



North-Minneapolis SERRAN

“The Jubilee Year of Mercy”

District 7

Club #418

August, 2016

August & September MEETINGS & EVENTS

Aug. 9th 12:15pm Lunch Meeting
@ Jax Cafè
Speaker: Dcn. Matthew Quail

Aug. 16th 8:45am Board Meeting
@ St Charles-Holy Fam. Room

Thursdays Adoration @ Sacred
Heart Robbinsdale 8:30-8:00pm

Aug. 23rd 11:30am Holy Mass
@ Holy Cross Church
12:15pm Lunch Meeting @Jax
Speaker: Jane Bona, Principal
Immaculate Conception School

Sept.13th 12:15pm Lunch Meeting
@ Jax Cafè
Speaker: Barb Ernster

Sept.20th 8:45am Board Meeting
@ St Charles-Holy Fam. Room

Thursdays Adoration @ Sacred
Heart Robbinsdale 8:30-8:00pm

Sept.27th 11:30am Holy Mass
@ Holy Cross Church
12:15pm Lunch Meeting @Jax
Speaker:..



President's Message

By Judy Makowkse

Already we are into the month of August, and mid-month, on the 15th, we will be celebrating the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Mary is assumed into heaven body and soul – the fourth of the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary). Perhaps less known, one week later our Church calendar highlights the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Mary is crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth – the fifth Glorious Mystery.) In this year of Mercy, we look to Mary for her intercession in obtaining mercy and healing for our Archdiocese and call on her also as Queen of Vocations to strengthen our priests and guide young women and men to serve our Church as consecrated religious, ordained deacons, and priests.

*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,
Our life, our sweetness, and our hope!...
Turn then, O most gracious advocate,
thine eyes of mercy on us...*

This is becoming a Marian summer for our Serra Club by reason of the speakers who have made presentations or will be making presentations at our members meetings. In June we had the blessing of a presentation by Lois Taylor about the display created at St. Alphonsus celebrating *Our Lady of Perpetual Help* and on September 13 our speaker, Barb Ernster, will focus on *Our Lady of Fatima*. Our Program Chairs are doing an exceptional job of obtaining speakers who are not only interesting, but also help us grow in our spiritual lives.

As a follow up to these presentations, you may want to check out all the beautiful titles of the Mother of God contained in the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary – especially the Queen ones to celebrate her Queenship on August 22. Again and again we turn to Mary for her intercession, and she does not disappoint!



**Prayers are needed For our fellow
Serrans**

Jack Hunt, Laslo Nemeth,
Barb Feyereisen. MaryAnne Frank
and repose of the soul of Liz Mueller

May God's love be with you!

SEMINARY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

On September 8th the fifth year of Thursday Eucharistic Adoration for the Sanctification of Priests and Seminarians will begin at The Saint Paul Seminary. As Serrans we should strongly consider participating in this holy devotion on a weekly or walk-in basis. Adoration hours are 7:30am to 5:00pm in the small chapel inside St. Mary's Chapel with a break between 11:30am and 1:00 pm. The schedule coincides with the academic calendar for the University of St. Thomas. All are invited to celebrate Mass with the seminary community at 11:35am. To sign up for this beautiful way to support our priests and seminarians, call Teresa Lodoen at 952-707-0539.

Program Hi-Lites

By Eugenia Buchmann/ Programs Co V-P



Seminarian Tim Wratkowski and Father Bryan Pedersen

On July 26, Tim Wratkowski, soon to be ordained transitional deacon in Rome, told us of his experience studying in Rome for three years. He thanked the Serrans for the work done for vocations. He also encouraged praying for holy marriages and holy families since vocations come from families. Tim is the second of four children and graduated from St. Charles School, Totino Grace High School and St John Vianney College Seminary. He had a child-like desire to be a priest in his early years and couldn't get it out of his mind. He felt called to the adoration chapel where Our Lord first told him that He loved him. The Faith was important to him. When he was a senior at Vianney, the archbishop asked him if he would like to study in Rome. He thought about it and the sacrifices and challenges it presented, and he accepted.

He has been studying at the Pontifical North American College, the American Seminary in Rome, for the past three years. The college exhibits the vision of the church – the unity and universality and the traditions of the church. There are 220 seminarians from all over the US and thirty priests who return to finish a fifth year after ordination. Students make friends with those from all over the US. Classes are taken at various Italian Universities and are taught in Italian. Students pull together to share notes and study together. Our Lord called on Tim to trust, trust and persevere, especially in difficult times, and he has felt the support.

The “universality” of the Church is seen in the classrooms with students from 36 different countries and other rites. There is a diversity of gifts – priests in science at the observatory in Rome - proof that one can believe in God and work in science.

Rome is a place of encounter where one learns to enjoy meeting people. The seminarians, wearing the collar, go out two by two into the square and hand out miraculous medals. Saint Pope John Paul II asked the seminarians in Rome to

wear the collar as a witness to the faith. Tourists seem to enjoy the encounters. The Lord works in each of us if we are willing to put ourselves out there.

Tim will be ordained a deacon this fall on September 29 in Rome and ordained a priest in St Paul in May.

Father Pedersen added a few comments after Tim's talk. He said that it is the obligation of Serrans that when we see a young man exhibiting characteristics and respect for holy things and praying, we should ask his name and pray for him that God's will be done. Father's own experience growing up in St Agnes Parish where the wife of the deacon used to say to him **“I'm praying for you, I think you will be a good priest!”**

Vocation Awareness

By Norma Swanson

I feel I must take a moment and tell you North-Mpls Serrans how fantastic you are. You are the most powerful prayer warriors I have ever come across. We have experienced much sickness in and amongst our Club members: either personal, family or friends, and you “pray”ers have gotten to work and have stormed Heaven reaping several miracles – one being my own daughter-in-law, Trisha. You have the ear of God. When you pray, He listens.

I have a new challenge for you from the Convention:

When you pray the Rosary

- Pray
- 1st decade for the Priest who baptized you
 - 2nd decade for the priest who heard your 1st Confession and gave you 1st Communion.
 - 3rd decade for the Bishop who confirmed you.
 - 4th decade for the Priest who married you.
 - 5th decade for the Priest who will bury you.

Be there for the people God will put into your life. Let your prayer be:

“Let me be at my battle station so when you send your people, I will be there.”

A new year for our Club is beginning. We, Officers will be taking inventory of the Vocation Projects that have been working, those that ‘bombed’ and didn't achieve what we wanted and those that are new and fresh and need to be implemented. I'm trusting that, as Serrans in our local parishes, you see needs and vacuums and want to help solve the needs and fill the vacuums. Don't remain quiet. We are the grandparents (or even great-grandparents) of a generation who needs to experience the beauty and the history of our Church and our personal parishes and share it with these young ‘uns. We need you to be vocal and become part of the solution rather than using anything as an excuse to opt out of action areas.

Let's make this a super productive year!!!!

Membership Missive

By MaryAnne Frank

Team Serra, are you ready? Recalling how our Club so generously supports Team Vianney, I think its time to enact Team Serra! I know, I know, it's a "lame" excuse, but I can't do the membership work alone. (I will be recovering from bilateral knee joint replacements for the next month. That's where YOU come in! You know faithful Catholics who love and understand the Church's need for holy priests, deacons and religious. Please take the initiative to invite that person to attend the next luncheon at our expense. Our programs are outstanding and informative thanks to our hardworking Program VP's. Let your friend taste the mission of Serra by attending a meeting and experiencing first-hand the enthusiasm and love of your fellow Serrans. Don't keep Serra a well-kept secret!

In the Mail Bag

Dear MaryAnne,

I want to express my deepest thanks to you and the Serra Club for all you did for Joseph's reception. Everything was done with such ease and perfection. Thank you for all the love and care that you have for priests. May God reward you for all you do for the Church and Father Joseph.

*God bless –
MaryAnn and Roger Zabinski*

VOCATIONS ESSAY

1st Place – October 29, 2015

St. Peter Claver Sisters

**Sammi Schultz
St John the Baptist**

Today I had the opportunity to visit the Convent of St. Peter Claver. Going to this convent and seeing how the Sisters live has really opened my eyes and given me a new perspective on religious life. Before going to the convent I was not considering the vocation of religious life but after visiting the Sisters today I can say it is a lot different than I thought it would be.

When we first arrived we went straight into the chapel for a decade of the rosary and silent prayer time. During silent prayer I was really reassured that whatever calling God would choose for me it would be a good fit. After prayer we took a tour of the convent. We saw where the Sisters cook, eat, work, garden and have recreation time. I loved the idea that in the convent they like to come together to share their day and pray. I also like how they are like a family and a very tight knit. Sister Genevieve shared her vocation story and how she never considered being a Sister until she saw nuns walking on the street and saw joy in their faces and love in their hearts. I had a realization on this tour that convents are not quiet houses of prayer, rather they are joyful houses where Sisters profess their faith in a captivating way.

After the tour we went to stuff envelopes with a booklet about Africa. I also did not know that nuns do a lot of charity work which is something I love to do. Once we were done we went to lunch and went back on the bus. From there we went to St. Thomas Seminary where Father Blume gave an empowering speech about our vocations.

I feel confident now after visiting the convent and seminary that God will lead me in the right path. I also know that it doesn't matter what vocation God chooses because my vocation as a Catholic is a call to holiness and to spreading the word of God.

Vocation Day for Young Men and Women

Saturday, August 20, 9:00am - 2:30pm at the Saint Paul Seminary! For information and to register visit www.archspm.org/VocationDay.

Here is a **red letter** opportunity as a Serran to invite young people to check out the possibility of religious or priestly life. Questions? Contact Patty McQuillan at the Vocation Office (651) 291-4543

Member Corrections and Additions:

Our new Serran, Joellyn Solar, is a member of Epiphany - not St Paul, Ham Lake.

Ellroy Wildhaber's new address as promised is:
18 Audubon Point
Neunan, GA 30265
ellroygw@gmail.com

SERRA CLUB OF NORTH-MINNEAPOLIS

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – JULY 19, 2016

Judy Makowske, President, opened the meeting at 9:00am with Serra Prayer for Vocations.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean Buchmann, Ken Cobian, Bonnie Conroy, Barbara Fitzgerald, MaryAnne Frank, Don Machowicz, Judy Makowske, Vickie Osborne, Norma Swanson, Lorraine Weinmeyer, and Marilyn Zappia.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Frank, John Lacina, Judy Nemeth

MINUTES:

- Judy Makowske moved that the minutes from May 17, 2016 meeting be approved. Norma Swanson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Don Machowicz presented the Treasurer's Report of June 19, no list of unpaid dues for June. Dues unpaid were \$1,360.00 in July. Norma Swanson moved the Treasurer's reports be accepted. Marilyn Zappia seconded, the motion carried.

PRESIDENTS ITEMS:

- Prayer folders will be here within the week. We changed to Saint Junipero Serra instead of Blessed Junipero Serra.
- Check with Deacon Matt Quail on Ordination Date.
- Judy Makowske would like the meetings to begin at 8:40am and end before 10:00am. Doran Hall is not always available for our meetings. Judy will let us know where the meeting will be. Judy will not be available for next month's member meeting at Jax and Bonnie Conroy has offered to fill in for Judy.
- District Governor, Mike Smeby, will meet with Judy Makowske on the 2nd of August.
- The retreat at Buffalo will be November 28th to the 20th, 2016. The Memorial Service for the people that passed in 2016 will be held on November 19th, 2016. We are in charge of that service.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership –MaryAnne Frank

- Judy Nemeth is not present today due to family illness. Keep Judy and her husband in our prayers.

Norma brought daughter-in-law, Tricia and a friend, Joellyn Solar to the last meeting. Joellyn joined our Serra Club and knows others who may be interested in joining.

Vocations – Norma Swanson

- Vocation Breakfasts for all High School boys and their parents will be Sunday, January 15th after 10:00 Mass.
- Norma gave a short report on the Serra International Convention.

Communications – Judy Makowske for Judy Nemeth

- Items for the August Newsletter are due July 25.

Programs – Jean Buchmann and Marilyn Zappia Co-VP's

- Barb Ernster who writes for Sola Magazine will speak in September. Father Scheefer from Venezuela will speak eventually. Father Bloom will speak in November.
- Advent Party Tuesday at Jax for Lunch at 12:15? Steve and MaryAnne will work on Sub Committee for planning the Advent/Christmas gathering.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Members meeting: Tuesday, July 26 – Speaker: Tim Wratkowski & Tuesday August 9 – Speaker: Deacon Matthew Quail.

Board Meeting: Tuesday August 15 at **8:40** am at St. Charles Borromeo

Judy Makowske adjourned the meeting at 9:55am and in closing led the board in the Serra "Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations" and the "Thanksgiving Prayer".

Respectfully submitted, Lorraine Weinmeyer, Secretary