

Serra Club of Kansas City-North

Serving the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, Missouri Club # 1072 District 12-2 Region 9 Chartered 10/28/04

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A Note from Our President

Greetings fellow Serrans. Hopefully everyone was able to enjoy the holidays even though we had some sorrow and grief to deal with very recently. Know that we are praying for all of our members. Our Wine and Dine event in October was a financial success, and we all learned a great deal from the consecrated and diocesan members of our Kansas City community. We now have the SOS (Support our Seminarians) dinner coming up on 1/29/16 at Union Station and we would like to send 3 people, if the Board agrees with my proposal. In February on 2/2/16 it will be the close of the Year of Consecrated Life and on 2/18/16 there will be the 5th grade vocation day with more information available closer to the date.

I wanted to write a little about the Year of Mercy that started with Advent of 2015. Besides St. Faustina being the secretary of Divine Mercy, St John Paul II wanted God to use him as "an instrument of his Divine Mercy, bringing healing to souls." as taken from the book "St John Paul the Great. His Five Loves "by Jason Evert. One passage stated that the Pope "became an icon of this unceasing mercy" when he welcomed former prostitutes to attend one of his Wednesday audiences. The Pope embraced and blessed this group of women and he received criticism for his welcoming them to the Vatican. "Like Jesus, he welcomed objective moral truth and boundless mercy, liberating each of these women to be herself."

While the Holy Father was alive, he would hear confessions on Good Friday at St. Peter's Basilica except for the week before he died. The Pope declared that "sin is always a suffering of the human soul, a pain of the human conscience. That is why it is important that, at the moment of confessing our sins, there be on the other side of the confessional screen a man who is sensitive, who can sympathize."

When speaking to the young people in America, he said that during confession "you are freed from sin and from its ugly companion which is shame, Your burdens are lifted and you experience the joy of new life in Christ." John Paul II wrote in Veritatis Splendor "No human sin can erase the mercy of God, or prevent him from unleashing all his triumphant power, if we only call upon him."

Let us all continue on our faith journey and continue with our charism of promoting vocations in our own special way. Blessings.

Pris

A Note from Our Chaplain!



Praise be Jesus Christ!

As we continue through this Christmas season, we have much to be thankful for! Reflecting on Christ as our greatest gift of all time, He has been kind to bless all of us with so many other gifts as well!

The greatest gift of all is His true presence in the Most Holy Eucharist! As Serrans, striving to do the good work of God, having a relationship with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist is essential for any good work we do. Christ gave us the gift of Himself at Christmas, and then again the gift of Himself in the Eucharist so that we can be one with Him and bring Him our needs and petitions.

Although we have left the penitential season of Advent behind, the work of Serra International calls for continuous works of charity and sacrifice on behalf of the Church. Many young men and women are being called to the Priesthood and Religious life, but may not recognize their calling. Here, we have the opportunity to spend time with our Lord in the Eucharist and offer up small penances in our lives on their behalf. This is the true gift we can give to encourage the growth of God's Church here on earth. As we see in God's gift of His son to us, giving is about working for the good of others without expecting repayment.

As we go through this Christmas season, here is a chance to do a little inventory in our lives. What am I doing to promote vocations in the Church? What penances do I offer in my life for those who may not be hearing God's calling? What more can I do? These are simple questions, but when brought regularly to prayer, they can guide us ever closer to God and the good work He is calling us to do!

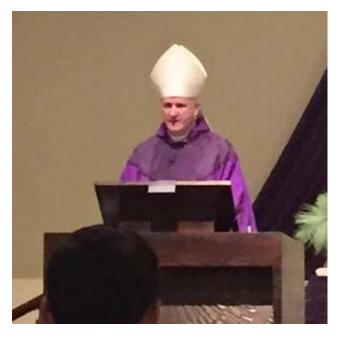
May our Lord Bless You all this Christmas Season!

Father Joshua Barlett

Bishop Johnston's Mass and Dinner for Seminarians and their Families 12/21/15



Laura Klonica & Janet Carroll Inducted as New Serrans



Bishop Johnston during his Homily



Bishop Johnston Enjoying Festivities



Our Seminarians Receiving their Christmas Gifts

Serrans to Receive 10-year Pins at January Meeting

John Destefano

Mary Pat Destefano

Dennis Dolan

Clarissa Grill

Rick Grindell

Kurt Killen

John Lusero

Jim O'Laughlin

Carolyn O'Laughlin

Claude Sasso

Wayne Snyder

Barbara Snyder

Steven Van Keirsbilck

Mark Your Calendar

January:

29th 23rd Annual S.O.S Support Our Seminarians Dinner Union Station—30 W. Pershing Rd. KCMO

Speaker: Monsignor Stuart Swetland, President of Donnelly College \$175 per person at tables of ten people.

To reserve your place, or an entire table, or donate to the marketplace Or VIP silent auction, please contact Martha Hodes at (913) 207-9893 Or please e-mail mmmh66@sbcglobal.net.

February:

| 2 nd | Close of the Year for Consecrated Life |
|------------------------|---|
| 7 th | World Day for Consecrated Life |
| 14 th | SE KC Serra Valentine's Fundraiser |
| 16 th | Fifth-Grade Vocation Day |

March:

28th California Mission Pilgrimage (Serra US)
http://www.materdeitours.com

Upcoming Programs VP Programs – Sandy Sutton Location: St. Andrews

January 17th Fr. Randolph Sly "Journey of an Episcopal Priest to the Catholic Church"

February 16th Barbara Furnari "Mary and the Muslims"

March 15th Pam Tyrrell "The Writings of Pope Francis"

Note from the Editor: All pictures and articles must be received by the Editor no later than March 23rd, 2016 in order to be included in the April-June Newsletter.