



Join Serra Today

And Help Support

Vocations to the

Religious Life

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Retreat Info

**SERRA CLUBS OF
EASTERN
SOUTH DAKOTA**

c/o Sioux Falls President
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Sioux Falls, SD 57110

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Serra Clubs of
Eastern South
Dakota
Newsletter for its
Members

Second Quarter 2016

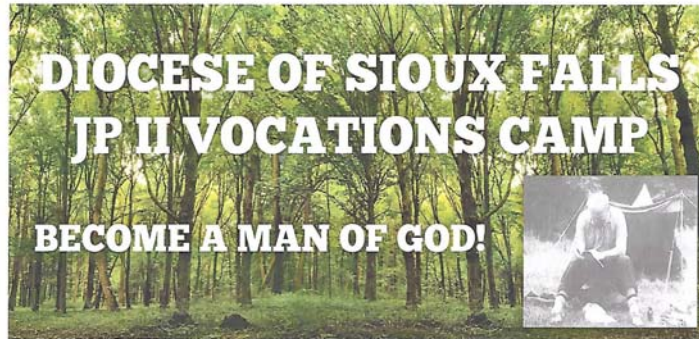


“All members of the Church, without exception, have the grace and responsibility to look after vocations.”

St. John Paul II

The Calling

Ordinations!
May 26th and 27th
St. Joseph's



VOCATIONS CAMP

This is our 2nd Annual Vocations Camp for Junior High and High School! Our first year was absolutely awesome, God did some very powerful things! It was so good we are expanding it to two camps this year. The Vocations Director for the Diocese of Sioux Falls, Fr. Shaun Haggerty, several seminarians and a few dads are ready to lead the vocations camp again at Abbey of the Hills in Marvin, SD.

CAMP DETAILS

There will be the incense of the daily Mass and smoke of campfires, tugging on the daily rosary and tug of war, Eucharistic Processions and hiking, Confession and kayaking, vocation talks and many games. There will also be a half a day excursion to Sica Hollow State Park. The camp is a rare chance for Junior High and High School men to begin considering their vocation from God by hanging out with priests and seminarians! It will be both physically and spiritually awesome. This is truly an exceptional opportunity. Campers will form into small groups of six with a seminarian as their leader. Campers will be staying in the Abbey of the Hills lodging. They will be sleeping two campers to a room. Special Food can be provided for allergies.

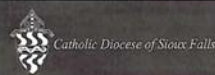
FOR BOYS AGE 12-16

Cost is only \$185
All food is included in the price package.
All gear will also be provided.
Only 24 spots available per camp!

CAMP 1
BEGINS: Tues May 31, 10 AM
ENDS: Thurs June 2, 3 PM
Registration Deadline: May 17, 2016

CAMP 2
BEGINS: Fri June 3, 10 AM
ENDS: Sun June 5, 3 PM
Registration Deadline: May 17, 2016

Sign up online www.sfvocations.org
or contact the Vocations Office at
605-988-3772 | frshaunhaggerty@sfcatholic.org



PRAYER INTENTIONS

of POPE FRANCIS



April
Universal “That small farmers may receive a just reward for their labor.”

Evangelization “That Christians in Africa may give witness to love and faith in Jesus Christ amid political-religious conflicts.”

May
Universal “That in every country of the world, women may be honored and respected and that their essential contribution to society may be highly esteemed.”

Evangelization “That families, communities, and groups may pray the Holy Rosary for evangelization and peace.”

June
Universal “That the aged, marginalized, and those who have no one may find — even within the huge cities of the world — opportunities for encounter and solidarity.”

Evangelization “That seminarians and men and women entering religious life may have mentors who live the joy of the Gospel and prepare them wisely for their mission.”

Serra Chaplain Realizes His Vocation Amidst Struggles and Prayer

Pope Francis has declared April 17 as World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We are asked to pray that baptized Catholics pray for whatever vocation we might be called to as baptized Christians. Whether it be the married, consecrated life, or priesthood, it is necessary to discern our calling with prayer; it is through struggle and dialogue with the Lord that we find peace in the vocation we ultimately decide on.

And so it was with Watertown Area Serra Club Chaplain, Fr. John Short. His journey to the priesthood was born out of many struggles and lots of prayer--from him and others. He discovered only after he was ordained that his mother had been praying for him since he was in elementary school thinking that her son might have a vocation to the priesthood.

The youngest of 7 children, Fr. John was born in Elkton to Don, a farmer, and Isabelle, a school teacher. After spending 4 years at the Catholic school, he finished his high school education at the public school. "I loved farm life and all the benefits of living in the country, so after high school graduation, it seemed natural for him to work on the farm while having a full-time job working at Coast to Coast Warehouse in Brookings. "Even today, I enjoy going back to the farm on my day off," he says.

"While living in Brookings, I played the dating game periodically and seriously considered getting married at one point. But it always seemed that there was something missing in my life. There was a HOLE IN MY SOUL," he admits. "I didn't understand, then, that it was a void in my soul that only God could fill."

Even though Fr. John always attended Sunday Mass, he said it was only a "half-hearted" attendance. Then in March of 1987, someone suggested that he attend a TEC Retreat. "It was a new beginning of a journey of faith. I went home renewed and excited about my faith."

He began to attend daily Mass when his work allowed. "Soon going to Mass went from an obligation to an opportunity to hear the Word of God and receive Jesus in the Eucharist." He also attended a Bible studies.

Now in his late 20's, he began the period of serious soul-searching. He felt that he had wasted time on selfish pursuits rather than eternal pursuits. "By the Grace of God, I began to spend an hour a day in prayer before the Tabernacle determined to get answers to questions like where I belonged, why was I created, what does He want of me."

Over time, Fr. John said that he felt God was perhaps calling him to the priesthood, but the negative thoughts also came to mind. "God, I am a sinner." "I don't want to stand in front of people everyday." "I am not worthy to be a priest."



Monsignor Mahowald recently gave a presentation to the Sioux Falls Serra Club. Monsignor spoke on the fact that, since birth, we are "diminished" and that what defines us is our attitude, our behavior, and our intentions. He asked Serrans to remember that despite Christ's trials culminating in His crucifixion, no one could ever take away his internal joy. Pictured to the right of Monsignor is Sioux Falls Vice-President Ken Klen.

The reality of going to school for 8 years, having no income, and no guarantee that he would even become a priest, became overwhelming and frightening. "But as I continued to spend time in prayer, the thought of priesthood remained." Eventually, he visited with the diocesan vocation director." And the process began.

His discernment led him to the belief that God truly was calling him to priesthood. So, in August of 1991, at the age of 33, Fr. John quit his job of 14 years and headed to St. Mary's in Winona MN. "Ironically," he says, "I was the same age as Jesus when he was crucified, and I certainly felt crucified in returning to school after so many years. However, I knew in my heart that it was where God was calling me."

After 4 year of struggles, John graduated in 1995, then attended Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmetsburg MD, and on June 11, 1999, he was ordained a priest.

"I am no longer searching for where I belong in life, Fr. John says, "I am content with being a priest; my soul is at peace."

Thank you, Fr. John Short, for responding to His Call. We are so blessed to call you our Serra Chaplain.



Serra Aberdeen enjoys the blessings of prayer and fellowship together the first and third Saturday of every month!



Bishop's Charity Fishing Tournament

June 6, 2016 - Big Stone Lake
 June 13, 2016 - Lake Oahe, Gettysburg

benefitting SEMINARIAN EDUCATION

Bishop's Charity Golf Classic/Banquet

August 28 & 29, 2016
 Minnehaha Country Club & The Country Club of Sioux Falls
 benefitting BROOM TREE RETREAT & CONFERENCE CENTER

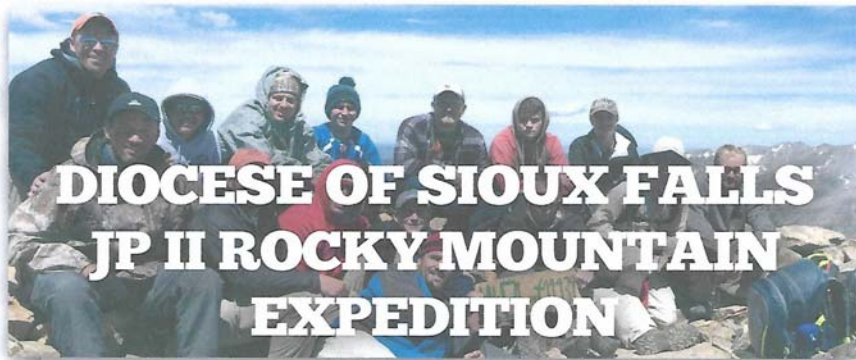
Bishop's Charity Hunt

September 25 & 26, 2016
 Horseshoe K Ranch, Kimball
 benefitting NEWMAN CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

Christmas at the Cathedral

December 15 - 18, 2016
 benefitting THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOSEPH & THE BISHOP
 DUDLEY HOSPITALITY HOUSE ENDOWMENT FUNDS

(888) 246-3386 | cfsd.org |



**DIOCESE OF SIOUX FALLS
 JP II ROCKY MOUNTAIN
 EXPEDITION**

July 31 - August 6, 2016

Vocations Discernment Retreat For men 16 or older
 Make the Summer of 2016 Epic!

The Vocations Director, Fr. Shaun Haggerty, will be leading the expedition, along with Fr. Jordan Samson, and several seminarians. We will be base camping at Lottis Creek Campground, CO and doing day excursions as well as staying at St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver, CO.

HIKING/HOT SPRINGS & MASS: We will be hiking one of Colorado's highest mountains, the towering 14,204 ft Mt. Princeton and soaking in its Hot Springs afterwards. We will be celebrating the highest form of prayer, the daily Mass and soaking in God's grace.

WHITE WATER RAFTING & CONFESSION: We will go white water rafting down the Arkansas River in Browns Canyon and be kept afloat by the daily rosary, liturgy of the hours, and confession.

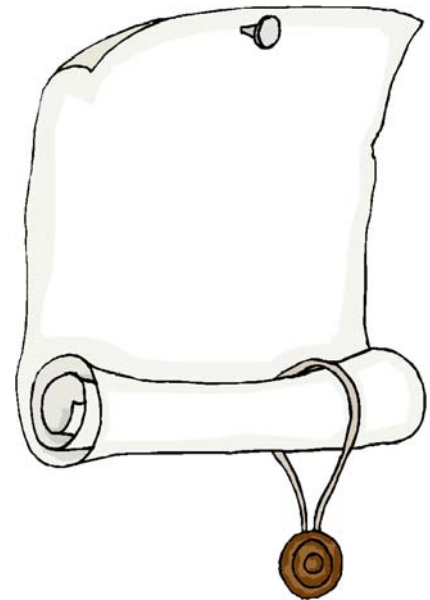
CANYON ZIP LINING: We will be flying high over the Lost Canyon to heaven with the daily rosary, and liturgy of the hours.

This trip is a rare chance to pray and discern God's call in your life by hanging out with priests and seminarians! It will be intense both physically and spiritually. Each night will end with campfires and battle stories of the priesthood and seminary.

COST IS ONLY \$450

Can't Afford it? The Knights of Columbus are willing to help. (Details online)
 All food and gear is included in the price package.

THERE ARE ONLY 40 SPOTS SO RSVP TODAY! PAYMENT IS NEEDED BY JULY 15TH



**Bishop Paul Swain
 appoints
 Father Mark Lichter
 as Aberdeen
 Serra Club's
 Spiritual Director!**



Sign up online www.sf vocations.org
 or contact the Vocations Office 605-988-3772

2016 Eastern South Dakota
Serra Club Retreat/Educational Meeting
April 22 and 23
Abbey of the Hills



Friday, April 22

6PM Dinner

7PM

Welcome, Introductions,
Chaplain Fr. Anthony Urban ***"Year of Mercy"***

8PM

Holy Hour for Vocations, Rosary Reconciliation

9PM Social



Saturday, April 23

8AM Breakfast

9AM

Rosary followed by Mass

10AM

Sr. Joan Marie Brandner from
Immaculate Conception in Watertown,

"Food for Thought"

12PM, Lunch

1PM

Richard Ariens, Serra Regional Director

"Mission of Serra"

Followed by a District Meeting

3PM, Departure