

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COUNCIL
OF SERRA INTERNATIONAL
ESTABLISHED CLUB -- OFFICER INSTALLATION**

1 MASTER OF CEREMONIES :

2 (Your Excellency,) Reverend Father(s), fellow Serrans and guests,
Throughout his life Saint Junipero Serra never sought positions of authority; they sought him.

Today we are installing new and continuing officers for the coming year, fellow members who did not seek positions of authority, but who were sought out. Like our patron, Saint Junipero Serra, they accepted their offices graciously and now stand ready to lead us as we carry out our ministry for the good of the Church and the glory of God.

As you are called, please come forward (*or stand in place*). 3

Trustee: ___(name)___

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Treasurer: ___(name)___

Secretary: ___(name)___

Vice president, Communications: ___(name)___

Vice president, Membership: ___(name)___

Vice President, Vocations: ___(name)___

Vice president, Programs: ___(name)___

President-elect ___(name)___

Outgoing President ___(name)___

Incoming President ___(name 4)___

(Name___), as incoming President, you and your fellow officers are to be congratulated on being elected to lead our Serra Club. The welfare of this Serra Club depends, to a great extent, upon you and your Board during the coming year. We ask you to dream great dreams and to set challenging goals. We want you to make our club truly a place to learn and grow as Catholics and help our members to promote, foster, and help preserve vocations to the priesthood and religious life and thus fulfill their vocations to service.

President ___(name)___, your peers selected you and your fellow officers because they know each of you will honor, with fidelity, the commitment you are undertaking. One year from now you will not know, but the Holy Spirit will know, how many men and women, influenced by your example, prayers and programs heard the invitation of the Holy Spirit to "Come and See." Keep that thought ever before you and you will always be encouraged to carry out your ministry.

Now I ask all officers and trustees to raise their right hand and repeat after me this pledge to signify their acceptance of these responsibilities:

**“I do solemnly pledge myself *
to perform faithfully and impartially *
the duties of the office of Serra I now assume.”**

Immediate Past President __(*name* __, will you pass on to President __(*name*)__ the gavel, a copy of our Bylaws, and the President's pin in recognition of *his/her* office? 5

President __ (*name*)__, the gavel is the symbol of your respect for the office of the president. Use its implied powers wisely. Wear the President’s pin with pride. This emblem symbolizes your complete commitment to leading your fellow Serrans in their Serran ministry for the coming year. Congratulations. After your term in office you will be asked to pass it on, untarnished, to your successor.

Past President __(*name*)__, please accept this Past President's pin , the congratulations, and the thanks of our Club for your past year of hard work. This is your pin to keep. Wear it with pride. It, too, symbolizes your commitment to Serra’s ministry. It also symbolizes your willingness to serve your fellow Serrans in the future as well as in the past.

President __(*name*)__, you are the new executive head of our Serra Club, endowed with full power to enforce the provisions of its Constitution and Bylaws. You will be the chair of the board of trustees, preside at all our meetings and shall, to the end that the objectives of Serra are carried out, appoint all the committees necessary to accomplish the aims and objectives of Serra.

Will all Serrans please stand? Please refer to your program. We ask all Serrans to rededicate themselves with these words, based on Saint John Paul II's 1985 letter to Serrans:

(ALL READ the following which is also printed in their program:)

**In virtue of my baptism and confirmation,
I take my place among the People of God.
I pledge to fulfill the responsibilities
which correspond to my state in life
and to practice the virtues
of faith, hope, and charity.**

**I pledge to use the grace of my personal gifts,
guided by the light of the Gospel
and the mind of the Church
to carry out my mission in the world.**

**I accept the Serran responsibility
to promote vocations to the Ordained Ministries,
and the Religious Life
and to offer support and encouragement
to those who have answered the call
to these vocations.**

**Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.
Saint Junipero Serra, pray for us.**

MASTER OF CEREMONIES:

____(*Chaplain's name*)____, will you please ask God's blessing on these new officers?

(After the blessing, direct the new officers back to their seats; continue with the Mass or club meeting.)

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- 1 When at all possible, arrange for the District Governor to be the Master of Ceremonies.
 - 2 Arrange with the Chaplain for a special blessing for the new officers immediately following their installation. No surprises.
 - 3 Use your judgment according to the facilities available. If in church, call officers to the foot of the altar, with the current (outgoing) president and the president-elect (incoming president) coming and standing to one side of the lectern. In dining facilities, call to the podium if there is room with the outgoing president and the president-elect coming to one side of the podium; if room is scarce have the officers stand in place, with only the outgoing president and the president-elect coming forward to the podium.
 - 4 The first use of the president's or president elect's name should be formal, e.g., "President Clara Jones"; thereafter, the name may be informal, e.g., "President Clara".
 - 5 If president is continuing a term in office, arrange for someone else to hand over these items.