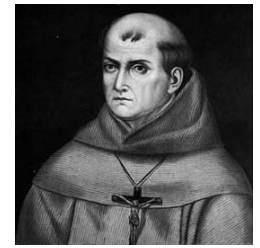




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



July 2021

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 1 - Club Meeting - via Zoom - 1pm.

Speaker: Fr. Paw Lwin

Aug. 5 - Club Meeting, Speaker: TBD

Sept. 2 - Club Meeting, Speaker: Kimberly
Jetton, Exec. Dir. Orange Catholic Foundation

Sept. 13 - Msgr. Sammon Memorial Golf Outing

Tustin Ranch Golf Club

Oct. 7 - Club Meeting, Speaker: Msgr. Urell

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



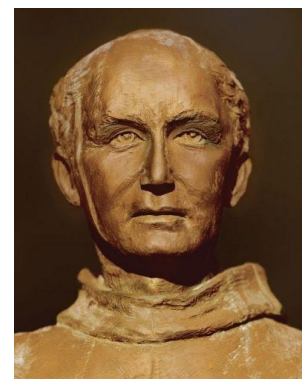
It was a grand return to Christ Cathedral for the Priesthood Ordination on June 12. Some members of our club and the Serra City of Orange Club got together the day before to bag cookies for the reception. It was good to see fellow Serrans after so long and we enjoyed contributing in some way to the occasion.

We are grateful to Father Brandon Dang for reserving an area for the Serra Clubs at the Ordination. It was wonderful to see the procession of all the priests from around the Diocese - so many that we've had some connection with at some point throughout the years.

It was also heartwarming to see the newly ordained priests interact with their families at the culmination of their long journey.



This month of July starts off with our own Saint Junipero Serra's Feast Day on July 1. He has been quite vilified in recent years. Hopefully efforts by many were successful in correcting some of the distortions about him and the missions.



I wish a Happy Fourth of July to all of you!
Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.

Psalm 33:12

In God's Love,
Catherine Walton, President

SPEAKER



Father Gerry Horan graced our May Serra Club meeting by offering Mass for us and sharing two different but similar stories with the life of St. Peregrine, and Father Gerry's frightful night that he was felled by a massive stroke, unable to move, lying on a freezing cold floor in Rome, Italy. In October 2019, Father Gerry flew to Rome to attend a Servite General Chapter meeting. He awoke in the middle of the night and realized that he could not move his arm or his leg. He tried his best to get out of bed. Unsuccessful in his attempt to get out of bed, Father landed on the cold tile floor. He lay there for seven hours before his fellow priests realized they had better check on him because he was noticeably absent from several important meetings.

Many medical advances have been made in treating stroke victims if they can get treated in the hospital within three hours of experiencing a stroke. Lying on the floor for seven hours worked against Father Gerry. He was a patient in a rehabilitation facility in Rome until he could be safely transported back to St. Jude's Hospital in the United States. Once at St. Jude's Rehabilitation Center, Father Gerry started to make excellent progress. He has a way to go yet, but he is making progress. Let us continue to remember him in our prayers, asking our Blessed Lord to restore him to good health once again.

Peregrine was born in 1260 at Forli, Italy to an affluent family, but he was a rebellious youth. He politically opposed the papacy. During an uprising in the city, Peregrine punched Philip Benizi, a holy man, in the jaw. Peregrine was so sad about what he had done to this holy man, that he apologized to Philip many times over. After he experienced the forgiveness of St. Philip Benizi, Peregrine changed his life and joined the Servite Order. He was ordained a priest, and later returned to his home to establish a Servite community. There he was widely known for giving alms to the poor, and was widely known for his preaching, penances, and counsel in

the confessional. Peregrine served all the friars. He stood at all times for his penance. He stood so much that the veins in one leg became gangrenous. He was in desperate pain. The doctors wanted to amputate his leg. The night before his scheduled operation, he dragged himself to the chapel and fell asleep before the crucifix. He dreamed God healed his leg. He received a vision of Christ on the cross reaching out His hand to touch his impaired leg. The morning of the operation, the doctor found NO infection. God had healed his leg of the painful infection. Peregrine became the patron of cancer patients. There are three statues of him in Orange County: St. Philip Benizi, St. Juliana, and in the Basilica in San Juan Capistrano.

Father Horan suggested that we unite our pain and suffering with Christ Jesus and to cast our cares upon the cross.

Virginia Mort

VOCATIONS REPORT



Seminarian Ethan O'Campo received the gift card for July, donated by Madrienne Peters. Ethan is from St. Joachim Parish and is in College 2 at Mt. Angel Seminary. During the summer months most of the seminarians leave their seminary for a variety of assignments. Please keep them in your prayers.

On June 12, 2021 many of the Serra Club members attended the Ordination at Christ Cathedral of three new priests for our Diocese of Orange.

Rev. Cheeyoon Chun is Parochial Vicar at Holy Family Church in Orange. Rev. Michael Fitzpatrick will be returning to Pontifical North American College in Rome, Italy for further studies. Rev. Brandon Lopez is Parochial Vicar at St. Pius V Church in Buena Park, his home parish.

Any questions regarding discernment, contact Father Brandon Dang at 714-282-3036 or bdang@rcbo.org.

VOCATION PRAYER: Gracious God, source of all life, we praise you for your abundant blessings. You nourish and strengthen us on our faith journey. We join our hearts and voices in prayer that you enrich your Church with people who embrace the call to holiness and service. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Mary Brocksmidt
Vice President, Vocations

SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN JULY
LILY HANSON
AND DICK PETERS

+ ORDINATION 2021 +

