



Saint Serra

Saint Serra Club of Colorado Springs

"Always forward, never back"



ST. SERRA CLUB OF COLORADO SPRINGS NEWSLETTER

September 2024

President Janet Zabukovic's Message



Dear Fellow Serrans,

Autumn is sneaking in with its warm days and cool nights and a kaleidoscope of colors donning the vegetation. This is my favorite time of the year, because to me it feels like nature is taking a deep breath after the hard work of growing in the summer. I find that in the autumn, I tend to be more reflective. In my daily meditations for several days now, the theme has been God's plan for each of our lives and the need to trust in that plan. I've been thinking a lot about that over the past week or two. It is easy to say we trust in God's plan, but it can be harder to live out that reality. There have been many times in my life when I have struggled to understand and accept that what is happening is part of God's plan.

When each of my twin girls died nine and a half years apart, I really struggled to not be angry at God and to try to see how their deaths could possibly be part of a kind and loving God's plan. When I became a single Mom, it was hard for me to see why that was part of the plan.

I have shared in the past that after my son left home to attend Notre Dame, I became an occasional Catholic and was not faithfully attending Mass or living out my faith. I have shared with some of you how God gently and persistently called me back home to my faith despite my stubbornness in responding to that call. My life after I returned to the faithful practice of Catholicism is so much richer, and part of that richness is my involvement in my parish and in Serra. Most of you know how I nearly died from sepsis in early December 2023 and how two of my close friends and fellow Serrans, Laura Jean Hawley and Pat Van Matre, literally saved my life. I truly believe that through God's grace and their guardian angels, they became God's way of saving my life. So how does all that play into the theme of God's plan for our lives?

Last Saturday at the vigil Mass, Fr. Jason talked about trusting God and his plan even when we don't understand it. As I was driving home from Mass, I had this sudden flash of insight about exactly that. It dawned on me that if God had not been persistent in calling me home, if he had not given me the grace to finally listen and respond, I would never have met either Laura Jean or Pat, both my fellow Divine Redeemer parishioners. And had I never met them and become

friends with them, they never would have been in the position to know that something had to be very wrong with me when I quit responding to their texts, phone calls and emails on that December Sunday evening. Without them knowing and responding, I likely would have died unconscious on that hard bathroom floor. I got a sudden glimpse of God's plan in action- one whose individual pieces gave not a hint of how they would all interact in such an impactful way! I still do not understand why some of those very hard things happened in my life, but I know that I can trust in God and his plan!

Our seminarians have returned to the seminaries. Let's remember to pray for them, for all discerners, and for those who have already answered God's call to serve as Priests and other religious.

Jan Zabukovic

Prayer List

Continue to pray for all our members, especially: Jan Zabukovic, Tom Plush, Linda and Joe DiBenedittis, Loretta Bocast, Rudy Legleiter, Mary Hayes, Joan Gawlik and her family, Bishop Richard Hanifen, and Fr. Jim Klein.

1st Thursday Prayer Hour – Sept 5 (New Online Time!)

Please join us! **Serra Prayer for Vocations Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

Monthly 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, Sept 5 at NOON – Note: NEW TIME! <https://zoom.us/j/9955357113>

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 – Sr. Deborah Marie Borneman, S.S.C.M. MONDAY, Sept 16 at 6pm MT (New day & Time)

Director of Member Relations and Services, Sr. Deborah Marie Borneman, S.S.C.M. will be speaking on the "Impact of the Eucharistic Congress on religious communities"

[Click to Join the Webinar](#)

Passcode: 853558

Monthly Gathering - Thursday, September 19!!



We will start with adoration at the Cathedral at 11:30am, followed by Mass at 12:10pm. Then we will meet in the Cathedral Center with our speaker, Very Rev. Jaimes Ponce, J.C.D., Cathedral Rector and Diocesan Judicial Vicar. Lunch will be ordered from Panera Bread, or you can bring a brown bag lunch, if desired. Additional info on prices and choices will be coming soon. If you are not a member and would like to join us, please contact Beth Pressley at medmep@sbcglobal.net

Serra Badges have been received! Serra Badges for new members and those who requested replacements have been received and **will be brought to the Sept gathering.** A **\$10 donation** for each badge is requested. Thank you!

August monthly meeting – THURSDAY, August 1

Serra held its annual celebration for religious women and consecrated virgins of our Diocese on August 1, with Mass at the Cathedral then lunch in the Cathedral Center!

Over 20 very special women joined us for the happy event.

Please pray for ALL our consecrated and religious women!

They are such a joy to be with, and they spend their lives serving the Lord!



Sisters, consecrated, and religious women at Aug 1
“Sisters Appreciation Luncheon” at Serra Club
“Photo courtesy of The Colorado Catholic Herald”

SAVE THE DATE – October 25-26, 2024!! Annual District 6 Regional Conference

Join us at St. Francis of Assisi in Castle Rock!

Speakers include Fr. Mark Zacker, Pastor of St. Francis
and Fr. Anthony Ambuul, from Ave Maria Parish in Parker!

Renewal and Revival

Friday 10/25/24

5:00 -7:00 pm Social Gathering & Hospitality – Holiday Inn & Suites---Conference Room on first floor

Saturday 10/26/24

8:00am Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, followed by Continental Breakfast.

9:30am Program begins, including Father Mark Zacker, Pastor; Keynote Speaker Candace Tyrell, VP Membership, Serra US Council; Father Anthony Ambuul; Dolores Romo, Pres. El Paso Serra; and Club Best Practices.

4:00pm Awards and Closing Remarks

Registration will be \$70.

See registration form attached to email!

NOTE – There will NOT be a 3rd Thursday gathering in October!!

Priesthood Sunday is Sept 29 this year!!

Here are some ideas Serrans can do to show their appreciation for their parish priests: Priesthood Sunday is 9/29, the last Sunday in September:

- Put a notice in the parish bulletin expressing our love and appreciation for our priests
- Print the priest's picture in the bulletin too
- Ask a deacon to give a special blessing to the priest at the end of mass just before the closing prayer
- Provide note cards and pens for parishioners to leave a note of gratitude for our priests; have ushers collect after mass or have a basket centrally located so they can drop them in the basket after mass
- These are the easy things to do...if a parish has the resources to provide a breakfast/lunch for their priests, that would be extra special too

Let's all meet with our deacons and parish employees who are responsible for the bulletin and show our priests how much we appreciate them.

Many thanks, Mike Lehnertz, Vice President, Vocations, Serra Club of Colorado Springs

Treasurer's Report

We have transitioned treasurer responsibilities from our previous treasurer, Ray Gentilini, to our new treasurer, Jerry Schaefer, effective July 1, 2024

For the two-month period, July and August:

Starting Balance (July 1, Operating Account)	\$6,972.35
Receipts	\$ 715.00
Disbursements	<u>\$3,221.21</u>
Ending Balance (August 31)	\$4,466.14

Starting Balance (July 1, Savings)	\$ 2,507.16
Interest	\$ <u>.22</u>
Ending Balance (August 31)	\$ 2,507.38

We have seven persons who have not yet paid their dues. US Mail messages went out in July, and email messages have gone to them on September 1. I will not be sending out additional reminders until mid-November. Please send check to the Serra Club, 228 N Cascade Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80903. Club dues to Serra USA occurred in August (\$2,525.00) and this was a major part of our Disbursements. Your dues payment to Serra Colorado Springs is key in funding this payment. You can also give your dues payment to Ray Gentilini or Marty Broestl at one of the meetings while I am out of town.

Thank you, Jerry Schaefer, Treasurer

Serra Int'l Convention, New Orleans, LA – Aug 8-11

<https://serrainternational.org/new-orleans-convention/>



St Louis Cathedral



COS Serrans – Ray & Eleanor G,
Regina A, Rosemarie S, Beth P, Bob A



NOLA sign



Priest Poster



Religious asking for Prayers



Regina A. with Cardinal Collins of Canada

We had 2.5 days of talks by amazing speakers, plus daily Mass, workshops, Perpetual Adoration, great food, and optional activities! Speakers and Celebrants: Bishop Italo Dell’Oro, Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston; Reverend Colm Cahill, Vocations Director for Archbishop of New Orleans; Reverend Mark Toups, Director of Seminarians for Houma/Thibodeaux Diocese, La, Dr. Tom Neal, Director of Evangelization and Mission Engagement for Pensacola/Tallahassee Diocese, Fl.; Bishop Thomas Daly, Episcopal Bishop for Serra U.S.; Most Reverend Gregory Aymond, Archbishop of N.O.; His Eminence, Thomas Cardinal Collins, retired Archbishop of Toronto; Very Reverend Joshua Rodrigue, Rector of the Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans.

PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS!

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.

Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

Courtesy of USCCB.org

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.



Are You on Facebook?

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!!

FOLLOW OUR COLORADO SPRINGS SEMINARIANS ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE: [Colorado Springs Priest Vocations | Facebook](#)

Priest Birthdays

Rev. Frank Grinko, OFM Cap	2-Sep
Rev. Robert Newbury, Jr.	13 Sep
Rev. Daniel Ayers	15-Sep
Rev. Marek Krol	19-Sep
Rev. David R. Price	19-Sep
Most Rev. James R. Golka	22-Sep
Rev. Brandon R. Berg, OFM, Cap	24-Sep
Rev. Jeffrey A. Cooper, C.S.C.	24-Sep
Rev. August Stewart	5-Oct

Priest Ordination Anniversaries

Rev. Joseph Pedersen, CSC 9/05/20

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

Please help fill the calendar!!

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 SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net to be added to this roster. **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

DAY of the Month. Name

11. Laura Jean Hawley
12. Benjamin Beckner
13. Helene Knapp
- 14.
15. Joel Kostyrka
16. Karen Wagner
17. Patty Townley & Sr Marietta Spenner OSF
- 18.
19. Charlene Pardo
20. Beth Pressley
21. Jerry Schaefer

DAY of the Month. Name

22. Sue Harman
23. Patty O'Connell
24. Robert Applegate
25. Eleanor Gentilini
- 26.
- 27.
- 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 – Robert Applegate

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: SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net

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
	<p>Dominic Ambuul Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p>d.j.ambuul@email.msmary.edu</p>
	<p>Stephen Ambuul St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434</p>	
	<p>Jonathan DeCock Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p>j.j.decock@email.msmary.edu</p>
	<p>Yunior Gonzalez Sacred Heart Seminary 7335 S. Hwy. 100 P.O. Box 429 Hales Corners, WI 53130</p>	

	<p>Joseph Hourigan St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434</p>	
	<p>James McCann Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	<p>jjmccann@email.msmary.edu</p>
Seminarians	Name & Address	Email Address
	<p>Evan Morgan Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	
	<p>Michael Pokorny Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	
	<p>Mark Rocco Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	<p>m.j.rocco@email.msmary.edu</p>
	<p>Vincent Smith Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	<p>v.f.smith@email.msmary.edu</p>

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

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