

# A Voice for Vocations

March 2016

Serra Club City of Orange  
Region 11, District 127, Charter 643



**PREZ SEZ**  
Matt Ivary, President



## Officer Roster 2015 – 2016

President	Matt Ivary
Pres. Elect	Anne Champagne
Treasurer	Ed Haske
Programs	Patty Baer
Vocations	Ginny Espenship
Hospitality	Joan Amort Paul Amort
Membership	Beverly Truzzolino
Communications	Nancy Ivary
Rec. Secretary	Brigid Noonan
Corresponding Secretary	Carol DeFeo
Sergeant-at-Arms	Joe Costanza
Trustees:	Jim Baer Maureen Neglia Stan Espenship

### Chaplain:

Fr. Felix Just, SJ

### Spiritual Advisor:

Sr. Nadine McGuinness, CSJ

### District 127 Governor:

TBD

## Upcoming Events

### MAR 1: MEETING

Speaker: Laryn Kovalik  
Topic: Laboure' Society

### MAR 13: SAVE THE DATE

St. John's Seminary Visit

### MAR 15: MEETING

Speaker: Jim Briscoe  
Topic: California Missions

### APR 5: MEETING

Speaker: Jeni Baird  
Topic: L'Arche Wavecrest  
Community

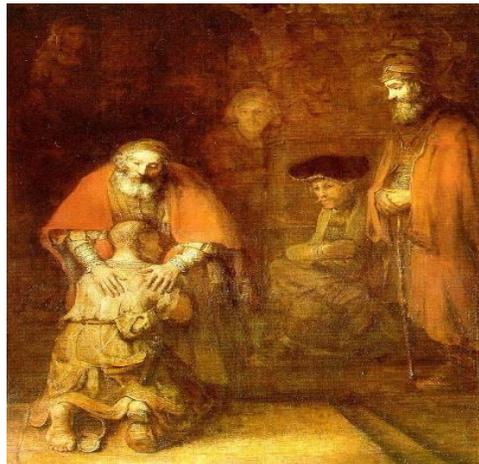
### MAY 1: SAVE THE DATE

"Hearts on Fire" Dinner

### June 30: SAVE THE DATE

St. Louis Int. Convention

**Our Mission...** to foster, affirm and promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life, diaconate, and all ministries in the Catholic Church, and through this support of all ministries, to deepen our members' personal faith lives.



### Our Lenten Journey Continues

One of the most beautiful parables told by Our Lord is that of the Prodigal Son which we hear on the fourth Sunday of Lent each year. When Nancy and I were traveling some years ago, we saw this great Rembrandt painting up close at the Hermitage museum. It was an amazing experience to turn a corner in the museum and encounter this free-standing, life-size painting (8.5 feet tall) in the gallery room as you turn to leave. In the painting the father, embarrassing his penitent son under the disdainful eyes of his household-- and especially the older brother right in the center of the painting--captures the emotion-filled parable of forgiveness and mercy in one image. As I stood before the painting I felt a part of the scene as if I was there too, witnessing this tearful reunion.

I was in a wine store recently where I saw a full-sized picture of this painting; it was promoting a California Pinot Noirs from *Prodigal Wines Winery*. I couldn't help from looking at the wine from such a winery. I was taken back in time to the museum where I first encountered the painting, and the same feelings of forgiveness I'd felt when I saw the painting rushed back to me. And I remembered the personal associations I'd made at that time. All too often family celebrations can devolve into bitter stories of hurt and harm, as I know from personal experience. Many issues, unresolved and unforgiven, came to mind. This image triggered powerful personal remembrances and images for me.

I think the picture on the label on this bottle has many spiritual effects on me. And I think those celebrating any event where this wine is served might be visually reminded that we all need forgiveness, and we all need to forgive each other.

On a broader level, this especially applies to us as we begin an election year. We all need to at least be civil and respectful to each other in our discussions at parties with wine and at our workplaces with coffee. Think about it next time you have a pleasant glass of wine with your friends.

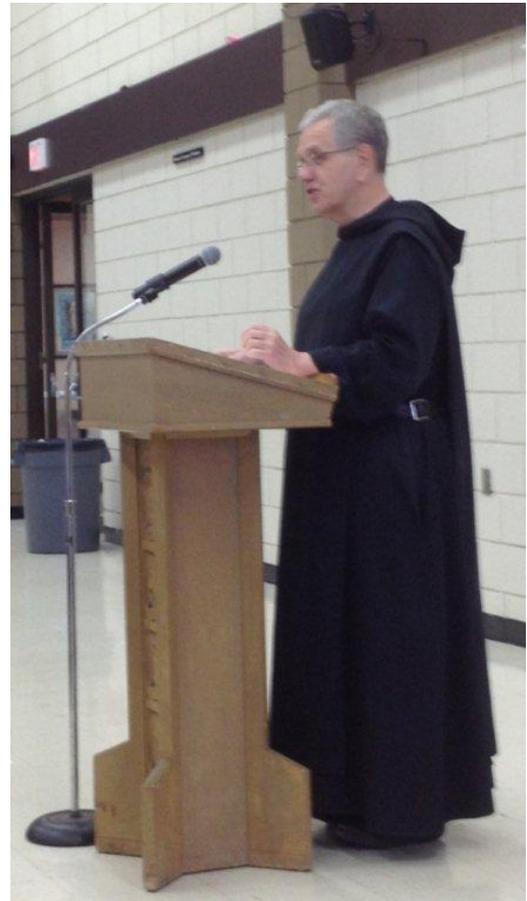
God Bless,  
Matt

*Club News*

On February 12, Tim Reid spoke to our group. Tim is the Director of Children's Faith Formation (grades 1-12) and Youth Ministry at St. Cecilia. His goal is to provide a safe place for young people to explore their faith. The church is their home and he speaks about the importance of a balance between discipline and acceptance. In addition to this ministry, Tim is a new dad and he is also working on his Master of Arts in Pastoral Theology in conjunction with the Diocese. Tim shared that he never would have planned this as a career. His primary profession was music, specifically creating and writing jazz. During his 20's he was a member of a band touring the country. It was during this time that he met his wife and they both returned to the Catholic faith. Moving here from Chicago, they landed at St. Anne's in Seal Beach where they became volunteers for the Confirmation program. It was here that he found his niche. Tim thrives on the Catholic youth. He sees retreats as a place where young people make choices and where they can understand the love and mercy of Christ. Tim believes that vocations are not something that we talk about enough. He loves to see a joyful priest and he believes this provides an excellent example for our young people. Tim is continually searching for more ways to inspire our youth and he believes it is essential to bring an attitude of hope.

**Lenten Day of Recollection**

On Saturday, February 20, the Lenten Day of Recollection was held at Holy Family. The presenter was Fr. Francis Benedict, OSB, Abbot Emeritus from St. Andrews Abbey in Valyermo, CA. We were blessed with two presentations and a time for reflection and Q &A. Fr. Francis focused on the topic of prayer and why we pray. God wants us to be in conscious communion with Him every day. He reveals Himself through nature, and persons. God is listening. We are made for God. Through prayer, we contemplate the why of our existence. The creator does indeed have a reason for our existence.



God wants us to be with Him and he has an intention for our lives. That is the why of prayer. He wants to be our safety net. We are called to be in the likeness of God. He wants us to find ourselves in Him. As our prayers are deepened, they become transformative. How does God want me? He is pleased with me no matter what. This suggests that I may want a relationship with Him. It is not an obligation, but rather a desire.

The image of God impacts the image of myself. I am wanted. I am pleasing. God wants us to be saved. We are happiest when we are like God. Prayer helps us to transcend our difficulties. We walk through until we get through. Fr. Francis suggests that we slow down our vocal prayers. We should be faithful to our prayer, but not driven by it. God is loving. God is loving me now no matter what is happening in my life.



**ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY VISIT**



PLEASE JOIN THE SERRA CLUBS OF ORANGE COUNTY ON A VISIT TO ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY IN CAMARILLO, CALIFORNIA.



DATE: MARCH 13, 2016

WE WILL ATTEND MASS AT 11 AM FOLLOWED BY A LUNCHEON AND A TOUR OF THE SEMINARY. ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY ATTENDS TO THE HUMAN, SPIRITUAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND PASTORAL FORMATION OF THE MEN ENTRUSTED TO ITS CARE.

DETAILS: WE WILL MEET AT 8:00 AM AT THE SISTER'S OF ST. JOSEPH, 480 BATAVIA, ORANGE, CA AND TAKE A COACH TO CAMARILLO. WE WILL RETURN AT APPROXIMATELY 3 PM. THE COST FOR THE BUS WILL BE \$20 FOR SERRANS AND GUESTS AND \$10 FOR STUDENTS. PLEASE CONTACT WARREN KATO WKKATO@GMAIL.COM (714) 504-6081 OR MATT IVARY MIVARY@COXNET (714) 730-7273



Anne Champagne - March 3

Gloria Suess - March 10

Loretta Callopy - March 13

Raul Serna - March 28

**Meet our newest member**

**Thelma Tavera**

My husband and I, along with our three children, Michelle, Celeste and Michael moved to the City of Orange from Long Beach in 1972. I am a widow; my husband passed away May 28, 2006, and sadly, I have to say, I lost my eldest daughter Michelle, in March of 2008 in an automobile accident. My other daughter, Celeste, lives in Santa Barbara and teaches voice at Westmont College; my son Michael and his wife Jennifer live in Westlake Village, just north of San Fernando Valley; he composes music for TV programs. I have five grandchildren - Brandon, Miles, Lauren, Paige and Holly.

Currently I'm in my second year of studies at St. Michael's Abbey. I am studying to become a Third Order Norbertine; this should occur next October. I enjoy reading, sewing, crocheting and oil painting. Three years ago, I became a member of Reparatrix; it's a spiritual association of lay women and lay men who live a vocation of reparation for our own sins, and for consecrated souls not living their vows (priests). We meet on Thursdays at St Michaels Abbey. Father Thomas Nelson hears confessions in the church and then says Mass in the convent chapel afterwards.

**Photo to the right**



Day of Recollection



**VOCATION**

**2016**

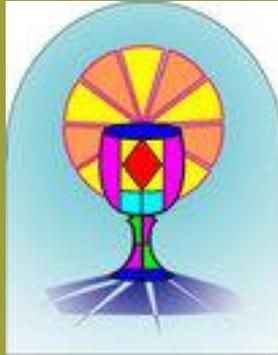
**PRAY ALWAYS**

Gracious and loving God, help the men and women of our parishes to hear the call to serve in the Diocese of Orange. Our needs are great and our people thirst for your presence. Open the hearts of many, raise up faithful servants of the Gospel, dedicated holy priests, sisters, brothers and deacons, who will spend themselves for your people and their needs. Bless those who are serving now with courage and perseverance. Grant that many will be inspired by their example and faith. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Ministers for Serra Masses**

Lectors

- MAR 1      Maureen Neglia, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
Jim Briscoe,  
Psalm & Prayers
- MAR 15     Loretta Callopy, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
Stan Espenship,  
Psalm & Prayers
- APR 5      Nancy Ivary 1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
Maureen Neglia,  
Psalm & Prayers



EMs

- Joe Neglia, Host  
Betty Padilla, Cup  
John Perample, Cup
- Chic Ryan, Host  
Raul Serna, Cup  
Joan Amort, Cup
- Patty Baer, Host  
Elena Biale, Cup  
John Biale, Cup

**“Always forward, never back!”  
Saint Junipero Serra**

J



g  
glia,  
rayers

ers: **Jim**

Carol DeFeo  
608 S. Breezy Way  
Orange, CA 92869

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Barba  
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