



North-Minneapolis SERRAN

“The Jubilee Year of Mercy”

District 7

Club #418

September, 2016

September & October MEETINGS & EVENTS

Sept. 13th **12:15pm** Lunch Meeting
@ Jax Cafè
Speaker: Barb Ernster

Sept. 20th **8:45am** Board Meeting
@ St Charles-Holy Fam. Room

Thursdays Adoration @ Sacred
Heart Robbinsdale 8:30-8:00pm

Sept. 27th **11:30am** Holy Mass
@ Holy Cross Church
12:15pm Lunch Meeting @Jax
Speaker: Fr. James Peterson

Oct. 11th **12:15pm** Lunch Meeting
@ Jax Cafè
Speaker: Mike Smeby, Dist Gov.

Oct. 18th **8:45am** Board Meeting
@ St Charles-Holy Fam. Room

Thursdays Adoration @ Sacred
Heart Robbinsdale 8:30-8:00pm

Oct. 25th **11:30am** Holy Mass
@ Holy Cross Church
12:15pm Lunch Meeting @Jax
Speaker: Fr. Charles Lachowitz



Prayers are needed
for our fellow Serrans

Jack Hunt, Laslo Nemeth, Barb
Feyereisen, MaryAnne Frank, Jo Ellen
Solar and repose of the soul of Don
Moorhead

May God’s love be with you!



President’s Message

By Judy Makowske

My husband Don and I were blessed to have the Traveling Vocations Chalice in our home for a few weeks during the month of August. Having the Chalice on our dining room table inspired us to invite a fellow parishioner / friend to join us for brunch after Sunday Mass rather than keep it to ourselves. Sharing our table along with the meaning of the Vocations Chalice was a bonus I hadn’t thought about when I agreed to take the chalice. In addition, our friend brought a hostess gift with him – a framed copy of an icon of the Blessed Virgin written by one of our Serra members, Jack Hunt. I will share it with you at one of our member meetings.

The chalice was also a great witness for the importance of Church vocations to our three grandchildren who recently spent a week with us. During their visit we prayed the rosary each evening with them. Praying the rosary is one of my fondest memories of their visit, because Joseph (almost 5 and starting kindergarten this month) learned how to lead a decade. There is nothing quite as sweet as listening to children’s voices leading the prayers that we sometimes take for granted. It made each “Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be” come alive.

There has been some hesitancy by our Serra members to bring the chalice home for two weeks. I encourage you to do so...the graces flow!



The Traveling Vocations Chalice set up at the Makowske home.

Program Hi-Lites #1

By Eugenia Buchmann/ Programs Co V-P



Deacon Matthew Quail, was born and raised as a Lutheran in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He shared his conversion and vocation story with us on August 9. Deacon is pictured here with Sister Rosemary Essien HHCJ visiting our Club from Nigeria,

Deacon Quail was successful in music and academics in high school. He attended college at South Dakota State University and decided to find a career “to make money”. In college he was looking for people who lived and stood for morals. He found this in the Catholic Church. He read history and realized that the Catholic Church was founded by Jesus Christ and continued by His apostles. He studied music for a while but didn’t like the party scene. It was difficult to find people who didn’t want to do party. He felt “there’s got to be more to life than this!” He became involved at the Newman Center on campus and FOCUS came on his campus in 2007. He had one foot in the music culture and one foot in the Newman Center Culture. His heart was set on Jesus Christ and His Church. He entered the church on December 22, 2007 while a junior in college.

He was trying to decide what to do after graduation. He finished college with a degree in Business. He wanted to know if there was a job teaching people about Jesus and His Church. During his senior year he went on a visit to SJV and fell in love with it. He found normal guys there and he enjoyed the rhythm of life he was looking for. His parents were not happy about his conversion. A priest at the Newman Center encouraged him to try the seminary. He was at SJV for two years for the Sioux Falls Diocese. He realized that if he were ordained for that diocese he would probably spend his life in small towns and that didn’t appeal to him. He left the seminary, feeling he has given God “the first shot”. He moved to St Paul and found a job in Minneapolis in banking. He had fun with his co-workers but found the same environment as in college. He was living counter-culture. He again felt there was more to life. He spoke to his dad about how miserable he was. His father told him he needed to go back to the seminary because that’s where he was the happiest.

He asked God for a sign. He felt that if he had one week to live he would go door to door telling people about Jesus Christ. He called Fr. Przybilla (vocation director at the time) and told him he felt the Lord was calling him back. Msgr Callaghan happened to ask Fr. Przybilla if he had heard from him and told him yes just this day. He was accepted one month later for the Archdiocese. He was ordained to the diaconate this past May and will be ordained in May, 2017.

Vocation Awareness

By Norma Swanson

Last month we talked about Vocation Projects that have worked and a great one of those has been the Traveling Vocations Chalice. The problem is, it hasn’t been getting in much “traveling” lately. Here’s how we can remedy that. First of all, I’d like to recommend that each of us North-Minneapolis members take it into our own homes – either for the first time or as a refresher to see how effective a tool it can be. While it is in our own homes, let us expose it to as many of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren as we can. Maybe one of them would like to “host it” themselves in their home or even in their classroom as a “show and tell” project.

After we have each had it in our own homes, the feedback you can provide us with would be an enormous help. Was the program well explained? Was the enclosed information sufficient? Would you have any suggestions on additions or modifications to the kit? Either write down your evaluations or call me or Vickie Osborne to better explain what you’d like to see.

The next project that needs your attention is our “God Stuff Booth”. The figures are languishing: the two large original wooden ones in St. William’s storage room and the second, brand new, aluminum collapsible model is in MaryAnn and Steve Frank’s custody. You have been asked before to get the dates and information on Parish Festivals in our area so we can offer the figures for those events. So far, no information on dates and potential host parishes has been received (outside of St. Charles). Perhaps, with a little more effort, we can get these figures out and circulating again, doing the job they were meant to do --- bring awareness of priestly and religious vocations to our youth. That’s what we’re all about, right?

Parish Vocation Advocates (those who generously assume vocation info responsibility to local parishes) are deeply appreciated and we want to keep you supplied with new ideas and announcements for the parishes you have ‘adopted’. A brainstorming session is in the works so keep your eyes sharp for opportunities in your parish(es) and we’ll get together soon, hopefully in early September, to share what’s practical, feasible and doable.

**Blessed are those who
recognize their God-
given responsibilities.**

They must all be Serrans, right?

**Here I am Lord; I come
to do your will.**

Program Hi-Lites #2

By Eugenia Buchmann/ Programs Co V-P

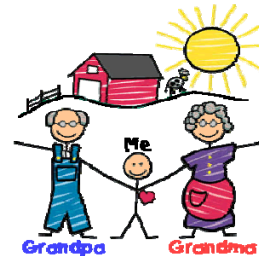


Jane Bona, Principal of Immaculate Conception School, spoke to the Serrans on August 23 about Catholic education and how alive and well it is at IC. The scripture quote that speaks to her and has become the school theme is Mark 9:23 "All things are possible for one who believes". Upon graduation from college, Jane began teaching in the public school. She always wondered about teaching in the Catholic school since she had had a wonderful experience in her own education at St. Charles Borromeo. Six years ago she took a leave of absence and was asked to serve on a committee at IC to examine the viability of the school. She realized that God had a plan for her. IC opened in 1939 and at one time had as many as 1100 students. She was offered the position of principal and accepted with the promise of help from her husband, Roger. IC is committed to faith, academics and service. The enrollment has risen from about 100 to 145 this year. Many are children of immigrant families from Liberia, Nigeria, Ecuador and Mexico.

Two years ago, IC partnered with Notre Dame University on a program of "blended learning" which blends traditional classes with online technology. It is a personalized learning program with just the right level for each child. It is very beneficial and based on core values and funded by a grant. It is also very strong in the faith component.

Catholic education equals excellence. She has also beautified the school with religious art. Children learn the faith through art. We were invited to tour the school. Jane has marketed the school with ads on Relevant Radio and recently with billboards on University Ave and near Menards. The billboard features five students - 2 Caucasian, 1 Liberian, 1 Ecuadorian and 1 Ethiopian which represents the diverse student population. Immaculate Conception School is a "beam of light" in the community. The best marketing is "word of mouth" from parents and students.

Great things are happening in education in this archdiocese. There is a new magazine about our Catholic schools, put out by the archdiocese and should be available at church. Jane has been honored for her work at IC. She is currently "Principal of the Year" in this Archdiocese and has also received other awards on the national level such as the 2016 National Catholic Educational Association "Lead. Learn. Proclaim." award which recognizes excellence and distinguished service in Catholic School education.



Membership Missive

By MaryAnne Frank

Status Quo VS GROWTH!

Serra International has challenged each Club to GROW! To not grow is to diminish and with a mission as important as that of our Serra Club, we cannot afford to allow the work of fostering vocations to dwindle! Where else can you take a friend out to lunch and hear an inspiring message for free? Share the Serra Mission with a friend and bring them to a meeting ~ your fellow Serrans will help to welcome them and you couldn't offer them a better invitation!

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YOUR SERRA CALENDAR

SEP 8 **Begins the 5th year of Thursday Eucharistic Adoration for the sanctification of Priests and Seminarians at the St. Paul Seminary.**

OCT 30 - **Priesthood Sunday - Which Church will you be helping to celebrate with their pastor by providing awareness announcements or cards?**

NOV 6-12 - **National Vocation Awareness Week**

FEB 5 - **World Day for Consecrated Life**

MAKE YOUR APPRECIATION KNOWN!

JAN 15 - **3RD VOCATION BREAKFAST EVENT AT ST. CHARLES** for boys interested in exploring priesthood or consecrated life after the 10 AM Mass. **Their families are welcome to attend with them. This invitation has been extended to all young boys contemplating a vocation in the Church and living in parishes of members of our North-Minneapolis Club.**

GRANDPARENTING OPPORTUNITY

There is a very active movement in our area to tap into the Faith of Grandparents and encourage them to be more active and visible in sharing our beloved Catholic Faith with their

Grandchildren. Judy Cozzens is one of the big spear headers and recently was a speaker at an Event held in one of the parishes in the south metro area. A couple of tips: Rosary – say a bead (or a decade) for each child or for their friend most in need. Go for the heart of the child...observe and compliment them on good things they do. Watch for more on this movement and begin your own ways of noting and rewarding the good things your grandchildren do no matter what age they are.

1st Place – March 5, 2016

Little Sisters of the Poor

VOCATIONS ESSAY

By Grace L. – St. Vincent DePaul

I'm going to be completely honest. When I first heard that we were going to visit the nunnery, the image that formed in my head did not match at all with what I experienced. The word, "nunnery" made me imagine a vast, intimidating church with strict, rule abiding nuns who would force the sisterhood upon us. Least to say, I wasn't very enthusiastic about the whole thing. When I walked off the bus, I was surprised to find that the "nunnery" wasn't a large and intimidating church. It was actually a home for the elderly titled The Little Sisters of the Poor. When we got inside, we were greeted by a kind sister who showed us a video about the Little Sisters and what their purpose was. I was quick to find out that becoming a sister meant to live a very devoted, yet simple and humble life lived out with God.

After the video, we discussed our vocations and what God wanted us to become when we were older. Another thing I found out quickly during my visit was that the sisters were not trying to force the sisterhood upon us, rather helping us to think about what God wanted of us. God wouldn't want just anyone to be a sister. He called upon special people who have the kindness, patience, and devotion to have the potential of entering the sisterhood, just as God calls others to become teachers, doctors, and soldiers. I'm not sure what my vocation is yet, but this trip has helped me to consider my future and what God wants of me.

Afterwards, we went out to an art room that displayed the resident's artwork. I was glad that the residents were able to experience things that everyone should be able to enjoy. I have been to a lot of nursing homes from visiting my grandparents and other relatives, and one thing that I have realized is that most of the residents were lonely. They had no one to talk to, and couldn't do many of the things we are able to do and enjoy because of their old age and/or disabilities. All they wanted to have was some company and to be treated like a regular person, despite disabilities

I remember we passed by a pastor who was very sick and didn't have much longer. When we walked by, he asked us where we were from. When he heard we were from St. Vincent's, his face lit up in excitement. He went on about how he used to preach there, among many other places before he got sick. I realized that a lot of these people miss the things they were able to do in the past, so it was important that they are able to experience regular activities,

such as beauty salons, crafts, and games, but most of all, that they were able to experience God. We often turn away from God in our time of weakness, and believe He has abandoned us, when in reality, He is by our side the entire time we are suffering. Our times of weakness and vulnerability are when we need God the most.

This trip has really opened my eyes to the sisterhood. I don't think God has particularly called me to become a sister, but then again, He might call me later in the future. I realized how important it is that everyone feels loved, cared for, and important. This applies to everyone, of all ages, health statuses, religions, genders, and races. Though I'm not considering the sisterhood in my future, I would like to be able to contribute to the community by helping and caring for those who are unable to help themselves in the future. I believe that it will not only make a difference in the world, but it will also help me to become a better person.

2nd Place – March 5, 2016

Seminary

VOCATIONS ESSAY

By Connor W. – St. Vincent DePaul

I found our fieldtrip to the Seminary very interesting. I enjoyed seeing the different parts of campus. The buildings were really cool and I liked all the stuff you could do there. I especially liked the place where you could checkout games for the different consoles. The Athletics building was huge and I liked the football field and weight room. I liked the weight room because it was big and had a lot of machines. The chapel where we had Mass was a very nice place and I liked the artwork in it. The Mass went by faster than I expected it to.

This trip also showed me that I should pay attention to God's calling for me. It taught me to listen for Him and to accept what He is calling me to do. I enjoyed listening to the Seminarian's stories about how they found out about what God was calling them and how they are fulfilling God's plan for them. This trip taught me to be more open-minded to all the options for my future that God called me to and not to be afraid of what He wants for me. I hope that I can find that thing and pursue whatever He calls me to with everything I can.

I really enjoyed our trip to the Seminary. It really opened me up to the possibilities of my future and how to pursue my vocation. I hope to one day figure out what that is whether it be to priesthood or to something else. I hope to pursue this with everything I have because I know that is what God put me on this earth to do. I am grateful for the people who opened me up to ideas I have previously dismissed because I knew too little about them.



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Bucks for Buses at work

YOUR BUCKS FOR BUSES AT WORK

SERRA CLUB OF NORTH MINNEAPOLIS MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – AUGUST 16, 2016

Judy Makowske, President, opened the meeting at 8:55am with the Serra Prayer for Vocations

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean Buchmann, Ken Cobian, Barbara Fitzgerald, Stephen Frank, Don Machowicz, Judy Makowske, Vickie Osborne, Norma Swanson, Lorraine Weinmeyer, Marilyn Zappia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: MaryAnne Frank, Larry Gillespie, John Lacina, Judy Nemeth

MINUTES:

- Norma Swanson moved that the minutes for the July 19, 2016 meeting be approved. Stephen Frank seconded the motion. The motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- Don Machowicz presented the Treasurer's Report of August 15, 2016. Total receipts were \$366. Total disbursements were \$1,659.67. Disbursements included \$748.70 for printing of prayer folders and \$600 stipend to help send a delegate to the Serra International convention in St. Louis. Stephen Frank moved the report be approved. Marilyn Zappia seconded. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S ITEMS:

- Prayer Folders: New prayer folders have been printed with "blessed" updated to "Saint" Junipero Serra. 5,000 were printed in English and 2,500 in Spanish and are available to the parishes and schools in our area. The original computer file for the folders has been lost and needs to be recreated.
- We are responsible for the Memorial Service at our retreat at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo, MN on November 19.
- Mike Smeby, District Governor, is looking for nominations for the "Speeter Award" which will be given at the District meeting Nov. 18. Norma Swanson and Judy Makowske have been recipients of the Speeter Award in the past and Leo Paquette and Fran Feyerisen were recipients of the original Caughlin Award which is now reserved for District 7 South nominees.
- 2017 Priesthood Ordinations: We will serve at the reception for Tim Wratkowski. We will need volunteers for the day before and the day of the ordination. We plan to help also at a reception for Tony Lusvardi.
- A vocation brunch for boys and their parents who are members of parishes within our area will be on January 15, 2017 at St. Charles Borromeo following the 10:00am

Mass. This is the 3rd time we have done this for the boys. We have done it twice for the girls. Father David Blume, Vocations Director, and seminarians will speak.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vocations – Norma Swanson, VP

- Priesthood Sunday is October 30. We need to decide how to recognize the various roles they play our lives and show our appreciation. Norma shared some ideas.
- We need to reinvigorate the Parish Advocate program. Vickie Osborne provided the board with an updated listing of the parishes within our area including names of the current pastors and the parish advocate. We don't have advocates for all parishes.
- Traveling chalice is currently at the Makowske family home. It will be available to other families beginning next week.

Communications – Judy Nemeth, VP – Articles for the newsletter are due before August 25.

Programs – Jean Buchmann and Marilyn Zappia, Co-VPs

- August 23 – Speaker will be Mrs. Jane Bona, Principal of Immaculate Conception School in Columbia Hts.
- September 13 – Speaker will be Mrs. Barbara Ernster who will speak on Our Lady of Fatima.

OTHER

- Correction: The dates in the red 2015-2016 roster booklet for September 2016 are wrong. They should be Sept. 13 Jax Café, Sept. 20 S. Board meeting at St. Charles and Sept. 27 Mass at Holy Cross and meeting at Jax Café.
- The September 20 Board meeting will be 8:40am to 11:00 AM to allow additional time to discuss funding.

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- Priesthood Sunday – October 20
- National Vocation Awareness Week is November 6-12

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NEXT MEETINGS:

Members Meeting: Tuesday, August 23. Mass at Holy Cross at 11:30am. Lunch at JAX at 12:15pm
Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 20 at 8:40am at St. Charles Borromeo.

Judy Makowske adjourned the meeting at 10:02am and in closing, led the Board in the Serra "Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations" and the "Thanksgiving Prayer".
Respectfully submitted: Barbara Fitzgerald for Lorraine Weinmeyer, Secretary

Mother Teresa's A Prayer of Adoration

**O God, we believe you are here.
We adore you and love you with our whole heart
and soul because you are most worthy of all our
love.**

**We desire to love you as the blessed do in
heaven. Flood our souls with your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess our whole being utterly,
that our lives may only be a radiance of yours.**

**Whine through us, and be so in us that every
soul we come in contact with may feel your
presence in our soul.**

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

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