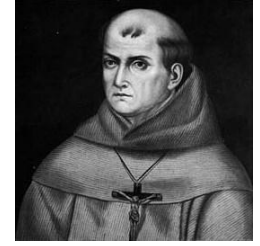




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



July 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

July 1- St. Junípero Serra Feast Day

July 7 - Club Meeting, Speaker: Father Steve Way, SDB - Salesians

July 9 - "Serra Meets" 9am Zoom Archbishop

Eldon Curtiss, former Episcopal Advisor for Serra US

**July 14-17 - Serra International Convention
Toronto**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Founding Father

July 1 is the Feast Day of St. Junípero Serra. Inspired by Serra's missionary zeal, the founders of Serra USA in 1935 chose his name for our clubs. Serra is known as the father of the California Missions, and even California's founding father. Pope Francis went even further, hailing Serra as "one of the founding fathers of the United States." Nearly 80 years before the Pilgrims founded the Plymouth Colony, California was claimed for Spain. The Spaniards made no serious effort to occupy the region, however, until Serra arrived with other colonists in 1769. Over the next fifteen years—covering the American Revolutionary War period—



Serra established nine of California's missions. It is a little-known fact that Serra took up collections among his parishes to support the Revolution and sent the funds to General George Washington. The missions helped lay the foundation for much of California's modern economy, including its agriculture and winemaking. Under Serra's leadership, the missions became self-sufficient, and many grew into thriving settlements – the basis for some of California's most important cities. Serra and the missions have been vilified, however, in recent years, as statues and churches are vandalized.

I traveled recently to Mission San José and Mission Santa Clara de Asís.

At Mission San José (actually in Fremont), founded by Father Lasuén more than a decade after Serra's passing, its statue of Father Serra remains on the enclosed Mission grounds (pictured above).

The picture was different, however, at the Santa Clara Mission on the campus of the University of Santa Clara, a private Catholic school. At this mission, which Father Serra actually founded, its Serra statue had been taken down in 2020. A bench stood in its place. They couldn't totally erase the statue's presence, however, as the map for the Mission grounds showed its location as if it were still there.

Greg Schwietz, the newly elected President of Serra International, recently called on our clubs to learn more about Junípero Serra.

Defend him. Educate people to create a balanced understanding of the missions and Father Serra's role in California and United States history.

Some resources for learning about Father Serra:

Christian Clifford's presentation at 2019 Serra Rally.
<https://youtu.be/M3DmngJru5U>

Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone's defense of Serra.
<https://youtu.be/wVRBLwTv83k>

Bishop Barron 2021.
<https://youtu.be/U04CkBTNKM>

Knights of Columbus 2021.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bH_6PP1Z5IU

History of California missions.
https://youtu.be/GdsSa_Acy4

Saint Junípero Serra: Making Sense of the History and Legacy. By Christian Clifford.

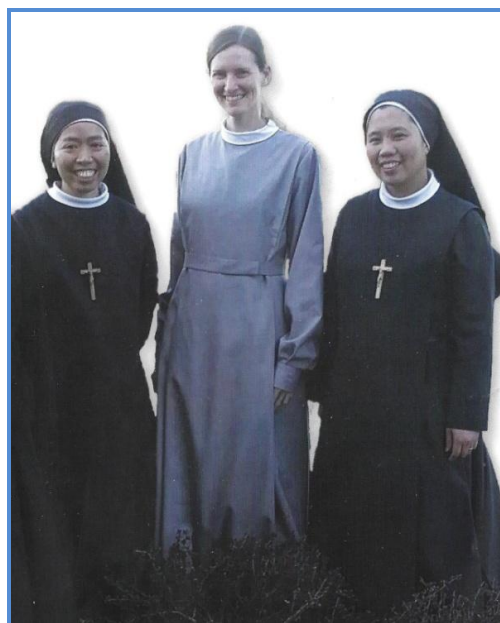
Junípero Serra: Pioneer, Missionary, Saint. Author: Agnes Repplier. Edited by Jeremy Beer.

Blessed Junípero Serra, Author: Monsignor Francis Weber, OFM, 2007.

Junípero Serra: California, Indians, and the Transformation of a Missionary. Authors: Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M Senkewicz. 2015.

Junípero Serra, The Illustrated Story of the Franciscan Founder of California's Missions. By Don DeNevi and Fr. Noel Francis Moholy, OFM.

In God's Love,
Catherine Walton



We have an update on Erin Lyons who spoke to us as an aspirant to the Sisters of the Holy Cross at our Zoom Meeting in December 2020. She spoke on behalf of the Labouré Society which helps reduce student loan debts of aspiring priests, brothers and sisters.

Erin Lyons began her formation as a postulant on February 2, 2022 with the Sisters of the Holy Cross in Carrollton, Ohio. She is pictured above in her new habit.

She will now have more faith and spirituality classes each week. Her contact with family and friends will be more limited in order for her prayer life and relationship with God to grow.

This summer she will teach catechism to children on some of the family retreats hosted by their priests. In July she hopes to fly to Minnesota to help welcome the new class of Labouré aspirants as they begin their fundraising, just as she did in January 2020.

She thanks us for our prayers and encouragement which have contributed very much to her joy and perseverance. To support aspirants to the religious life, see

rescuevocations.org.

**SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN JULY
LILY HANSON, BARBARA
BENEVILLE AND DICK PETERS**

SPEAKER



Newly ordained in June 2021, Father Cheeyoon Chun addressed our Serra Club relating his interesting journey into the priesthood. Father Chun was born in Portland, Oregon and moved to Orange County in 1991. At age 13, while in Middle School, he met an Irish priest who had been sent to Korea to learn the Korean language and the culture of Korea. He was quite impressed with this Irish priest who could speak Korean with a heavy Irish brogue. This priest became a role model for Father Chun in that he worked with all the people of all ages so lovingly. In 6th grade, one day while at Mass, when he saw this priest hold up the host at the consecration of the Mass, Father Chun experienced a feeling that he too would like to say Mass one day and be just like the Irish priest who spoke Korean and lovingly cared for the people. Father Chun never forgot that special feeling to be like that priest.

In high school, art and math became his favorite subjects. During one assignment in art class, he had to draw lines of different thicknesses. This line assignment utterly fascinated him. He learned that lines can turn into the concept of architecture. He thought that his love for architecture was God talking to him to become an architect. He went on to study Architecture and earned a master's degree in Architecture. He was enamored with his career as an architect, but something inside him was nagging him about a possible vocation to the priesthood. He thought he was living the "good" life making a very good salary, and he had a beautiful girlfriend. He aspired to be the best architect. One day he analyzed his great life and realized that his life was all about him. Although he designed many apartment buildings, schools, and even skyscrapers, something was missing. He was invited to go on a retreat just to help out. There was an opportunity for him to go to confession, and he did just that. There was

something about the moment confessing his sins that brought him to tears. He was crying, and he knew then that he needed to make changes in his life. He started helping at church which led to his going to daily Mass. Although he was dating a beautiful girl, he realized that he was really in love with God. He knew that he had to give God a chance. He quit his job, broke up with his girlfriend and went into the seminary. Seminary was not easy for him. During his internship year, he was sent to Santa Clara de Asis in Yorba Linda where Father Fred, pastor, became his mentor. Father Fred kept asking Cheeyoon, "Is God enough for you?" This was two years before his ordination. He kept thinking about Father Fred's question, Is God enough for me? At first, he didn't know the answer to that question. The more he thought about it, and the more he worked with the people in the parish, he soon realized that he loved everything about what it meant to be a priest. Father Cheeyoon Chun was ordained in June 2021 and has been assigned to Holy Family in Orange. We Serrans had the opportunity to attend his Lenten Retreat presentation at our annual Day of Recollection held at Holy Family Church in Orange. As a seasoned instructor of many decades, my suggestion for Father Cheeyoon, is that he should video his outstanding retreat and make it available for Catholics of all ages to hear his message.

Virginia Mort

VOCATIONS REPORT



The seminarian who received the gift card for July, donated by Joan Golding, is Jesus David Moreno. Jesus is from Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. He completed his Pastoral Year at San Francisco Solano Parish and is studying at St. John's Seminary. He is Silvia Uriarte's adopted seminarian.

On June 17th, after a three year hiatus, the annual Diocese of Orange Priests vs. Seminarians basketball game was held at Mater Dei High School. An enthusiastic crowd cheered both teams. The series was tied at 2-2; this game was the tie breaker. Three on the seminarians team, Eddie Huber, Alvin Huynh and Cody Schurter, will be entering the seminary in September. The priests maintained a lead most of the game and were the winning team. The final score was 55-39. An added attraction came at halftime. Sister Mary Andre and Sister Miriam, Dominican Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist, both teachers at J Serra High School, participated in a shooting contest. Sister Mary drained four three-pointers in 30 seconds. A commanding presence, seeing the sisters in full habits, shooting baskets.

On June 25th at Christ Cathedral, Bishop Kevin Vann ordained three seminarians to the Diaconate - Ian Michael Gaston, Jesus David Moreno Noriega, and Benjamin Minh Nguyen. The Deacons are ordained by the laying on of hands, a tradition handed down from the Apostles, so that through sacramental grace they may effectively fulfill their

ministry. Next year, these Deacons will be ordained priests. Several of our Seminarians served as Altar Servers.

At this month's meeting we will be updating our 31 Club. Our members sign up for one day of the month and offer Mass on that day, if possible, and especially pray the Serra Prayer for future priests, religious sisters, brothers and deacons who serve the parish.

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

VOCATIONS PRAYER: Gracious God, help us realize that we are called by our baptism to continue the mission of Jesus by proclaiming the Good News. We pray that you bless each of us as we respond to your call. Guide those discerning your call and give them the support they need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen .

Mary Brockschmidt
Vice President, Vocations



Above: Officers who were installed at our June meeting by our Chaplain, Sister Nadine. L to R - Barbara Beneville - Vice President Programs, Mary Brockschmidt - Vice President Vocations, Sophia Wickson - Vice President Membership, Virginia Mort - Vice President Membership, Programs, Maureen Kosinski - Trustee, Catherine Walton - President, Sister Nadine McGuinness - Chaplain, Father Cheeyoon Chun - June speaker.