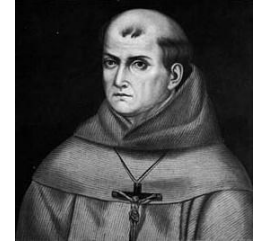




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



May 2022

Pacific Region

District 79

Charter 438

Newsletter

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

FUTURE EVENTS

May 5 - Club Meeting, Speaker: Fr. Kiet Ta
May 7-8 - World Day of Prayer for Vocations
May 14 - "SerraMeets" 9am Zoom.
<https://serraus.org/serra-meets/>
June 2 - Club Meeting
June 17 - Priests vs. Seminarians Basketball
Game - Mater Dei - Food - 5pm; Game - 7pm
July 7 - Club Meeting
July 14-17 - Serra International Convention
Toronto

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Offerings In May

May is the month dedicated to Mary. Mary is our Queen. Roses are the Queen of flowers. As we include beautiful flowers as part of our May Crownings this month, let us give our Queen what she has asked for - the Rosary, which means "Crown of Roses."



In May we also observe the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. In addition to our Diocesan priests and deacons, we have numerous men and women serving in religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes in Orange County.

See

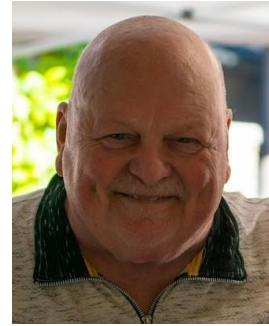
<https://rcbo.org/vocations/consecrated-life/men/> and

and

<https://rcbo.org/vocations/consecrated-life/women/>

Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call.

SPEAKER



The old adage, "What we plan for ourselves isn't always what life has planned for us," might well describe Deacon Tony Patronite's journey which led him to become a deacon.

Deacon Tony explained that it all starts with Baptism. At the rite of Baptism there is an anointing which is as follows: "God the Father has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into His holy people. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation." We are anointed at Baptism and called out to live out our baptismal call as Priest, Prophet and King. Our calling is to be there for people. As prophets we bring God's words. We have a humble kingship as humble prophets.

Deacon Tony was baptized in Ohio in 1947. He felt he was always inclined to be religious. In fact, Religion was the only subject in which he would receive A's! His father owned a store which was right next door to a convent and Deacon Tony really admired the nuns. He knows he did not inherit this zeal for religion as his mother was not Catholic and his father was a lukewarm Catholic. Although he and his 5 siblings would attend daily Mass, they never went together as a family. Deacon Tony attended Catholic elementary and high school and remembers his 3rd grade teacher (a nun) was very influential in his religious upbringing. He recalls that while his friends would go to the drug store across the street, he would head off to Church instead.

Although he went to high school as a practicing Catholic, he felt he needed more. He married a nice Catholic girl, but he still needed more, so he became a Catechist. He remembers clearly that on August 27, 1977, he was invited to a "Christ Renews His Parish" event at his church. In his head he was going to be a "no show" until his pastor called him last minute and said that if there were not at least 8 in

As we offer our prayers for vocations, we also offer our financial support for vocations this month.

May is the month that the Serra Clubs of Orange County have traditionally dedicated to requests for donations to the Monsignor Sammon Fund.

The purpose of the Fund is to advance and support vocations to the Roman Catholic priesthood and the religious life, and in particular for the support of seminarians of the Diocese of Orange.

The most recent grants from the fund were to St. John's Seminary, Bishop White Seminary and the Diocese of Orange Vocations Office.

Any amount is appreciated. Let us give in memory of our beloved former chaplain and our everlasting inspiration, Msgr. John F. Sammon.

In God's Love,
Catherine Walton



MONSIGNOR SAMMON FUND



**May is Monsignor Sammon Fund month.
Please donate to support vocations.**

**Make your check out to
Orange Catholic Foundation
with Msgr. Sammon Fund in memo line
and send to
Pat Manzo
P. O Box 5781
Newport Beach, CA 92662**

attendance, the event would be canceled. He remembers his 7 year old daughter commented that day that he left alone but returned with Jesus. He felt his life change at the confessional. It was different...face-to-face. (Deacon Tony chuckled as he admitted that he would previously go to Confession with a Hungarian priest, so that his sins would not be understood). Now he felt relaxed and lifted. He was grateful that God forgave his sins.

Years later the company where Deacon Tony was employed asked him to relocate and to that town he brought the "Christ Renews His Parish" event. Imitating what is good and effective, he saw other churches in the area bring the event to their parishes as well. The year 2000 was one that welcomed Deacon Tony to California when he moved to Irvine and became a parishioner of St. Thomas More Church. The pastor at the time, Fr. John Jantze, welcomed the idea of "Christ Renews His Parish" and it has been growing ever since. Fr. John Jantze would often ask Deacon Tony to become deacon, but Deacon Tony did not feel the calling at the time. However, Deacon Tony's wife, Mary, felt this was a good idea and when Fr. John asked again, Mary answered for him and in 2007 he was ordained a deacon!

In spite of his youthful looks, Deacon Tony will need to retire upon reaching his 75th birthday, yet Fr. Eugene Lee (present pastor at St. Thomas More) has asked him to continue leading the "Christ Renews His Parish" event. He has enjoyed everything he has been asked to do for the Church.

Gabriella Negrete

VOCATIONS REPORT



The seminarian who received the gift card this month, donated by Joan Golding, is Seth London. Seth is from Holy Trinity Parish in Ladera Ranch. Seth is in College 2 at Mt. Angel Seminary. As a

member of Holy Trinity, Seth enjoyed helping as an usher and a lector for daily masses. Seth began feeling the call of our Lord when he was just seven years old. His primary influence was his pastor at Holy Trinity. Seth could see the love between the priest and his congregation, praying for each other and offering spiritual direction. In praying the rosary, Seth felt the call to do the Lord's work, leave his family and enter the seminary. Seth is Maureen Kosinski's adopted seminarian.

Our club members have supported the monthly gift card our club sends to a seminarian each month. The gift cards are taken care of through the end of this year. Our member, Joan Golding, has been especially generous. Because of some health issues, Joan has not been able to attend our meetings. Please keep her in your prayers.

Our other activity is to Adopt a Seminarian. There are four seminarians who have not been adopted by our club members. I will have the sign up list at our meeting if any members are interested in adopting a seminarian. Adopting and praying for a seminarian on his journey to ordination is a very rewarding experience. Father Brandon Lopez, ordained this past June, expressed his appreciation to the Serra members for their prayers, support and generosity. He feels these months since ordination have been an amazing and humbling experience to confer the Sacraments to the faithful. May we continue to pray for more vocations to the priesthood. Father was Cathy Walton's adopted seminarian.

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

VOCATIONS PRAYER: Come, Holy Spirit, be the fire in our soul. Ignite us with passion for the gospel. Be the wind in our spirit. Breathe in us and move us to act. Anoint our whole being. Confirm in us our witness to the gospel. Renew us and the world in your love, now and always. Amen.

Mary Brockschmidt
Vice President, Vocations

SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN MAY
SARA ADAMO AND
MAUREEN KOSINSKI