNzU5lKgrIrxEGMgByTpL

As Serrans, we should also remember to pray for our seminarians, who are preparing themselves for the Priesthood, and for our Priests who are fulfilling their vocations in service to God and to us, the Body of the Church. Think about the beauty of the Advent and Christmas Seasons in the Catholic Church, and remember that without our Priests, there would be no Mass, no Eucharist, and no sacraments! Take time during the busyness of this season to let your seminarian know that you are keeping them in prayer. Take time to thank the priests in your life for their vocation and to let them know how important and appreciated they are in your life. I wish all of you and your families a blessed Christmas!

Jan Zabukovic

Prayer List

Continue to pray for all our members, especially: For the repose of the soul of Linda DeBenedittis and comfort for her husband Joe; Sandy Lehnertz; Michael Lehnertz; Baby Damian, 2-month old nephew (had heart surgery) of Fr. Jason Keas; Marlene Kondrup; Miki Feldman; Jan Zabukovic; Tom Plush; Loretta Bocast; Rudy Legleiter; Mary Hayes; Joan Gawlik and her family; Bishop Richard Hanifen; and Fr. Jim Klein.

1st Thursday Prayer Hour – Dec 5

Please join us!Serra Prayer for Vocations -Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.
Prayed Silently; Monthly at 11am - Noon on the first Thursday,
In-person at St. Mary's Cathedral.
You are welcome to stay for Mass at 12:10pm.The Rosary and Chaplet are also available on-line by zoom for those who cannot
come in-person. The link to the zoom meeting is below.
Thurs, Dec 5 at NOON.

We are asking all Serra members and friends to please pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet for vocations on First Thursdays, at your parish or at home, even if you are not able to participate with us in-person or online.

Serra Meets - Monday, Dec 16, at 6pm MT

Serra Meets USA Council Episcopal Adviser Bishop Thomas Daly, who will give Advent Reflections on Monday Dec. 16, 2024, at 6pm Mountain Time.

Link: <u>https://zoom.us/j/95992451924?pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVlKVlhyYXNlNkpkUT09</u>

Passcode: 85355

SAVE THE DATE!! Thursday, Dec 19 Members Only!

Seminarian Christmas Luncheon

Join us as we welcome home our Diocesan Seminarians! We will follow our usual monthly meeting schedule: Thursday, Dec 19, at St. Mary's Cathedral, starting with adoration at 11:00AM and Mass at 12:10PM, followed by lunch downstairs in the Cathedral Center. Our Apostolate chefs, Jerry and Yvonne Schaefer will prepare a wonderful meal for us to enjoy while we visit with our honored guests. Donations for lunch will be accepted. Please make plans to join us! **RSVP no later than** <u>Monday, Dec 16</u> to share the prepared lunch, or feel free to bring your own meal. Contact SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net for more information or to RSVP.

New Nametags

If you ordered a new nametag, it is now available for pick up at the December meeting and lunch. Please remember to bring your \$10.00 donation to partially cover the cost of your nametag.

SAVE THE DATE!! Thurs, Feb 20, 2025 Membership Lunch with Bishop James Golka

Our **Membership Recruitment Luncheon** will be held on Thursday, February 20, 2025 at Saint Mary's Cathedral. There will be 11:00AM Adoration and 12:10 Mass, followed by lunch.

Serrans: Please Help our Ministry Grow! More prayers and supporters are always needed and welcome! Please provide 2 or more names of people you know who would be interested in joining Serra. Email the following info to <u>wagnerkt5@gmail.com</u> for each interested party: Name, Full Mailing Address, Phone, Email address, and Parish. February is not so far away, so it's not too early to ask potential members to attend.

SAVE THE DATE!! Jan 16, 2025 Membership Gathering Learn our "new" Club Express System like the Pros!!

In Fall of 2023, Serra USA emailed each Serra member information about their new online membership information portal, called **Club Express**. Some of our non-technologically advanced members, such as myself, decided to ignore this email entirely. However, now is our chance to finally **learn how to put this portal to good use!!** For our January 16 gathering, Robert Applegate asks everyone to please bring internet-accessing electronics, such as an iPad or laptop. **Please bring your own brown bag lunch** and be prepared to amaze even yourself with how easy it is to access and work with this system!!

More information will be sent next month.

Winners of the Serra Priesthood Appreciation Contest 2024!!!

Students were asked to "Imagine yourself as a Priest or Religious Sister or Brother. Create an essay, encouraging letter, poem, artwork, video or thank you card." Each winner receives a certificate and a medal. Over 100 entries were received! We thank all students who participated! This contest was executed by Jon and Claudine Duncan, who recently won an award at the Serra District 6 Conference, for Outstanding VPs for Vocations!!

Grade 8

1st (Tie): Gabe 1st (Tie): Gabriela 2nd: Conor 3rd (Tie): McKenzie 3rd (Tie): Quinn

Grade 7

1st: Aria 2nd: Warren 3rd: Harper

Grade 6

1st: Gabriel 2nd (Tie): Bella 2nd (Tie): Cynthia 3rd: Francesca

Grade 5

1st (Tie): Henry 1st (Tie): Skyler 2nd (Tie): Alex 2nd (Tie): Aliah 2nd (Tie): Victoria 3rd (tie): Derek 3rd (tie): Rebecca

Grade 4

1st: Claire 2nd: Bryson 3rd (tie): Connor 3rd (tie): Grace

Grade 3

1st: Titus 2nd: Luke 3rd (tie): 3rd Grade Class 3rd (tie): Rhys **Grade 2** 1st: 2nd Grade Class 2nd: Maggie 3rd: Alyvia

Grade 1 1st: 1st Grade Class 2nd: Kate 3rd: Makani

Kindergarten 1st: Kindergarten Class

Pre-K 1st: Abraham

Special Needs 1st: Nicky

Thank you to the following Catholic parishes & schools that participated! Divine Redeemer; Holy Apostles; Immaculate Conception; St Gabriel; St Paul; St Peter

Serra Apostolate Treasurer's Report – Dec 2024

The current bank account statement is \$4,260.14 checking and \$2,507.69 savings.

We have 54 registered members with 4 more additions happening before the end of the year.

Dues for 2025 are \$10 per month, and the Treasurer will be accepting those payments. Paying annually (\$120) is the easiest way to go, but semi-annual (\$60 per half) is OK also.

Treasurer – Jerry Schaefer



USA Serrans unite!

https://serraclub.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=4175 32&item_id=2296813 (Click link or copy and paste)

Now is a great time to sign up for the 2025 Serra US Rally! Retreat to sunny, warm Miami this winter! Serrans from around the country gather to pray, learn, and be inspired to promote vocations in new ways.

- Make new connections with other Serrans
- Get new ideas to create a culture of vocations
- Experience Miami's culture and beautiful weather
- Special event with the Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary, one of the fastest growing religious communities in the US.

Check the Serra website for Registration and hotel reservation or contact SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net for more information.

FOLLOW OUR COLORADO SPRINGS SEMINARIANS ON THE FACEBOOKPAGE:Colorado Springs Priest Vocations | Facebook

Seven Serran Prayer Program

Several years ago, the Serra US Council established a prayer program to ensure every vocation director in the US has at least one Serran praying for them for one hour each day of the year. Each Serra Club was asked to organize seven-member teams whose members agree to commit to one hour of prayer (Mass, Holy Hour, rosary, or other prayers) each week in support of their Vocation Director. The St. Serra Apostolate of CO Springs prayer team has been praying for Fr. Kyle the past year. If you are currently a member of the prayer team or if you have not participated and would like to commit to praying for Fr. Kyle and his work for one hour on a specific day every week, please notify Jan Zabukovic at *JRZabukovic@comcast.net*.

Thank you for your consideration in participating in this very important ministry.

Priest Birthdays

Rev. Amlesom G. Gawed, OFM Cap	1-Dec
Rev. Michael Holmquist	7-Dec
Rev. Tomasz Jamka	13-Dec
Rev. Ernest Bond	17-Dec
Rev. Rafael Torres-Rico	17-Dec
Rev. Bogdan Siewiera	21-Dec
Rev. Nathaniel James Hinds	27-Dec
Rev. James Williams	6-Jan

Priest Ordination Anniversaries

Rev. Bradford Noonan	12/18/99
Rev. George Fagan	12/19/69
Rev. Robert Newbury	12/22/07
Rev. Ricardo Rosales	12/24/97
Rev. Sijo George, OSB	12/27/03
Rev. Dong Young (Augustine) Kim	12/27/13
Rev. Shijan Antony, OFM Cap	12/29/07
Rev. Augustino Nellary	12/29/93

Thanks to all who have signed up for the 31 Club!

Please help fill the calendar!!

THANK YOU to everyone who signed up at the last meeting! We're thrilled to have more than one person for some dates,

because we can never have too many people praying for vocations!!

Your commitment to **attend Mass or pray a Holy Hour one day a month for vocations** will certainly strengthen present vocations as well as awaken new ones. If you have not joined the 31 Club yet, please choose one of the empty dates below and contact Charlene at <u>SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net</u> to be added to this roster. **Only three open days (days 20, 28 & 29)!!! Can we add YOUR name?!**

31 CLUB ROSTER

DAY of the Month. Name 1. Rose Marie Stimpfl 2. Mary Ellen Castillo 3. Dennis and Jan Palsgrove 4. Ray Gentilini 5. Bill McNamara 6. Marty Broestl and Loretta Bocast 7. Mary Helen Miller 8. Nell Smith 9. Kathy Bull 10. Pat Van Matre 11. Laura Jean Hawley

DAY of the Month. Name
12. Benjamin Beckner
13. Helene Knapp
14. Maria Augusto and
Shirley Plush
15. Joel Kostyrka
16. Karen Wagner
17.Patty Townley &
Sr Marietta Spenner OSF
18. Angie Stattman and
Maruquel Reich
19. Charlene Pardo
20.
21. Jerry Schaefer

DAY of the Month. Name
22. Sue Harman
23. Patty O'Connell
24. Robert Applegate
25. Eleanor Gentilini
26. Gail Donnelly
27. Margarita Treviño-Waters
28.
29.
30. Jon and Claudine
Duncan
31. Connie Pratt

Serra Club Officers

Effective July 1, 2024 President – Jan Zabukovic Vice-President – Jon Duncan Secretary – Marty Broestl Treasurer – Jerry Schaefer VP Vocations – Mike Lehnertz & Sandy Lehnertz VP Programs – TBD VP Membership – Karen Wagner VP Communications – Beth Pressley Hispanic Ambassador – Margarita Waters Trustees – Charlene Pardo, Eleanor Gentilini, Rose Marie Stimpfl Serra Foundation Representative - Charlene Pardo Newsletter Editor – Beth Pressley Contact Beth to be added to our Newsletter email list at: medmep@sbcglobal.net

Contact Serra Club of Colorado Springs: <u>SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net</u>



"The Summit with Father Kyle Ingels" is a radio show that airs on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. on Catholic Radio Network 1120 AM. It's also available as a podcast at https://thesummitwithfatherkyleingels.podbean.com/.

This week (Dec 1), Father Kyle's guest is Father Matt Kane, parochial vicar at Our Lady of the Pines.

PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS! A Prayer for Your Priest

Gracious and loving God, I thank you for the gift of our Priest. Through him we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help Father (name your priest) to be strong in his vocation. Set his soul on fire with love for your people. Grant him the wisdom, understanding and strength he needs to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire him with the vision of your Kingdom. Give him the words he needs to spread the gospel. Allow him to experience joy in his ministry. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for Father (name your priest) that he will be able to do your Son's will this day, and that your Immaculate Heart will be his courage and strength. Oh Jesus, eternal priest, keep our priest within the shelter of your Sacred Heart. I ask this in your name, who lives and reigns as our eternal priest. Amen.



Starting January 2025, First Saturdays 9:00am Mass followed by a Holy Hour St. Patrick Catholic Church 6455 Brook Park Dr. Colorado Springs, CO 80918 All are welcome! Come and pray for vocations!

NEW! Masses for Vocations, Starting JANUARY 2025!!



Check out our Serra Club of Colorado Springs Facebook Page!

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553890047739

Or search "Serra Club of Colorado Springs" Our FB Admin has wonderful vocation links. Please follow our page and invite your friends!!

Sponsors and those communicating with the newest seminarians:

Five of our new men are in the spirituality year at Seminary, which means their ability to communicate is limited. They are fasting from technology to enhance inward reflection. They have limited access to social media and phones, and extended periods of silence and retreat. Please don't be concerned if you don't hear back or don't hear back in a timely manner from these men. Letters by mail are the best way to correspond with them. *Pray for our Seminarians* Diocesan Seminarians and electronic calendar access: https://www.diocs.org/Offices/Office-of-Vocations/Priestly-Vocations/Vocations-Prayer-Calendar

Seminarians	Name & Address	Email Address		
	Dominic Ambuul Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797	<u>d.j.ambuul@email.msmary.edu</u> Theology III		
	Stephen Ambuul St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434	College I		
	Jonathan DeCock Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Pre-Theology II		

Yunior GonzalezTheology IIISacred Heart Seminary andSchool of Theology7335 S. Hwy 100, HalesCorners, WI 53130-042	
Joseph Hourigan St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434	College I
James McCann Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Theology II
Evan Morgan Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Pre-Theology II
Michael Pokorny Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Pre-Theology I
Mark Rocco Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	<u>mark-rocco@sggs.edu</u> Theology II

Vincent Smith Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	<u>v.f.smith@email.msmary.edu</u> Theology II
Vincent Staverosky Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Pre-Theology II
Dcn. Christian Vaca- Rodriguez Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	<u>m.c.vacarodriguez@email.msmary.edu</u> Theology IV
Kevin Ward Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	<u>k.h.ward@email.msmary.edu</u> Theology II
Ian White Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	<u>i.j.white@email.msmary.edu</u> Theology III
Joshua Wojcik Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	<u>joshua-wojcik@sggs.edu</u> Theology II

Trevor Keene St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434	College Spirituality Year
Andrew McFadden St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434	College Spirituality Year
Christopher Oram Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Spirituality Year
Peter Tran Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Spirituality Year
Matthew Zimmer St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434	College Spirituality Year

December 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>Christopher Oram</u> Spintuality Year Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	2 Permanent Deacons in the Diocese	3 Fr. Tomasz Jamka	4 <u>Vincent Staverosky</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	5 <u>Michael Pokomy</u> Pre-Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	6 Jonathan <u>DeCock</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	7 Fr. Michael Holmquist
8 <u>Dominic Ambuu</u> l Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	9 <u>Yunior Gonzalez</u> Theology III Sacred Heart Seminary	10 lan White Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	11 Joseph Hourigan College I St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	12 Joshua Wojcik Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	13 Fr. Anthony Ambuul	14 <u>Kevin Ward</u> Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
15 Andrew McFadden Spirituality Year St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	16 <u>Mark Rocco</u> Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	17 W. Trevor Keene Spirituality Year St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	18 Fr. Bradford Noonan, 12/18/99	19 Fr. George Fagan, 12/19/69, Retired	<u>Christian Vaca-</u> <u>Rodriguez</u> Theology IV	21 Matthew Zimmer Spirituality Year St. Gregory the Great College Seminary
22 Fr. Robert Newbury, 12/22/07	23 Peter Tran Spirituality Year Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	24 Fr. Ricardo Rosales, 12/24/97	25 Fr. Sean McCann	26 <u>Vincent Smith</u> Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	27 Fr. Sijo George, OSB, 12/27/03 Fr. Dong Young (Augustine) Kim, 12/27/13	28 James McCann Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
29 Fr. Jacob Anil D'Sa, SDB, 12/29/09 Fr. Shijan Antony, OFM Cap, 12/29/07 Fr. Augustine Nellary, 12/29/93	30 Stephen Ambuul College I St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	31 Evan Morgan Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary				

Eternal Father, we lift up these seminarians and priests of our diocese. Sanctify them and mold them into the likeness and holiness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May our Blessed Mother, Mary, wrap her mantle of love and protection around them. Amen.

Underlined names are seminarians; Names in bold indicate the seminarian's birthday, and a priest's ordination anniversary

			January 2025	5		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 All the Seminaries of the world	2 Fr. Abraham Kannampalackal, CMI, 1/2/94 Fr. Rajesh "Tom" Pallyill, 1/2/01	3 Fr. Joseph Pedersen, CSC	4 <u>Ian White</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
5 Fr. Sean O'Connor	6 Fr. Suresh Mathew, OSB, 1/6/01	7 Fr. James Williams	8 Fr. Jacob Anii D'Sa, SDB	9 Vincent Staverosky Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary Fr. Francisco Quezada, 1988	10 Joshua Wojcik Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	11 Evan Morgan Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
12 Fr. Vincent Mary Carrasco, OFM Cap	13 Christian Vaca- Rodriguez Theology IV Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	14 Christopher Oram Spirituality Year Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	15 Fr. C. Joseph Dygert	16 James McCann Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	17 <u>Michael Pokorny</u> Pre-Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	18 Dominic Ambuul Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
19 <u>Jonathan DeCock</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	20 Stephen Ambuul College I St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	21 <u>Mark Rocco</u> Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	22 Fr. Stephen Parlet	23 Yunior Gonzalez Theology III Sacred Heart Seminary	24 Joseph Hourigan College I St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	25 W. Trevor Keene Spirituality Year St. Gregory the Great College Seminary
26 <u>Matthew Zimmer</u> Spirituality Year St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	27 <u>Peter Tran</u> Spirituality Year Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	28 Andrew McFadden Spirituality Year St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	29 <u>Vincent Smith</u> Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	30 Permanent Deacons in the Diocese	3 1 <u>Kevin Ward</u> Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	