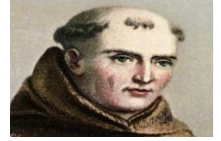




**SERRA CLUB OF WRIGHT COUNTY**  
**SERRA INTERNATIONAL REGION 8 DISTRICT 7**

St. J. Serra



CHARTERED APRIL 8, 1996

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 10 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2016

**Our Mission**

*As Serra International is the lay vocation arm of the church, our mission is to foster and affirm vocations to the ministerial priesthood and vowed religious life in the USA, and through this ministry, further our members common catholic faith.*

**President's Message**

**Did You Know!**

**Everyone in our club is a member of our membership committee and should be working on an ongoing basis to bring in the new members. Introduce Serra to parish members and to provide information and material in order to encourage parish members to join our club. You may be particularly encouraged to bring friends and relatives to some of our meetings. Our speakers are fantastic and it is your lose if you miss a meeting.**

**We don't tell people whom to vote for but our particular work of getting millions of faithful Catholics actively involved in the political process. You'll recall how the late John Cardinal O'Connor said this was vital because people make the mistake of thinking that if something is legal, it must be moral. Nothing could be further from the truth. Legalized abortion -on-demand is a case in point. So is Obama Care. So is so called same-sex marriage. And so are a host of other politically charged issues facing us today. Fr. Al Svobodry also asked us to pray for the fight to save America!**

**Fr. James Livingston will be our quest speaker in October and Lucy and Marian are on the light supper committee. Mike Smedy, our 7th District Governor will be our speaker Thursday November 10th. Marian Meyer President**

**Past and upcoming events:**

**On September 17th Lucy, Sharon, Marlene, and Marian attended Saint John Vianney Seminary "Spiritual Mothers Gathering"**

**October 15th Lay Fast for Priests**

**October 30th Priesthood Sunday**

**November 18-20th Serra Retreat at the Christ the King Retreat Home**

**October Guest Speaker Fr. Jim Livingston**

**The Serra Club of Wright County will meet at the Kings House in Buffalo on Thursday, October 13. Our meeting will start with a rosary in the Chapel at 5:10. This will be followed by 5:30 Mass and a light supper provided by Marian and Cathy. Reservations are required for the supper and can be made by calling Sharon, 763 497-2454 by Oct. 11. Fr Jim Livingston will be our speaker. Fr. Livingston has been the Spiritual Director at North Memorial Hospital for several years and has said many Healing Masses. He was the pastor at Delano in the 1990's and is presently the pastor at Ham Lake. He will speak at 7 p.m. No reservations are required for the talk.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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## **Thanks for your vocation St. Teresa of Calcutta!**

**By Kate Theisen, VP of Vocations and  
Beth Bauer, former Club member and  
Lay member of Missionaries of Charity**

**Her discernment:** Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu was born August 26, 1910 to Albanian parents. She was the youngest of three children in a happy home in Skopje, Macedonia. When she made her First Holy Communion at age 5, she was graced with a “love of souls,” a gift from God that would come to characterize her whole life. Agnes’ father died when she was eight. This changed their family life immensely but Agnes’ faith was influenced greatly by her devout mother and by priests at the local church. She felt the call to be a missionary of the poor at age 12. Of course, she had times of doubt. A few years later, a Croatian priest introduced her to St. Ignatius Loyola’s Spiritual Exercises, in which she found her answer that indeed God was calling her to belong completely to Him. At age 18 she wanted to join the Loreto Sisters. Her mother had a difficult time letting her go but then gave her blessing and reminded her daughter that she now must be “only all for God and Jesus.”

**Her vocation:** She left for India in 1928. She chose Teresa as her religious name; after Therese of Lisieux. She was touched by her namesake’s desire to “love Jesus as he had never been loved before” which reminded her of her mother’s advice to her. For more than 15 years, she was a teacher and helper in a medical station that served the poor. That is where her desire started to help the poorest of the poor. In 1946, on a train ride, she had a powerful experience with the Lord in which He asked her to leave Loreto and found a new congregation in Calcutta dedicated to the “wholehearted free service of the poorest of the poor.” When she died on September 5, 1997, her ministry, Missionaries of Charity, encompassed 594 homes in 123 countries. There were 3,800 sisters, about 380 brothers, 13 priests, and countless co-workers, all committed to living in her spirit throughout the world.

**Canonization:** I was very blessed to be at the Canonization Mass of Mother Teresa in Rome, Italy on September 4, 2016. Mother Teresa is a saint who I’ve been drawn to for most of my life. I read about her in magazines and newspapers as a child, had the opportunity to meet her when I was a teenager, and as an adult have drawn strength from her spirituality. Mother Teresa was very small in stature, but was a powerhouse when it came to knowing and doing God’s will. She knew without a doubt what she had been asked to do and she pursued it with all her heart. Never doubting or turning back. My pilgrimage to Rome was one of thanksgiving for her life and the example of her “fiat.”

**While in Rome I stayed at a Monastery with a group of 12 Lay Missionaries of Charity from various parts of the United States. On the day of her canonization we set out at 5am for the 20 minute walk to St. Peter’s Square. We and thousands of others waited in a mob of people that spanned**

**(Continued on page3)**

**(St Teresa continued from page 2)**

**the whole street including the sidewalks on either side. We were about 20 feet from the gate. After the gates opened around 7:00 am we had to go through airport type security to get into St.**

**Peter's Square. By 7:30am we were in our seats in the second section from the front. As the sun rose the heat beat down on us in the square. It turned to be a very hot day.**

**We were not long into the mass when Cardinal Angelo Amato, the Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, addressed a petition to the Holy Father requesting that Holy Mother Church enroll Blessed Teresa of Calcutta among the saints. That was followed by the Litany of Supplication and the Litany of Saints. Then the Holy Father read the formula for canonization. To be in St. Peter's Square when Pope Francis read the words to declare Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta to be among the saints was incredibly awesome! The crowd cheered before he has finished – when we heard her addressed as St. Teresa of Calcutta for the first time we broke out in applause. We hugged each other with tears of joy and were touched with profound gratitude for our dear Mother Teresa's life, her fiat, and her place now in the communion of saints. The bells rang and it was a glorious time! After mass Pope Francis rode around in his pope-mobile. We were about 10 feet from him when he passed in front of us.**

**The wonderful part of being at the canonization and associated events was that everyone had a story of how Mother Teresa had impacted their lives. It was beautiful to see so many MC Sisters, Priests, and Brothers in one place. We were back at St. Peters Square on September 5<sup>th</sup>, the first feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta for the Holy Mass of Thanksgiving. We attended a votive Mass of St. Teresa of Calcutta and Holy Mass of Thanksgiving for all M.C.'s the following day at San Barnaba Church followed by a M.C. Family gathering in Via Casilina, where the novices live. Each mass was a little more intimate and more English was used making it easier to enter into the fullness of the mass.**

**In closing I'd like to mention a few people that I met in Rome. I met Sr. Francesca M.C., one of the original twelve sisters who had been one of Mother's students. She blessed me with Mother Teresa's rosary. Sr. Frederick M.C. who at 100 years old was the oldest MC Sister. A little boy caught my eye as he was sitting on an M.C. Sister's lap during mass. We are so used to seeing the Sisters helping with children but I thought his affection for the Sister seemed like there a special closeness. A saw the little boy again at the family gathering. When I asked who the little boy was - I was brought to meet his family. His dad is Marcilio Haddad Andrino, the man from Brazil who the second miracle is attributed to. His wife, a beautiful woman, sought the intercession of Mother Teresa for her husband when he was ill with a serious viral brain infection. He and his wife have two small children, a boy and a girl.**

**St. Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us.**

**Tune in every Saturday morning at 11am to hear our very own Rector-turned-radio-host Fr. Becker on Relevant Radio!**

**Fr. Becker will air from 11:00 to 11:30 am every Saturday on WLOL 1330 AM in the Twin Cities. If you miss it or can't reach the station, all of his radio audio can be found on the Relevant Radio site: <https://relevantradio.com/audios/encounter>**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES September 6, 2016**

**Present: Marlene Lindenfelser, Marian Meyer, Kate Theisen, and Sharon Berning**

**Meeting called to order by Marian at 8:05 a.m.**

**Prayer led by Marlene**

**Reviewed minutes of August 1, 2016**

**Approved treasurer's report for August 2016**

**Old Business:**

**Board meeting date changed due to Labor Day & early general meeting date**

**Picnic discussed**

**Garage sale discussed**

**Marian visited Sister Jessica and Sisters of Mercy in Sleepy Eye**

**VP Reports:**

**Programs: Teri**

**Need Serran to help Teri**

**Sept. 8 - (dinner) Joseph Kueppers**

**Oct. 13 - Fr. Jim Livingston**

**Nov. 10**

**Dec. 8 (dinner)**

**Vocations: Kate/Teri**

**Pray for:**

**1) Seminarians as they begin a new school year**

**2) 4 seminarians from our area at St. Thomas**

**3) Kevin Hackenmueller - FOCUS Program**

**4) NET Ministry**

**5) Young ladies and their religious orders**

**Spiritual Mothers Gathering Sept. 17**

**Teresa of Calcutta has reached sainthood**

**Communications: Marlene**

**Serra Retreat Nov. 18 - 20, 2016**

**Will update religious list for bulletins and members list**

**Membership: Marian**

**Need Serran to head this program.**

**Keep asking for new members**

**New Business:**

**Marian has donated a Fatima Statue & case to St. Michael's Festival in name of Serrans**

**Lay Fast for Priests Oct. 15**

**Priesthood Sunday, Oct. 30**

**Pray for member, Delphine Bruner**

**No Further Business.**

**Next meeting October 3, 2016.**

**Prayer to be led by Sharon**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 am**

**Sharon Berning, Secretary**

**September Guest Speaker**

**Our September Speaker was Joseph Kueppers, the Chancellor for Civil Affairs and Chief Legal Officer for the Archdiocese of St. Paul.**

**He is a Serra Club member and lives in West St. Paul with his wife and three children. He feels that the archdiocese is now on a steady course with the naming of Archbishop Hebda. Joseph Kueppers has taken the archdiocese through the bankruptcy, selling of properties, abuse claims, plan of reorganization, and attaining a pool of money for claims. There will be neutral third parties examining the claims and all credible claims will be paid by the trustees. Archbishop Hebda will operate the archdiocese with a gold standard including background checks and all issues in the open.**



**MONTHLY PRAYER REQUEST FOR PRIESTS**

**ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS  
OCTOBER 2016**

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
For subsequent months or extra copies call or write:	Mert Lassonde 20953 Junco Trail Lakeville MN 55044	Phone 952-683-9294 OR mertlass@usfamily.net				<u>1</u> POPE FRANCIS
<u>2</u> YOUR PASTOR	<u>3</u> REV. EDWARD STHOKAL SJ	<u>4</u> REV. MARTIN STILLMOCK CSSR	<u>5</u> REV. WILLIAM STOLZMAN	<u>6</u> REV. JAMES STROMBERG	<u>7</u> REV. ANDREW STRUEVE	<u>8</u> REV. ALOYSIUS SVOBODNY OMI
<u>9</u> REV. RALPH TALBOT	<u>10</u> REV. HARRY TASTO	<u>11</u> REV. ORLANDO TATEL	<u>12</u> REV. MICHAEL TEGEDER	<u>13</u> REV. EUGENE THEISEN	<u>14</u> REV. XAVIER THELAKKATT	<u>15</u> REV. DENNIS THOMPSON
<u>16</u> REV. LEO TIBESAR	<u>17</u> REV. EUGENE TIFFANY	<u>18</u> REV. MICHAEL TIX	<u>19</u> REV. PATRICK TOBIN OP	<u>20</u> REV. ROLF TOLLEFSON	<u>21</u> REV. JON BENNET TRAN	<u>22</u> REV. PAUL TREACY
23 Rev. VAUGHN TRECO	24 Very Rev. JOHN UBEL	25 Rev. STEPHEN ULRICK	26 Rev. MARK UNDERDAHL	27 Rev. VICTOR VALENCIA	28 REV. ROBERT VALIT	29 REV. JAMES VAN DORN OFM CONV
30 REV. MICHAEL VAN SLOUN	31 ABP BERNARD HEBDA					

**WILL YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?**

**Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**