



SERRA CLUB OF DUPAGE COUNTY

Encouraging and affirming vocations to the priesthood and religious life through prayer and active fellowship since 1958

THE SERRA NEWS – SEPTEMBER 2009

CALENDAR Members welcome at all meetings. Guests welcome at monthly meetings, (dinner is optional at \$15).

SEPTEMBER

21 Monday Continuing an annual tradition which began in 2003 the September meeting will be held at Morning Star Catholic Books and Gifts in Lombard at 6 PM. **Directions:** Morning Star is located at 28 W. St. Charles Road, on the Northeast corner of St. Charles Road & Park. Take Illinois Highway 53 to St. Charles Rd. and go east to Park in downtown Lombard. Turn north on Park and take the first driveway to the right and park in the large lot behind the store. From Roosevelt Rd or North Avenue, take Main St. in Lombard to St. Charles Road and go west one block. Then turn north on Park as above. *Parking & entry at rear of store.*

Sr. Margaret Lekan, OP, Vocation Director, Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception will be our speaker. More information on this page.

26 Saturday Mass at 8.00 am followed by officers meeting at St. Petronille Church, Glen Ellyn. This is a combined September-October officers meeting. Members welcome to attend.

OCTOBER

19 Monday Monthly mass at 6 PM and dinner meeting at St. Petronille Church, Glen Ellyn. More information below

24 Saturday Annual Parish Vocation Contacts (PVC) workshop. Details are on page 2.

25 Sunday Priesthood Sunday. Details are on page 2.

SR. MARGARET LEKAN, OP, TO SPEAK AT SEPTEMBER 21 SERRA ROSARY AND DINNER MEETING

Sr. Margaret Lekan, OP was born on July 26, 1976 in Poznan, Poland as a middle child of three (older brother and younger sister). Growing up in Poland, she received primary, high school and 2 years of university level philosophy education.

Sr. Margaret entered community of the Dominican Sisters of the Immaculate Conception in 1995 in a class of 16 and took first vows in 1997. She took studies for a master's degree in theology at Catholic University of Lublin (CUL), Poland; the university where John Paul II taught as the bishop and cardinal

In the fall of 2000 Margaret arrives in the US on a full scholarship at Gannon University of Erie, PA. In spring of 2001 she transferred to Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in theology in 2002 and with a master's degree in theology in 2004. She also took an additional year of studies in Psychological Counseling. Returning to Poland in 2005 for a year of formation before final vows, she took final profession August 8, 2005 along with 9 other sisters.

In the fall of 2005 she missioned to the Provincial House at Rosary Hill in Justice, IL and was entrusted with responsibilities of vocation director, director of the Dominican Retreat Center, part-time catechesis as well as part-time youth ministry. Sister developed a youth ministry program called Dominican Youth Days; about 40 children meet every month for catechesis, fun, prayer, good movie, and fellowship

As a member for 3 years on the Coordinators' team for Polish Archdiocesan Youth Rally, hosted 1600 youth on the grounds of the Provincial House in 2007. Additionally she lectures in the Chicago Archdiocesan training program for catechists

Since January 2008 Sister has coordinated the formation of 2 American-born aspirants to the Dominican Sisters (Karen and Sarah entered into postulancy on August 7, 2009). Sister Margaret is passionate about preaching, loves meeting new people and participating in new evangelization outreaches. During her free time she loves walking and reading.

Editors note. Sister is a member of JAVA, the Joliet Area Vocation Association. She coordinated the Joliet Diocese Seminarian retreat which was held at Rosary Hill in May 2009.

DIACONATE ORDINATIONS NOVEMBER 7, 2009

Five men will be ordained to the Order of Deacon on Saturday, November 7 at 11:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Aurora: Raed Bader, Stephen Eickhoff, John Lindsey, Josh Miller, and Jason Stone. All are welcome to attend. For more information please go to www.vocations.com

VOCATION PRAYER CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 09

The Vocations Prayer Calendar has been distributed to parishes, Parish Vocation Contacts, Serrans and others. If you wish a copy please send an e-mail to George Carr at carrgj@sbcglobal.net

HAPPY BIRTHDAY'S TO SEMINARIANS STUDYING FOR THE DIOCESE OF JOLIET

None of our 27 Seminarians has a birthday in the month of September. We will have some in October.

WELCOME NEW SERRAN DIANE FABRIZIUS

My life's journey has meandered through rural, suburban and city landscapes in the Chicago area and around the globe. My 6 brothers, 2 sisters and I were raised on a dairy farm in western Kane County. I attended Sts. Peter & Paul Grade School in Virgil, IL, Rosary High School in Aurora, IL and Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL. I fulfilled my childhood dream of becoming a doctor when I graduated 25 years ago from the University Of Illinois College Of Medicine. After finishing my training in Internal Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin and Loyola University Medical Center, I joined a group of physicians in Elmhurst where I continue to practice today.

Combining my love of medicine and travel, I have participated in medical mission trips to the Philippines, Kenya and Bolivia with the Diocese of Joliet Partnership in Mission. An unexpected benefit of my mission experiences has been meeting and working with amazing people, some of them Sisters and priests. I have been inspired by the Sisters who provide a loving rescue home in the Philippines and the Sisters who operate a clinic for victims of HIV/AIDS in Kenya. I have also been inspired by a priest providing pastoral care to the poor in remote mountain villages in Bolivia. These experiences have caused me to take closer notice of something I had previously took for granted--the dedicated religious workers we have here at home. I now have a greater appreciation of the Franciscan and Dominican Sisters who taught me in elementary and high school.

I also have a deeper appreciation of the many wonderful priests who nourish our spiritual lives with all they do—especially with the celebration of the Eucharist. I have joined the Serra Club to salute these dedicated men and women and to help others who may be hearing God's call to follow Him as priests and religious know they have our support and love.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE SERRA VOCATION MASS AND DINNER MEETINGS

Please mark your calendar. November 16, December 28, Jan 18, February 15, Mar 15, Apr 5, May 17 and June 21

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE FOLLOWING WHO ARE ILL

Fr. Michael Komechak, OSB. Jim & Rita O'Toole, Betty Rosenbaum, Jim and Jeanne Cormack

BLESSED JUNIPERO SERRA

I wish I could communicate to [my family] the great joy that fills my heart. If I could do this, then surely they would always encourage me to go forward and never turn back. Let them remember that the office of apostolic preacher, especially in its actual exercise, is the greatest calling to which they could wish me to be chosen.

PARISH VOCATION CONTACTS – ANNUAL WORKSHOP/TRAINING SESSION OCTOBER 24

On Saturday, **October 24, 2009**, the Vocation Office & JAVA (Joliet Area Vocation Association) will host a training session from **8:30am – 12:30pm** at the **Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet** for those who are interested in promoting vocations in their parish. Each pastor has been requested to send at least 2 representatives from their parish to this meeting. This will be a great way to develop a culture of vocations in your parish. Practical ways in which vocations can be promoted in the parish will be discussed. Names of those who will be attending should be sent to Ron Beaumont at rrboards@aol.com. There is no cost for this training session.

MONTHLY HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS AT MARMION ABBEY

Marmion Abbey located at 850 Butterfield Road in Aurora has a Holy Hour for Vocations in their chapel at 4:00 pm on the first Sunday of the month. All are welcome. Phone 630 897 7215

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST AND EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS APRIL 2, 2010 – JUNE 26, 2011

Bishop Sartain has appointed the following people to serve on the Year of the Eucharist and Eucharistic Congress Steering Committee: Fr. John Balluff, Fr. Sunny Castillo, Fr. Slawomir Ignasik, Fr. Douglas Martis, Fr. Burke Masters, Deacon Ed Petak, Sr. Sharon Stola, OSB, Sr. Therese Galvan, CND, Sr. Marie Elizabeth Sallase, OP, Mrs. Betty Carr, Mr. Doug Delaney, Ms. Joyce Donahue, Mr. Paul Mach, Ms. Mary McGuire and Mr. Miguel Moreno. The Bishop has given the Steering Committee the responsibility of overseeing the planning and execution of the Year of the Eucharist and the Eucharistic Congress. Many thanks to these Steering Committee members for their generous commitment of time, talent and energy for this effort.

Observance of the year of the Eucharist will begin on Holy Thursday, 2010 (April 1) and close with the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of the Lord on June 26, 2011. Further information will appear in the future at www.dioceseofjoliet.org.

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 2009

Priesthood Sunday is a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood in the life of the Church as a central one. The nationwide event is sponsored by the USA Council of Serra International.

Please go to www.serraus.org for information on how you can develop your own way of marking the day and honoring parish priests both at Mass and other parish events, such as social celebrations and school activities.

FR. BURKE MASTERS – VOCATION DIRECTOR – THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY BLOG

Fr. Burke Master has a blog which includes his “thoughts for the day”. Go to <http://frburke23.wordpress.com> to see the blog. You can subscribe to receive the daily “thoughts” on the front page of the blog.

ADOPT-A-PRIEST PROGRAM

With the concurrence and encouragement of Bishop Peter Sartain, we are pleased to announce the Adopt-A-Priest program for diocesan and religious priests in the diocese of Joliet. The purpose of Adopt-A-Priest is to insure that all our active and retired priests know that they are supported with prayer by Serrans and others.

The method of adoption is a lapel pin with a Roman collar against a black background with wording at the top “Serra for Vocations” and at the bottom “Adopt-A-Priest”. Each pin is unique with inscription on the back of the pin which includes the adopted priest’s initials and year of ordination



The adopter is provided with the pin to wear. They are also provided with an introductory card with the name of the adopted priest along and a mailing envelope to mail to the priest. The card will also indicate the name of the adopted priest.

We encourage all of our readers and friends to Adopt-A-Priest **today**.

To Adopt-A-Priest mail a check for \$10 payable to Serra Club of DuPage County. You may adopt more than one priest. To insure that all priests are adopted, names will be assigned randomly. Mail to Joanne Carr, 320 Browning Court, Wheaton, IL 60189. Net proceeds will go for the education of Seminarians.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS - CLERGY - DIOCESE OF JOLIET – PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR PRIESTS

2 Rev. Daniel Stempora	Retired
3 Rev. Stanley Drewniak	St. John Vianney, Lockport
4 Rev. Reynaldo Treyes	St. Liborius, Steger
7 Rev. Francis McDonald	Retired-Driscoll High School, Addison
8 Rev. William O'Shea	Retired-Chicago
9 Rev. John Dennerlein	Retired-Galena
9 Rev. Thomas White	Retired-Wheaton
10 Rev. Mark Rosenbaum	St Mary Immaculate, Plainfield
11 Rev. David Hynos, OP	Tribunal
11 Rev. Zachary Hrisko, OSB	St. Procopius Abbey, Lisle
12 Rev. Jonathan Foster, OFM	Mayslake Ministries, Westmont
14 Rev. Douglas Hauber	St. James, Irwin& St. Margaret Mary, Herscher & Goodrich
14 Rev. Edward Mumper	Retired-Wisconsin
17 Rev. Gregory Skowron	St. Anthony, Frankfort
18 Rev. James Dougherty	St. Petronille, Glen Ellyn
18 Rev. James Murphy	Immaculate Conception, Elmhurst
20 Rev. Scott McCawley	Medical leave
20 Rev. Donald Wehnert, CSV	St. Patrick, Kankakee
21 Rev. T. Becket Franks, OSB	St. Procopius Abbey, Lisle
22 Rev. Robert Coleman	St. Mary, Beaverville
25 Rev. Donald Lewandowski, OSA	St. Jude, New Lenox
23 Rev. Mark Jendrysik	St. Philip the Apostle, Addison
28 Most Rev. Daniel Ryan	St. John Vianney Villa, Naperville
29 Rev. Robert Boley, O. Carm.	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Darien
29 Rev. Michael Powell	Provena St. Mary Hospital, KKK

EDITORS NOTE

Your editor became a grandfather again on August 24; Anna Lorraine named after the grandparents of the parents. Your editor will return on September 12 from a motor trip to CO, MT & WY where he lived for over 20 years.

OBJECTIVES OF SERRA INTERNATIONAL

To foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood in the Catholic Church as a particular vocation to service, and to support priests in their sacred ministry. To encourage and affirm vocations to consecrated religious life in the Catholic Church; and

To assist its members to recognize and respond in their own lives to God’s call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

THE SERRA NEWS

The Serra News is distributed monthly by the Serra Club of DuPage County.

Contact Ron Beaumont at rrboards@aol.com or phone 630 858 4646 to be removed from the mailing list.