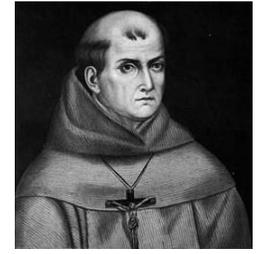




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



May, 2020

Region 11

District 79

Charter 438

Newsletter

FUTURE EVENTS

- May 3 - World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- May 7 - Club Meeting **CANCELLED**
- June 4 - Club Meeting
- June 6 - Ordination at Christ Cathedral
- June 27 - Transitional Deacon Ordination at Mission San Juan Basilica
- June 27 - 2020 International Convention, New Orleans Louisiana
- July 2 - Club Meeting
- July 14 - Ordinati Mass and Luncheon
- Aug 6 - Club Meeting
- Sep 3 - Club Meeting
- Sep 21 - Annual Golf Tournament



Dear Fellow Serrans

Who could ever have imagined that our everyday life could be changed so drastically or that we be asked to self-quarantine at home? Our lives did change drastically and we did self-quarantine. Now, we pray that

there is light at the end of this 3 month long dark tunnel. Thank God that we were able to remotely participate in Holy Week, and that we were able to attend daily Mass online.

As we ask ourselves, when will our Serra Club be meeting again? My best guess is when the Bishop once again opens all church auxiliary organizations. We will keep our monthly meeting date on the first Thursday of each month at St. Norbert's Church, 12:15 Mass followed by our lunch, speaker and short board meeting. Stay tuned!

I was pleasantly surprised to receive a New Member Kit in the mail for our new member, Sandra Nieto. Serra International is instituting a program for new members. They are sending a Welcome New Member Kit for each new member who joins Serra Club. I opened the sticker sealed box that read, Serra New Member Kit, and I was pleasantly surprised



Dear Lord,
We pray that the Blessed Mother
Wrap her mantle around your priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry.
We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow her own words, "Do whatever He tells you" (John 25).
May the Blessed Mother's own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross.
May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls.
Amen

with its contents. Inside the box was a beautiful Serra Club pin, a Handbook for Serrans called to Holiness, a Daily prayer for priests, the Serra Prayer for Vocations, the Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations and a Welcome Letter. This kit is to be presented to each new member at one of our meetings. I will call Serra International to commend them for this superior ideal new member gift. You may be thinking why hasn't Serra International done this before. They haven't; however, I am so happy that they are doing it now. It is a touch of class and a wonderful welcome for our new members.

My term of office as your President officially concludes the end of May. I have served as your President two terms of two years each, and then I stepped into fulfil the 16 remaining months of Sandy Micheletti's term of office. As I extend the President's gavel over to Cathy Walton, I assure you that we Serrans will be in good hands under Cathy's able leadership.

Congratulations and welcome to the Presidency, Cathy! We Serrans welcome you to the office of President of the Serra County Club, and we pledge our support to your success.

In God's love,
Virginia Mort, President

VOCATION REPORT



Seminarian who received the gift card for May, donated by Lil Hanson, is Nicholas Tollar. Nicholas is in College 1 at Bishop White Seminary. Silvia Uriarte shared that the father of her adopted seminarian, Oswaldo Sanchez, passed away.

Please remember Oswaldo and his family in your prayers.

SEMINARIANS: From our Vocations Director, Father Brandon Dang:

In this unchartered territory we find ourselves, many are vehemently searching for ways to have some sort of connection with our Lord. Many of our men in formation await the moment when they can be able to celebrate the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass. Our office offers these opportunities. Daily Mass on: [youtube/seas/Irvine](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCseas/Irvine) and [facebook.com/seas/Irvine](https://www.facebook.com/seas/Irvine).

Though we are not able to participate physically, we can do so spiritually. Sunday, May 3 is designated as World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We need to continue to pray for vocations, for priests and religious and healing. This summer our Diocese will ordain four priests and three deacons.

There is no discernment scheduled for the month of May. Any questions regarding discernment call Father Brandon at 714-282-3033 or bdang@rcbo.org. Additionally, you can visit the Serraus.org website and watch inspiring talks or listen to the Pope's inspirational message to Serrans.

VOCATION PRAYER: Father, thank you for the gift of our seminarians. Safeguard them as they prepare for the priesthood. Keep all evil from them so that they may become strong Christian men who are faithful to prayer, diligent in their studies, open to spiritual desire and docile to all aspects of seminary formation. Above all inflame their hearts with love so that they will be ardent and gentle shepherds for your Church. We make this prayer through the great High Priest, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mary Brockschmidt
Vocations

MSGR. SAMMON FUND

May is Msgr. John Sammon Fund month. Make your donation check out to Orange Catholic Foundation with the memo: Msgr. Sammon Fund and send to: Dick Peters, 37 Marbella, San Clemente, CA 92673.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER XOCHI RIZO



Hi! My name is Xochi Rizo. I'm a proud new member of the Serra Club.

I was raised in Fountain Valley CA. I lived there with my parents and older brother. Growing up I enjoyed spending summers at the beach which was a short drive from my house. It was a fun and safe place to be raised.

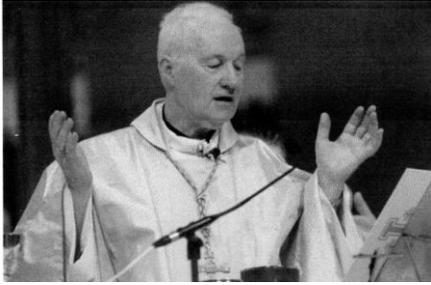
I've been married for 13 years to a wonderful man named Gary. We are blessed to have 3 beautiful children together. We have been parishioners at St. Cecilia's Church in Tustin for 10 years. I feel so blessed to be apart of such a vibrant church community. Being a part of church ministries has encouraged me to delve deeper into my faith. I am especially grateful for our pastor, Father Bao Thai, Fr. Nicholas, Fr. Eric and our clergy. They have an enthusiasm for their faith that is a great example for our church community.

I was baptized into the Catholic faith as an infant. I did not attend church regularly until I was 12 years old. I started to attend catechism classes at Holy Spirit Catholic Church where I received the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. My faith has been a journey, but I thank God everyday for extending his mercy and grace into my life. I thank Him everyday that I am Catholic. And now as a parent it's such a beautiful experience to see my children learn and participate in their faith.

My wonderful friend, Virginia Mort, invited me to join Serra Club. I feel honored to joining such an important ministry. Our priests and seminarians need our constant prayers and support.

"The end for which God had instituted the priesthood has been to appoint public persons to watch over the honor of His divine majesty, and to procure the salvation of souls." St. Alphonsus Liguori

FROM THE VATICAN



Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation For Bishops, is pictured in a 2018 photo. He called for having more women on seminary formation teams as professors and counselors so men can develop “a balanced relationship with women” in an interview published April 24, 2020 by Vatican News.

For some priests and seminarians, women represent danger, but in reality, the true danger are those men who do not have a balanced relationship with women. Said Cardinal Marc Ouellet, prefect of the Congregation for Bishops.

The cardinal was interviewed about the role of women in seminaries and seminary formation for the May issue of the women’s supplement to the Vatican newspaper; the interview was published April 24 by *Vatican News*.

Asked if a lack of women involved in priestly formation programs is to blame for the discomfort women and priests can experience in each other’s company, the cardinal said, “the problem is probably deeper” than that and begins with how women are treated in one’s family.

“There is awkwardness because there is fear – more on the part of the man toward the women than the women toward the man,” he said.

“We must radically change how priests interact with women,” the cardinal said, “which is why during formation it is important that there is contact, discussion, exchanges with women.”

“Having women on seminary formation teams as professors and counselors,” he said, “also would have a candidate interact with women in a natural way, including in facing the challenge represented by the presence of women, attraction to a woman.”

Isolating future priests from women is never a good idea, he said, and no preparation for them entering ministry.

Asked whether he agreed with the notion that if women had been involved in seminary formation long ago, it could have helped prevent the sexual abuse scandal, the cardinal said, “there certainly is some

truth in that because man is an affective being. If interaction between the sexes is missing there is a risk of developing compensations which can express themselves in the exercise of power or in closed relationships, a closure that becomes manipulation and control...and which can give rise to the abuse of conscience and sexual abuse.”

“I think that for a priest learning to relate to women in the environment of formation is a humanizing factor that promotes equilibrium in the man’s personality an affectivity,” the cardinal said .

While Ouellet said he thought it was better for seminarians to have a priest as their spiritual director, he said that seminaries still have not done enough to involve women in the formation process, especially in helping to evaluate candidates for the priesthood, their maturity and their psycho-social and psycho-sexual identity.”