

A Voice for Vocations

September 2019



Serra Club City of Orange
Region 11, District 79, Charter 643

PREZ SEZ
Beverly Truzzolino, President



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

Officer Roster

2018-2020

President Beverly Truzzolino
President Elect Patty Baer
Treasurer Matt Ivary
Programs Joe & Maureen Neglia
Vocations Carol & Phil Frank
& John LeDuc
Membership Betty Padilla &
Georgia Mottl
Communications/Newsletter:
Nancy Ivary
Recording Secretary: Brigid Noonan
& Jeanne Warren
Corresponding Secretary: Carol Cagle
Sergeant-at-Arms: Joe Costanza
Hospitality: Anne Champagne, Carol
DeFeo & Rosemarie Tsutsumi
Past President: Anne Champagne
Trustees: Jim Baer
Loretta Callopy
Chic Ryan

Chaplain:
Father Nicolaus Thai
Spiritual Advisor:
Sister Louise Ann Micek, CSJ
District 79 Governor:
Anne Champagne

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Hopefully, all of us have read Bishop Vann's letter that declared a Year of Prayer for the Diocese of Orange, and as Serrans we take prayer seriously. As we celebrate Labor Day, the day we rest from work and contemplate our blessings. Last Saturday my mother, who was an avid prayer warrior, passed away at the age of 93, almost 94. I reflect on the most important two things in life my mother gave me: my faith and my commitment to work hard. I would like to share with you reflections on my mother's beautiful last few weeks of life; as with all of her days, they were intertwined with prayer.

Mother lived with my sister for her last two and a half years. Daily my sister or I would bring coffee to mom, visit, and read the daily readings of the Mass, reflections and Saints of the Day. Later in the day we had a rosary tape that almost sang the rosary and mysteries as we followed along. Many days my sister's little Jack Russell dog would reverently lay on my mom's lap as we prayed. Later, most days we said the Divine Mercy and/or read daily reflections. At night, we knelt beside her bed and prayed an Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be. We asked, "For what else do you want to pray?" and she usually said her six children, her deceased neighbor, souls in purgatory, or herself.

We had planned to celebrate on her birthday; however, as she became weaker each day, I felt we needed to have a pre-birthday party instead. We invited out-of-town family members to come celebrate with us, which made it extra special.

The day of the party, we placed Mom in her favorite chair, but it soon became apparent she could not get up without help. My sister literally lifted her up like a sack of potatoes and placed her in bed where she remained,

and we celebrated with her in bed. My sister-in-law had made a delicious home-made lemon cake, Mom's favorite. She did not eat hot dogs or hamburgers; however, we took turns feeding her CAKE AND ICE CREAM, just happy she was eating something.

The next day, she stopped eating and drinking totally. Her voice was reduced to almost a whisper. Throughout the day, I asked her if she wanted to pray and I always got an affirmative nod. I asked her if she was in pain, and always it she shook her head no. What a blessing! We continued to pray each day throughout her last week with us. Her bed was surrounded with chairs. Loved ones sat there with her, and friends stopped by to see her. The priest came by with a blessing. An extraordinary minister came with Holy Communion. The night before her last night, I was awakened by a distinctive fragrance.

My sister reminded me that St. Padre Pio was known to have a surrounding fragrance, and whenever anyone smells the perfume it is a sign that God bestowed some grace through the intercession of St. Pio. The odor is referred to as "Odor of Sanctity". My Mother was very devoted to St. Pio, as I am myself. Lastly, I had the privilege to bathe her the last day of her life. It was a beautiful experience to slowly wash her emaciated body, knowing she was quickly getting closer to meeting God. At 3:05pm, Mom peacefully passed into eternity. The same hour Our Lord died.



Upcoming Events

SEPT 3: Meeting--Speaker:
John LeDuc—"Ghana Water Project"
SEPT 7-8: St. Cecilia Ministry Fair (Volunteers Needed)
SEPT 9: Serra Golf Outing at Tustin Ranch: Reg/lunch @ 11a/tee off 1p(\$140); dinner & drinks only @ 5p (\$40)
SEPT 17: Meeting—Speaker?
SEPT 27: PRIESTHOOD SUN.
PLAN AHEAD !!!
DEC 3: NO MEETING
DEC 5: County Club Xmas Party (Let's Support them!)
DEC 15: Our Club's Xmas Party—3-6pm at Kathy Robinson's house
DEC 17: NO MEETING
MAR 14: Day of Recollection

Club Newz



Fr. Bao Thai installs new Serra Members: Eloyna Rivera, Thu Hien Marjorski and Angie Brazeal. We welcome them and are blessed to have our membership expanding!



OC Serrans attended the Ordination Reception for Fr. Eric Ramirez at Christ Cathedral. Here, Fr. Eric stands next to Fr. Bao Tran, pastor of St. Cecilia's where this new priest is assigned. Prayers do come to fruition; praise God!

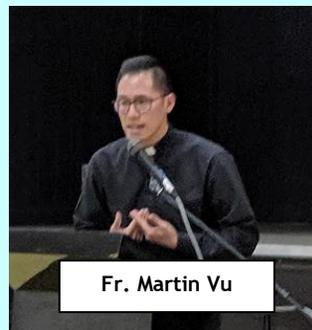


Former City Club Spiritual Director, Sr. Nadine McGuinness celebrated her 60th Jubilee. She is peeking out from behind the several Serrans who attended her reception.

Club Newz



All of the newly ordained attended and spoke at our very successful, beautiful, and well attended **ORDINATI LUNCHEON**



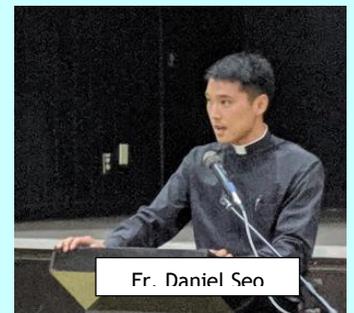
Fr. Martin Vu



Fr. Joe Squillacioti



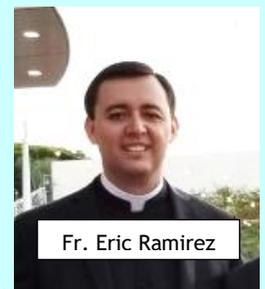
Fr. Scott Allen



Fr. Daniel Sen



Fr. Michael Duc Nguyen



Fr. Eric Ramirez

District Doings

Anne Champagne, District Governor



WE LOVE OUR PRIESTS!

As so many of our prayers have come to fruition and we have witnessed the power of God through the recent events of a cathedral dedication, a new vocation director assignment, Pope Francis' letter to priests on the feast day of St. John Vianney (the patron saint of priests) and the ordination of six new priests in our Diocese of Orange, we have so much to be grateful for. However, we must continue to pray unceasingly as that is our mission as Serrans. There is so much need for our prayers; just consider some of the scope of our undertaking. To give you an idea of what is happening in the United States, with those serving as priests and religious and those in formation, I've listed below some recent (2018) statistics according to the USCCB. (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops):

- *37,302 diocesan and religious-order priests in the US.
- *25,706 diocesan priests and 11,596 religious- order priests.
- *4,856 seminarians enrolled in the US: 3,596 in diocesan seminaries, 1,260 religious-order seminarians.
- *18,977 men who are permanent deacons in the US.
- *45,100 religious sisters and 3,953 religious brothers.

Here is an excerpt from Pope Francis' letter to priests: "The prayer of a pastor is nourished and made incarnate in the heart of God's people. It bears the marks of the suffering and joys of his people, whom he silently presents to the Lord to be anointed by the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is the hope of a pastor who, with trust and insistence, asks the Lord to care for our weakness, as individuals and as a people. Yet, we should also realize that it is in the *prayer of God's people* that the heart of a pastor takes flesh and finds its proper place."

An excerpt from "Praying for Priests" by Kathleen Beckman, LHS, states "...the challenge that priests face as they strive toward the goal of living like Christ. They acknowledge their individual powerlessness but say yes to God's power working in them. They become burden-bearers for Christ and his people. In presenting themselves for the sacrament of Holy Orders, they step out in faith and into something much greater than themselves. Their good example helps the people of God to do the same. Therefore, as Serrans true to our mission statement, I ask that you continue to "pray unceasingly" in gratitude for the great work that is already being done throughout our nation, and

in the hope for our future, as we work and pray diligently towards establishing the Kingdom of God here on our earth.

REMINDER:

Priesthood Sunday September 29, 2019

Please offer your prayers and expressions of gratitude to all our clergy and religious who selflessly serve their brothers and sisters in Christ.

Happy Birthday ...

August

Brigid Noonan (8th)
Carol Frank (17th)
Maureen Neglia (22nd)
Betty Padilla (29th)

September

Carl Manning (12th)

Save the Date!

THE USA COUNCIL OF SERRA INTERNATIONAL
INVITES YOU ON A CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE ALONG THE

California
MISSION **TRAIL** JANUARY 2019
In the Footsteps of *Saint Junipero Serra*

SERRA RALLY IN VENTURA, CA
January 17-20, 2019

PRAY ALWAYS**The Gift of Work**

...I ask you, Lord, to give me the strength of your blessing: to share efforts with my fellow workers, to recognize my mistakes, and--this very day--to amend whatever could hamper my work of tomorrow, be it alone or in collective responsibilities.

I ask you, Lord, for work for those who do not have it, for strength of will in all your children so that they can share this blessing. In turn, Lord, I offer you little: simply each moment of this day as it comes.

Let us be your sons and your daughters, with our heads held high in material work, and, afterwards, let us prepare to rest in your embrace and await the coming of a new day to glorify you: today, tomorrow and always, until our lives be your life.

CRS Prayer Without Borders

VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST HOSTS

- SEPT 3 Betty Padilla H. 714/832-8213**
 CLEAN-UP LORETTA CALLOPY & ROSEMARIE TSUTSUMI
- SEPT 17 Beverly Truzzolino C. 714/642-6455**
 CLEAN-UP BETTY PADILLA & GEORGIA MOTT
- OCT 1 Phil & Carol Frank H. 714/544-3718**
 CLEAN-UP LORETTA CALLOPY & ROSEMARIE TSUTSUMI

*"Always Forward, never
back!"
Junipero Serra*



Carol DeFeo
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Orange, CA 92869

