



The Serra Club of Owatonna Area

Club No. 968, District 7S, Region 8

September, 2016

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Memorial of St. Teresa of Calcutta, virgin, nun, founder

**Jesus has a plan for each of us
That is far superior to anything
We could conceive on our own!**

A reflection on the prescribed Scripture of the day-Henry Knapp,
Spiritual Advisor for the SVDP NCR.



**Mother Teresa is now a saint!
She leaves us with much to
ponder. Here are some quotes:**

“Do ordinary things with extraordinary love”

“The future is so much in the hands of God, I find it much more easy to accept today because yesterday is gone and tomorrow has not come and I have only today,” she wrote in the book *Where There is Love, There is God.*

“Be faithful in small things because it is in them that your strength lies.”

“Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think that is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat.”

Each one of them is Jesus in disguise.

President's Letter

Dear Members of the Serra Club of the Owatonna Area,

Hope you have all your tickets sold for the upcoming Pancake Breakfast on this Sunday, the 11th. Thank you to all who have volunteered to help that day and to those who sold after the Masses. Please turn in the money from the tickets that you sold to Treasurer, Bruce Kubicek on Sunday at the Breakfast. Remember that the checks are to be made out to the Serra Club. We receive much more from the advance tickets than the walk-ins, so sell, sell, sell!!

Our September Serra Club meeting will be on Monday, September 12th beginning with a 5 p.m. Holy Hour. (This will be the day after the breakfast!!) A chili supper will be provided and the guests will be John Wagenaar, our past District Governor and Chuck De Vos, our present District Governor and their wives, so plan to attend!!

Help will be needed once again to set up for the Great Promise Award Banquet on Monday, October 10th. We usually set up beginning at 9 a.m. (providing there is not a Funeral that day). Help will also be needed to help clean up once the banquet is over. Please plan to help wherever you are able.

Caroline Stiles, daughter of Joe and Sharon, has taken the name Sister Ann Immaculee, for the Sisters of Life at Annunciation Motherhouse in Suffern, New York. She will be in the novitiate for the next two years, after which time she will make a temporary vow (for 3 years). After that, the Sisters usually re-up their temporary vows for 2 more years. That means she won't take permanent (final) vows until about 2023. Please pray for her and her sisters.

Also continue to pray for all the young men studying for the priesthood, as they begin a new year of studies. Pray especially for the seminarians at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona as they have moved into another building while their building is being updated. It will be a challenge for this upcoming year, but with everyone's prayers it will work out. (Look how well St. Mary's School faculty and students did this past school year with their move).



Pancake Breakfast!

The KC's are putting on a Breakfast for our benefit! Please sell tickets to your friends and family (checks made out to Serra Club). We make much more money if the tickets are sold in advance, so please sell in advance. The Breakfast is September 11th at St. Mary's School, 8:00 am – 12:30 pm, \$6.00 in advance, \$6.50 at the door. The breakfast choices are sensational! You can hand in the money from sales on Sunday or at the meeting on September 12th.

SERRA RETREAT

It's time to register for the annual Serra Retreat! It will be held at Christ the King Retreat Center, 621 1st Avenue South, Buffalo, MN., November 18-20. The retreat will be given by the King's House Preaching Team. The cost is \$175.00. Contact the retreat center at 763-682-1394 to reserve your spot, then send your \$30.00 registration fee. They have space for 69 guests, so register now so that you have a spot.



Membership Ideas

Asking people to join Serra is only a start. You need to discuss with them their reason for joining Serra and their purpose in being a member of our Serra Club...then YOU LISTEN. Listen to them to ascertain what belonging might mean to them!

You need to keep them interested and active in our activities. We need members who will participate voluntarily at all levels.

Visit with them on how they can best participate in our Serra Club and what role they can best manage.

Listen....DON'T SELL. Keep your invitation to join simple and meaningful; they will learn more after joining.

This Fall, Serra USA will be starting a new membership drive called **LET'S EXPAND SERRA!**

Family members of our current priests and sisters are ideal prospects for us to contact. This list would include their siblings (brothers & sisters), aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Every Serran has several priests and sisters who are near and dear to your heart.

We are asking you to provide the names of 4 priests or sisters that you would be willing to call to ask for names of four family members who live in our diocese that they think could be good Serrans. The Membership Team will collect the names submitted.

Please submit names of priests and sisters to call to Mary at our next meeting.

Mary Mamer

Membership VP

Keep trying to encourage more members to join us. We do need more people to help with our mission.

Happy Birthday!!



Romana Wesely	9/8
Betty Shively	9/16
Maxine Schrom	9/23

Upcoming Events

Sept. 12th - Adoration at 5:00 pm at the Catholic Community Adoration Chapel, Meal and Meeting afterwards

Sept. 15th - Adoration at 5:00 pm at the Catholic Community Adoration Chapel— can go out to eat afterwards if desired.

Sept. 24th - Serra International Rosary on-line or on your phone at 8:00 am CST

Sept. 26th - Board Meeting @ 5:30 pm

Oct. 6th - Adoration at 5:00 pm at Sacred Heart Church

Oct. 10th - Great Promise Award Ceremony 5:15 pm



Caroline Stiles, lower left, at her naming ceremony, is in formation at the Sisters of Life Annunciation Motherhouse, New York. Her mother, Sharon, says “She has taken the name Sr. Ann Immaculee. Immaculee is after the Immaculate Conception and Ann after St Anne, the mother of the Immaculate Conception. It’s in French because it was in Lourdes, France where Mary revealed herself to St Bernadette as the Concepcion Immaculee. She chose the spelling of Ann after my middle name Ann because she says she feels such a spiritual connection with me.” (Pictures courtesy of Sharon Stiles)

The Formation of the Sisters of Life - From the Sisters of Life website

Stepping out of a world of concern about grades at a University or from a world of driven professional practice, new members of the Sisters of Life are often surprised to find that the time of preparation for vows is quite different from anything else they have experienced previously. Formation is an education in the ways of religious life and in our charism; above all, it is an education in love that unveils the unique Image of God in each Sister while directing her to perfection in the life of this community.

Postulancy allows women a transition into religious life without the radical external changes of the habit or a change in name. Postulants live and pray with the Sisters, take classes, assist in the apostolates and work with a postulant director in continuing to discern God’s will.

After nine months, postulants enter the novitiate, receive the habit and begin to be called “Sister.” Two years in length, the novitiate consists of both a canonical and an apostolic year. Canonical year is a time of further separation from the world for the sake of deeper prayer and greater integration of religious identity. Apostolic year provides for extern periods at professed houses. Through the whole of novitiate, Sisters take classes and meet with a novice director in preparation for the vowed life and apostolate.

In all stages of formation, Eucharistic prayer fuels our efforts to grow in virtue and love. Living with others dedicated to the Lord and to the sacredness of human life brings joy and encouragement to our hearts as we place ourselves into the hands of the Divine Potter that He may empty us of what is not of Him, shape us into the vessel He has created us to be, and fill us with His Holy Spirit.

At first profession, Sisters receive the blue band and the medal of the Madonna of the Streets along with their first apostolic mission. The white veil, however, remains to remind us that transformation in Christ is the work of a lifetime. Perpetual profession is made after at least five years in vows. At this time, Sisters receive a simple silver ring as a sign of their permanent commitment to Christ, their one true Spouse.

