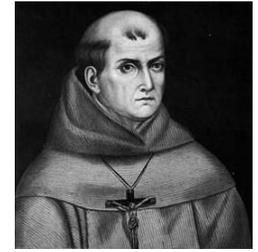




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



July, 2019

Region 11

District 79

Charter 438

Newsletter

OUR MISSION IS TO FOSTER, AFFIRM AND PROMOTE VOCATION TO MINISTRY IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

FUTURE EVENTS

July 4 - NO CLUB MEETING

July 17 - Dedication of Christ Cathedral

July 27 - Priesthood Ordination, Christ Cathedral
At 10:00AM

Aug 1 - Club Meeting, Speaker : Sr. Nadine
McGinnis, Part 1-Pope Francis 1

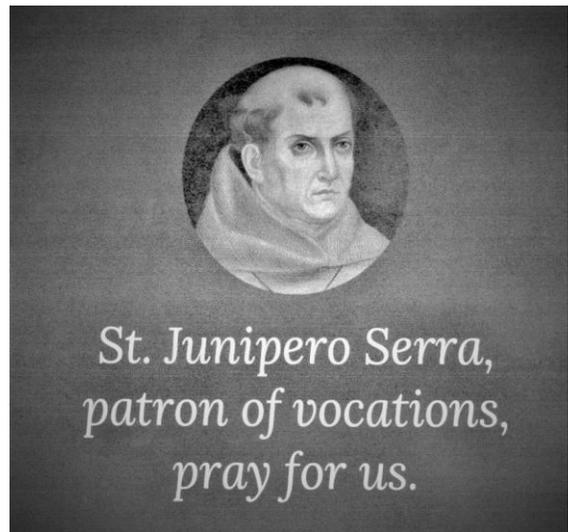
Sept 5 - Club Meeting, Speaker: Sr. Nadine
McGinnis, Part 2-Pope Francis 1

Sept 9 - Msgr. Sammon Memorial Golf Outing

Oct 3 - Club Meeting, Speaker: Msgr. John Urell

Nov 7 - Club Meeting, Speaker: TBD

Dec 5 - Christmas Luncheon



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Serra friends,
We recycle our plastic containers and bottles, so why not your Serra Club President? As you can see, I am your recycled president enlisted to complete year two of Sandy Micheletti's presidency.

Please join me in thanking Sandy for a job well done. Father Moneypenny, newly assigned pastor at St. Norbert's, has given our Serra Club permission to continue meeting at St. Norbert's for which we greatly thank him. Presently we still do not have a chaplain for our club, but hopefully, by our August meeting we will have a chaplain. Father Moneypenny has his day off on Thursdays, or as he told me, he would be happy to become our chaplain if we changed our meeting day to another day. I will bring his suggestion up at our next board meeting in August.

Once again Maureen Kosinski, Events Chair, made our Serra Club proud by coordinating workers from

The Serra City Club purchased all the cookies, coffee, tea punch, and paper supplies. She borrowed trays from St. Cecilia's kitchen and set everything up to receive the hundreds of people who attended the ordination of the three deacons at St. Columban's Church on Saturday, June 22. Lil Hanson, Maureen Kosinski and I greeted guests at our refreshment table, and helped with the cleanup. The City Club supplied many helpers as well. The Vietnamese Community, from St. Columban's supplied 800 delicious egg rolls, another puff pastry with a meat filling, and fresh fruit cups. Suffice to say that no guests went away hungry for lack of very delicious food. Several guests priests stated, Serra Club does it again. That's quite a nice comment and much appreciated by our religious community members. A very special Thank You to Maureen Kosinski, Events Chair.

On Saturday, July 27, at ten o'clock in the morning, Christ Cathedral will hold its first ordination of priests. My adopted seminarian, Daniel Seo, will be one of the ordained. He has referred to me as his Serra Club Mother since the time I adopted him in his first year of seminary. If you haven't yet adopted

a seminarian, please consider doing so. What an honor it is to watch your adopted seminarian become an ordained priest.

Remember there is no meeting in July because our meeting day, the first Thursday of each month, falls on July 4 this year. Let us remember to thank God for our independence and for being blessed to live in the greatest country in the world. I look forward to becoming your president once again and to seeing you at our meetings.

In God's Love,
Virginia Mort, President

VOCATION REPORT



Our seminarian who received the gift card for July, donated by Rosa and Warren Kato, is Brandon Lopez. Brandon is from St. Pious V Parish and has been in his Pastoral Year at our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in La Habra.

SEMINARIANS: On June 22, three seminarians were ordained transitional deacons, Nam Doan, Jake Mackowicz, and Mike Rizzo. Our diocese is blessed to have six priests ordained at our newly dedicated Christ Cathedral on July 27th. They are Scott Allen, Michael Duc Nguyen, Erialdo Ramirez, Daniel Seo, Joseph Squillacioti and Martin Vu.

The Serrans extend their thanks and appreciation to Father Moneypenny who served as Director of Vocations the past five years. Father Brandon Dang, the new Director of Vocations, will assume his position this month. We welcome Father Brandon and look forward to working with him..

Please continue to pray for all the seminarians and young men discerning the priesthood. There will be no discernment meetings in July or August. Any questions regarding, discernment, please contact the Vocations Office at 714-282-3036. Remember your day in the 31 Club and try to attend your parish monthly day of Perpetual Adoration.

VOCATION PRAYER: Dear Lord, we ask you to inspire men and women to respond generously to your call and embrace the gift of their vocation. Bless them with the joy that comes through loving service. We pray in union with the communion of saints in the name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.



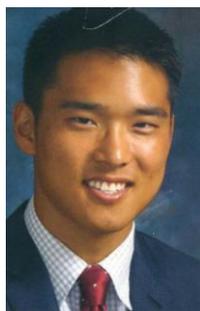
Brandon Dang



Scott Allen



Michael Duc Nguyen



Daniel Seo



Joseph Squillacioti



Martin Vu

Mary Brockschmidt
Vocations

SPEAKER

At age eighteen, Deacon Omar Uriarte joined Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity in Los Angeles to serve the poorest of the poor. He thought his calling was to be a missionary. One day while trying to study, the very noisy loud street and neighborhood environment really got to him. He needed a break and went outside to a school playground to play basketball. While shooting hoops, he heard the chain link fence surrounding the playground shake. For a quick moment he thought that it might be an earthquake. When he looked around he discovered he was surrounded by fifteen gang members who were glaring at him. Omar was on their turf, and the gang members did NOT like it at all. Shaking in his tennis shoes, Omar said to himself, "Lord, if this is it, please don't let it hurt very much" Instantly, he



Deacon Omar Uriarte

heard the Holy Spirit say to him, "Come Holy Spirit" inside him. Omar looked up at the gang members and asked them if they wanted to play basketball with him. Surprised that the gang was

asked to play with him, they accepted and were all playing together having fun. When Omar's fellow missionary students looked out their dorm windows and saw Omar playing basketball with the vicious gang members, they thought for sure they were going to play ball with him then kill him! After a definite rapport was at hand, Omar showed the gang members the graffiti on the walls and asked them, "Who do you think you are to deface church property?" Soon a close relationship with the guys developed. Omar was teaching them how to pray the rosary.

One day while Omar and his new gang member friends were playing ball, a dark van pulled up, slowed down and started shooting at them. Surprisingly, no one was hurt. The next day, the gang members wanted to retaliate. One of the gang brought a gun, put it up to Omar's head, and once again, Omar heard, Come Holy Spirit! The gang member took the bullets out of the gun and laid them on the table. The gun violence continued in the neighborhood. Omar saw a six year old boy, caught in a cross fire and get his head shot off. The cops sought Omar out to question him on what he knew about the gang members. Omar told the cops that he was a seminarian, 18 years old and thought perhaps he could help the gang members. The stress of all the neighborhood antics, lead Omar to request a meeting with his vocation director that he was too stressed . to continue with his vocation at this time. He wanted time off to finish his college degree. Permission granted, Omar, started college joined the Newman Club on campus where he met his future wife. Omar eventually married, had a family, and now submitted his application to become a deacon. Four years later, Omar Uriarte became Deacon Uriarte.

Omar ministers in the Chino State prison where he visits rapists and murderers locked in cages. At times, the inmates are put into individual cells outside for sunlight. When Deacon Omar comes around, the inmates get to attend Chapel devotions. Deacon Omar is locked inside the chapel with these hard core inmates. Although at times, he becomes fearful, he never shows any fear, but rather he says , Come Holy Spirit, and his fear subsides.

Deacon Omar related stories of working with inmates who still are in prison in their mid 80's and 90's in wheel chairs and with walkers. They tell Omar that they have spent their lives in and out of prison wasting their life away. Slowly, Omar has been able to open some of their eyes to conversion. Omar's job is to bring a piece of the Catholic Church to them. A Deacon represents the left arm of the

Bishop who goes outside the walls of the church just like St. Francis did in his day. His theme is to preach with his actions, not just with words.

Deacon Omar's final message to our Serra Club members is for us to pray for good Catholic parents and to pray for good Catholic families. The majority of our religious, priests, sisters, brothers and deacons are the products of good catholic families. He also asked us to pray for our Church that is constantly being attacked, and to recall the words, Come Holy Spirit, often, not just on Trinity Sunday.

Virginia Mort

MSGR SAMMON ENDOWMENT FUND

Through the generosity of members and former members, The Serra Club of Orange County donated \$16,325.00 to The Msgr Sammon Endowment Fund. Included was a very generous donation by Therese and John McAndrew and Clara Escalle in memory of her deceased husband, Lu, who was a charter member of our club.

See attached letter.

RESCUING VOCATIONS THROUGH the LABOURE SOCIETY

This is a continuation of the article in last month's newsletter

Good Use of Resources

J. Scott Widman, a financial adviser in Lenexa, Kansas, learned about Laboure three years ago through his daughter's childhood friend Brianna Murphy who wanted to become a religious sister. After helping Murphy become Sister Mary of Kenosis, he became passionate about Laboure.

"There is no better use for my resources than to help put an aspirant into formation sooner so that he or she can be closer to a life of prayer, service and spirituality for the community," he said. "What a huge return on your investment!"

Widman said that vocations are not just important to the Church, but benefit all of mankind. "How would the world be different if there were 10 more priests or nuns? 25? 100?" he asked. "Imagine the people they can touch each day and how many more souls they can help get to heaven."

Past aspirants have told him that going through Laboure helped prepare them for religious life by

becoming more confident and learning time-management skills.

A Way To Pay Back

In 2012, Melda Boyd and her husband, Gary, learned that fellow parishioner Katie Clemmer at St. Joseph's Church in Herndon, Virginia, was hoping to become a religious sister. Melda had recently returned to the Church, and Gary had just entered. They began supporting Clemmer through Laboure, and two years later, Melda became an accountability partner.

"Gary and I want to help build the Church in any way we can because the Church introduces people to Christ and helps them grow as Christians," she said.

"On a personal note, I want to help support the Laboure Society as a way of giving back and paying forward."

Melda explained that after 30 years away from the Church, her six years of Catholic school as a child had always been a part of her.

She also personally benefited from scholarships during her education and wants to help others now.

"I want to pay the Church back for all it has done for me, including the grace with which the Church has accepted me back into the fold," she said

As an accountability partner, Melda said she has received more than she has given through the joy of playing a part in helping people fulfil their vocations.

"An unexpected bonus for Gary and me," she said, "has been the friendship we have established with Katie Clemmer, who is now Sister Kathryn, Servant of the immaculate Heart of Mary - though she will always be Sister Kati to us."

SAVE THE DATE

13th ANNUAL Msgr. JOHN SAMMON GOLF OUTING

Serra Club of Orange County invites you to have a fun day of golf, dining and camaraderie with friends and the clergy of the Diocese of Orange

Tustin Ranch Golf Club
12442 Tustin Ranch Road
Tustin, CA

Monday, September 9, 2019

ENTRY FEE: \$140.00

Golfing Fee
Golf Cart
BBQ Lunch
Cocktails and Dinner



For information contact:
Maureen Kosinski, 714-838-9387

SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN JULY
Lil Hanson Dick Peters

From: Yolanda Wright
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 4:29 PM
To: rmpeters3@cox.net
Subject: Monsignor John F. Sammon Endowment Fund

Hello Rich,

I hope and pray that my email finds you doing well.

The Orange Catholic Foundation is in receipt of the Serra Club's most recent gifts totaling \$16,325. These gifts will be deposited into the Monsignor John F. Sammon Endowment Fund. The deposit will be reflected on your second quarter statement.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Blessings to you,

Yolanda Wright

Donor Services Manager

Orange Catholic Foundation

Diocese of Orange Pastoral Center

13280 Chapman Avenue

Garden Grove, CA 92840

714.282.3134

