

*A ministry to foster and promote vocations through prayer, awareness, affirmation and support*

May-June 2019

## SERRA CLUB OF SPOKANE

Club 2 District IE Region PNW

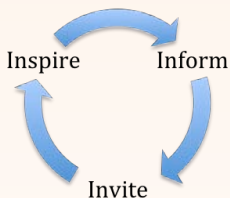
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USA

### Letter from Our President



St. Jose Maria Escriva, the founder of Opus Dei, preached the universal call to holiness, especially for lay people living everyday lives and doing everyday work. He said, “there is something holy, something divine, hidden in the most ordinary situations, and it is up to each of you to discover it.”

An active Serran has many opportunities to bring the holy and divine out of the ordinary. **Ordinary** – like attending membership meetings, learning from a variety of speakers, interacting with fellow Serrans, seminarians, priests, and consecrated women religious. **Ordinary** – like praying together a decade of the rosary for vocations, the Serra prayers for vocations, and currently the Novena to St. Junipero Serra for Bishop Daly’s intentions. **Ordinary** – like attending special events; the Sisters Mass and Luncheon, Clergy Appreciation Dinner, Anniversary Dinner, Welcome Back Dinner.

Serran activities and events may be ordinary but reflect on how they can lead to a greater understanding of your personal holiness, especially as you personify our mission for others: to foster and affirm vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life.

Let’s get busy in Serra! Step out of your comfort zone. Discern and discover your God given gifts and hidden talents. Use these gifts and talents for the greater glory of God and His church.

Hidden in these activities you will find the holy; you will find the divine. Begin by volunteering to serve on the board in any of the following everyday Serran activities:

- Assist Greg Takisaki, VP for Membership, by talking about and promoting Serra to others.
- Assist Gerry and Sue Manfred, VPs for Communications, by submitting articles or suggestions for the newsletter and letting them know when others need prayer.
- Assist Bill and Barbara Boniface, VPs for Vocations, by implementing the 31 Club, the Traveling Crucifix, or any one of the many programs available through SPARK in your parish.
- Assist Al Hanson, VP for Programs, by suggesting speakers or topics of interest. Each one of us should then invite others to programs and events.
- Assist with the planning and organization of events. Not just the setting and cleaning up, but centerpieces, invitations, sometimes food preparation, or maybe something you’ve always wanted to see at an event and can assist with its fruition.

While you are working, you may meet a Serran you did not know, or become closer to another. Use these opportunities to practice charity. Work can be a prayer, just as Jesus did for many years before He began His public ministry.

*Steve Domini*

## The Chaplain's Corner

Dear Serrans,

"My Bride is wounded, and I am asking you to help her."

This was the invitation which I gave to the Board of the Serra Club of Spokane at a meeting just before the beginning of Lent.

The Church, the Bride of Christ, is suffering because of the sins of her members—all of her members—and all of us are called to help. In response to this suffering of the Church, I extend that same invitation to all Serrans—indeed, to everyone—to join me every 1st Thursday in a monthly Holy Hour of Reparation for the sins of the members of the Church, and to pray for more and holy vocations to the priesthood for the Diocese of Spokane.

The crisis has been on my mind and heart for a long time, and like many others I wondered how I could help. When it became clear that the incorrupt heart of St. Jean Marie Vianney would be coming to the Diocese of Spokane on the first Thursday of Lent, the idea of a 1st Thursday devotion began to take shape.

At times of crisis, God always responds by raising up saints. Each member of the Church is called to holiness, which is lived in different ways depending upon one's vocation. Especially at this time in her history, the whole Church is called to respond by becoming holy. The question before each Catholic is, "How is God calling me to holiness?"

Jesus calls priests to become holy through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. The fact that some fail in this does not change the fact that the rest of the Church is still called to become holy. The vocation of a Serran is to grow in holiness by fostering and affirming vocations to the ministerial priesthood and vowed religious life. This initiative affirms that each of the members of the Church is responsible for the holiness of all.

Why Thursday? Because that is the day Our Lord instituted the Holy Priesthood and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. What better day to pray for a renewal of the Church?

I pray that this initiative will spread to each parish, so that in every parish men and women offer prayers of reparation for the sins of our brothers and sisters and beg the Good Shepherd to send more shepherds after His own heart. If you would like more information, call Bishop White Seminary at (509) 313-7100.

Please be assured of my prayers for you, and please pray for me.

In Christ,

*Very Rev. Daniel Barnett*



## Membership Gatherings

### March Luncheon Program – Fr. Brian Mee – a Vocation Story

Fr. Brian Mee shared some of his story with the Serra Club at the March luncheon.

Fr. Mee was born in Spokane and graduated from Mater Cleri Seminary, a boarding high school, in Colbert. There were 18 students in his freshman class. The priest told them that on average 1 in 13 would become a priest. In his class 3 of the 18 became priests, beating the odds. Classes were held six days a week, but Saturday was a shortened schedule. There was not much free time as classes were all day and study hall in the evening. For those with sports, band, or other extra-curricular activity there was even less free time.

After leaving Mater Cleri Fr. Mee entered Bishop White Seminary and attended Gonzaga University. At the time BWS was in three buildings. Seminarians preferred getting assigned to the out buildings as there was more freedom (hear the laughter?).

Upon graduation from Gonzaga, he continued his studies in Rome. A funny thing happened on the way to Rome. Instead of taking a boat across the Atlantic, he crossed the Pacific and ended up in Cambodia. Pol Pot was still in power, but things were getting better even though the Khmer Rouge were still around. While in Cambodia he contracted hepatitis.

When he got to Rome, he was admitted to Salvator Mundi Hospital. He was able to remain in Rome until finishing his priestly studies and was ordained in 1978.

His first assignment was DeSales Catholic High School in Walla Walla. Next, he went to Our Lady of Fatima Parish for 2 years. His next assignment was to the mission in Guatemala, where he spent 6 years. He enjoyed the mission and could see spending many years there.

After much prayer and contemplation, he asked Bishop Welsh for permission to enter Mount Angel Abbey in Oregon. Permission was granted and he spent the next 20 years as a monk in the Benedictine Abbey.

He returned to the Spokane Diocese and spent a very short time at St. Mary Parish in the Valley before becoming the pastor at St. Peter Parish for 8 years. Currently, he is the pastor at St. Augustine Parish and the Spokane Diocese's Vicar of Finance.

Everyone is encouraged to tune into Sacred Heart Radio for "Bishop and the Vicars." Those of us who have heard the program have found it informative and highly entertaining.

*VP for Programs Al Hanson*



### Prayerfully Consider an Endowment Contribution

*This endowment fund supports our seminarians in perpetuity.*

#### **To contribute:**

Add an additional endowment contribution on your next annual dues invoice to make a 100% tax deductible donation.

Contact Sue Manfred at 926-1067 or Bob Boehme at 924-2405 with questions.

## Annual Sisters Appreciation Mass and Luncheon a great success

Serra Club of Spokane honored the women religious of the Spokane Diocese (and even some from the Diocese of Boise) at their Annual Sisters Appreciation Mass and Lunch on April 13. Bishop Thomas Daly celebrated Mass with Fr. Sean Thomson, pastor of St. Charles Parish, concelebrating. The sisters enjoyed a wonderful meal, and each received a small gift from Serra Club members. Luncheon was served and the dishes were done by Gonzaga Prep's Knights of the Leash and Ancilla.

During the brief program, the following sisters were given proclamations of appreciation in honor of the anniversaries of their profession of perpetual vows: Sr. Patricia Basel, SNJM, 75 years; Sr. Dorothy Byrne, SP, 75 years; Sr. Judith George, SP, 60 years; Sr. Ida Mae Marceau, SP, 60 years; Sr. Mary Ann O'Mara, SNJM, 60 years; Mother Kathryn Joseph, SMMC, 50 years; and Sr. Ana Orellana, SP, 40 years. All but Sr. Patricia Basel were present to receive their certificates.

Sister Rose noted that the sisters all look forward to this gathering and are very grateful to Serra for providing the opportunity to renew old friendships.



Above: Celebration of Mass  
Below: Serran Pat Paullin and friends



Above: Sr. Esther Velasquez, OSB, Fr. Thomson, Sr. M. Francis Therese, MC  
Below: Serrans Takisakis, Burgards and friends



Below: Sisters enjoying fellowship with each other.



At right: President Steve hands out proclamation certificates.

## Serra Training and Planning Conference



to the future. Led by District Governor, Celine Petersen, they re-committed themselves to their mission as given

Always Forward, Never Back – Members of the Serra Club of the Tri-Cities, Serra Club of North Idaho, and the Serra Club of Spokane spent their Spring Training Conference on April 27 looking

to them by Pope St. John Paul II, to foster and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and to support our priests and women religious.

Several presentations were given by current and past officers on best practices to grow and maintain club membership. Father Barnett, Chaplain of Spokane Serra, looked to the future as he shared current studies about the generations termed “millennial” generation and “iGen.” Members left energized by renewed friendships and the ideas shared during the discussions.

## What's Going On

### Saturday Monthly Meetings

As you may have noticed, the monthly Saturday meetings have been sparsely scheduled and when held, they've been sparsely attended. Your board is struggling with obtaining wonderful speakers only to have a handful of attendees. In addition, our Saturday meetings are held on the fourth Saturday which often means a holiday – Memorial Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.

While we discuss what avenue to pursue – we do believe it is important to offer a meeting working members may attend – we have put the Saturday meetings on hold. Options we have discussed include maintaining the fourth Saturday; changing to a different Saturday; changing to an evening; and a few others.

Contribute your thoughts and ideas by contacting President Steve Domini, [dominis60@gmail.com](mailto:dominis60@gmail.com) or (509) 468-6774 or any other member of the board.



### Traveling Crucifix Kits in the diocesan schools

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all Serrans who helped accomplish getting Traveling Crucifix Kits into the Catholic schools!

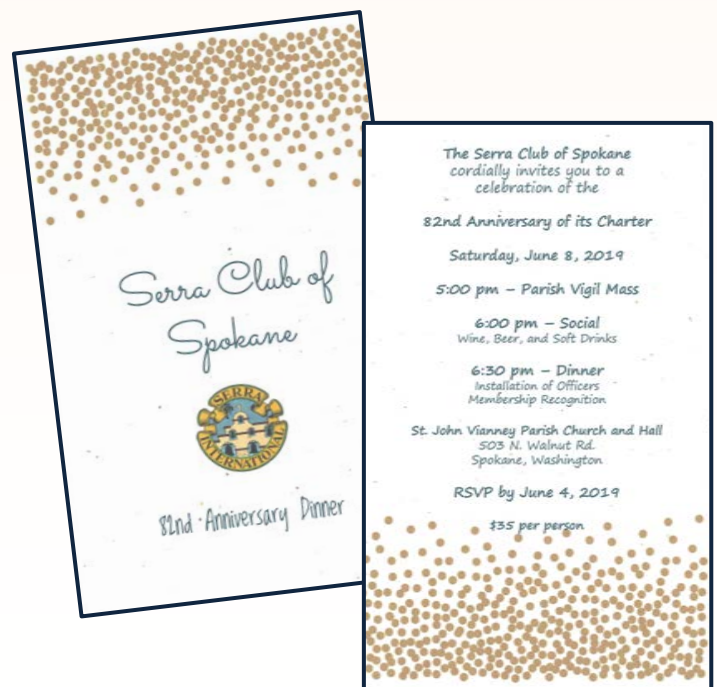
The following members are to be commended and we are very appreciative of their donations: Bill and Barbara Boniface; George and Sharon Czerwonka; Steve and Karen Domini; Emily Klein; Sue and Gerry Manfred; and Martin Weber.

### Serra Club's Anniversary Dinner – June 8

It is time to celebrate! It's our anniversary! Yes, the Serra Club of Spokane is another year older and we're going to have a dinner.

Officers for the 2019/2020 year will be installed as well as members honored for their time in Serra.

Invitations have gone out so look for yours in the mail.



## Thank You Letters

Dear Spokane Serrans,  
 Thank you for having Mass offered for my mom (Louise St. Hilaire). She was a committed Serran (Tri-Cities) and whole-hearted supporter of priestly and religious vocations. She seldom missed a Serra function and had some of her closest friends in the club. What a loss. What a loss. But what a gain, too, to have such a strong intercessor in heaven.

Blessings,  
 ~ Fr. Kenny St. Hilaire

Dear Serrans,  
 The family of Greg Rae thanks you for your kind expression of sympathy. Thank you, club members! Your Mass card and prayers are greatly appreciated.  
 ~ Dennis Rae

Dear Members of the Serra Club,  
 I want to **THANK YOU** for the very nice luncheon – the “Sisters Appreciation Luncheon,” that you had in April. Once again you provided a lovely event for all of us! It is always so nice to gather for Mass and then a delicious lunch with all of you and I appreciate all your extra work and care! Thank you as well for the nice little gift. I am always glad when I am able to attend!  
 Wishing each of you many blessings as we continue to celebrate this beautiful Easter season.  
 Peace and all good,  
 ~ Sr. Patricia Novak, OSF

Dear Serrans of Spokane,  
 Thank you so much for the very delightful, beautiful, and prayerful celebration of appreciation on April 13. The lunch was delicious, the table settings lovely, the opportunity to be with other sisters and Serrans a real joy. Thank you, too, for all your ministry throughout the year, especially for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.  
 May God bless you with many gifts of hope and peace,  
 ~ Sr. Judith George, SP

## Ordination Anniversaries

Fr. Joseph Weitensteiner	May 14, 1966	Fr. Darrin Connall	May 29, 1992	Fr. Kevin Oiland	Jun 26, 2009
Fr. Robert Turner	May 19, 1982	Most Rev. Thomas Daly	May 29, 1987	Fr. Joseph Bell	Jun 27, 1974
Fr. James Kuhns	May 21, 1961	Rev. Msgr. Robert Pearson	May 29, 1965	Fr. David Gaines	Jun 27, 2014
Fr. Edward Marier	May 21, 1988	Fr. Joseph Sullivan, Jr.	May 30, 2003	Fr. Paul Heric	Jun 27, 2014
Fr. Lutakome Nsubuga	May 21, 2010	Fr. John Krier	Jun 7, 1969	Fr. Matthew Nicks	Jun 27, 2008
Most Rev. William Skylstad	May 21, 1960	Fr. Tyrone Schaff	Jun 9, 1973	Fr. Brian Sattler	Jun 27, 2014
Fr. Robert McNeese	May 22, 1998	Fr. Timothy Hays	Jun 12, 1996	Fr. Curtis Seidel	Jun 27, 2014
Fr. Steven Werner	May 22, 1998	Fr. Kyle Ratuiste	Jun 19, 2015	Fr. Dale Tuckerman	Jun 27, 2014
Fr. Patrick Kerst	May 23, 1990	Fr. Daniel Barnett	Jun 23, 2000	Fr. Steven Dublinski	Jun 29, 1985
Fr. Richard Root	May 23, 1990	Fr. Victor Blazovich	Jun 23, 2000	Fr. Jose Luis Hernandez	Jun 29, 1999
Fr. Jose Jamie Maldonado	May 24, 2002	Fr. Thomas Connolly	Jun 23, 2000	Fr. David Kruse	Jun 19, 2015
Fr. Jeffrey Core	May 26, 2011	Fr. Rory Pitstick	Jun 23, 1994	Fr. James Peak	Jun 29, 2007
Fr. Jeffrey Lewis	May 26, 2011	Fr. Richard Poole	Jun 23, 1994	Fr. Kenneth St. Hilaire	Jun 29, 2007
Fr. Stanley Malnar, M.D.	May 27, 1972	Fr. Richard Semple	Jun 23, 2000	Fr. Lucas Tomson	Jun 29, 2007
Fr. Thomas Caswell	May 28, 1966	Fr. Michael Venneri	Jun 25, 1982		

## Prayer Requests

Serra Club of Spokane has a prayer request book available at every meeting and event. Please include the book of requests in your prayers. It is the goal of the former Vice President for Communications to list new requests as they are received. Following are the most recent requests.

For Michelle Walker who has cancer.  
For Dorothy Didier who has health concerns.

For George Czerwonka who is recovering from surgery.  
For Earle Doohan who injured his rotator cuff.

## A Prayer for Priests

O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests;  
for your unfaithful and tepid priests;  
for your priests laboring at home or abroad in distant mission fields;  
for your tempted priests;  
for your lonely and desolate priests;  
for your young priests;  
for your dying priests;  
for the souls of your priests in purgatory.  
But above all, I recommend to you the priests dearest to me:  
the priest who baptized me;  
the priests who've absolved me from my sins;  
the priests at whose Masses I've assisted and who've given me Your Body  
and Blood in Holy Communion;  
the priests who've taught and instructed me;  
all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way, especially (fill in a name)  
O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart,  
and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity.  
Amen.



## Adopt-A-Priest



If you would like to spiritually adopt a priest by making a one-year pledge to pray for a priest daily, contact Sr. Francis Marie Seale, [daughtersofmary@motherofpriests.org](mailto:daughtersofmary@motherofpriests.org). She will send you a Spiritual Adoption Certificate with basic information of your adopted priest (but no contact information) along with an Adopt-a-Priest Welcome Letter, a Suggested Daily Prayer, the Sponsor's Pledge, and inclusion in the Adopt-a-Priest Weekly e-Newsletter. The third Sunday of Easter prayer is that of a Benedictine monk:

"My Jesus, I place myself in spirit before Thy Eucharistic Face to adore Thee, to make reparation, to say to Thee all that Thy Spirit of Love will cause to rise in my heart.

I come to look at Thee. I come to listen to Thee. I come to receive from Thee all that Thy open Heart desires to say to me and to give to me today.

I thank Thee for having made Thyself close to me, I praise Thy mercy. I confess the redeeming power of Thy Precious Blood. Amen."

## Schedule of Events

### May 2019

Fri	May 10	11:00 am	<b>Adoration for Vocations and Luncheon Meeting</b> at IHRC. Our speaker will be Nick McLean, Executive Director, Holy Cross Funeral and Cemetery Services. We will pray the seventh day of the Novena to St. Junipero Serra for Bishop Daly's intentions.
Sun	May 12		World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Mon	May 13	5:15 pm	<b>Board Meeting (No Mass)</b> at BWS
Fri	May 17	11:00 am	<b>Adoration for Vocations</b> at IHRC
Fri	May 17	5:30 pm	<b>Ordination to the Priesthood</b> of Deacon Raymond Kalema at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes
Fri	May 24	11:00 am	<b>Adoration for Vocations</b> at IHRC

### June 2019

Thu	Jun 6	7:00 pm	<b>Holy Hour</b> at BWS for reparation and purification of sins by members of the church and for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. All Serrans are invited to come pray for a renewal of holiness.
Fri	Jun 7		<b>First Friday Mass</b>
Fri	Jun 7	11:00 am	<b>Adoration for Vocations</b> at IHRC
Sat	Jun 8	5:00 pm	<b>Anniversary Dinner and Installation of Officers.</b> Event will begin with the St. John Vianney Parish Vigil Mass; St. John Vianney Parish, 503 N. Walnut Rd., Spokane Valley; followed by social, dinner, and installation.
Mon	Jun 10	1:00 pm	<b>Board Retreat (No Mass)</b> location at BWS.
Fri	Jun 14	11:00 am	<b>Adoration for Vocations and Luncheon Meeting</b> at IHRC. Eighth Day of the Novena to St. Junipero Serra for Bishop Daly's intentions. Our speaker will be Fr. Eugene Tracy, currently teaching at BWS and assisting at the Cathedral.
Fri	Jun 21	11:00 am	<b>Adoration for Vocations</b> at IHRC
Mon-Thu	Jun 24-27		Vocation discernment events: Quo Vadis Days at Pinelow for young men and Vocare at IHRC for young women. Please pray for them.
Fri	Jun 28	11:00 am	<b>Adoration for Vocations</b> at IHRC

### Serra International Events

**Serra International Rosary for Vocations** will be on May 25 and June 29: Serrans from all over the world are invited to join together in a recitation of the Rosary for vocations. To join from your computer, tablet or smartphone, go to: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/314315981>. Or using your phone, dial 1 (312) 757-3119 and enter the access code; 314-315-981.

The **Serra International Convention** will be June 19-23 in Mexico City, Mexico. For more information, go to: <https://www.serrainternational.org/serras-77th-international-convention-mexico-city>