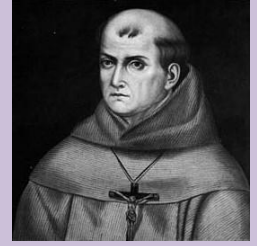




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



September 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

Sept. 1 - Club Meeting, Speaker: Father Bruce Patterson

September 10 - "Serra Meets" 9am Zoom -
Father Brett Brannon, Author of "To Save a
Thousand Souls."

September 12 - 15th Annual Monsignor Sammon
Golf Outing

September 25 - Priesthood Sunday

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Spiritual Father's Day

Priesthood Sunday this year is on September 25.

Priesthood Sunday is a special day set aside to honor priesthood in the United States. It is a day to reflect upon and affirm the role of the priesthood as a central one in the life of the Church. This nationwide event is coordinated and sponsored by the US Council of Serra International. It was in 2003 that the Council organized the first Priesthood Sunday.

Celebrate!

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

Parishes can organize events to honor their priests on this day, but what can you do as an individual to celebrate the priests in your parish or another special priest in your life?

First and foremost is prayer. On this special day you could present your priest with a Spiritual Bouquet. Consider Masses, rosaries, Holy Hours, Chaplets, Novenas (including the St. Junipero Serra Novena), or other prayers. Let him know what you will be doing and how frequently. For example, 'say one rosary a month for a year for his special intentions'.

You could also send him a Thank You note relating a time he helped you or in some way inspired you. Let him know something you admire about how he is living out his priesthood.

Get him something related to a particular interest or hobby of his. The parish office staff could be of help in offering suggestions.

Create a gift basket of baked goods or chocolates. Invite him out to dinner or send him flowers. Give a gift card.

These are all ways you can support your priest who can always use a little encouragement.

If nothing else, acknowledge the day and thank him when you see him before or after Mass.

In God's Love,
Catherine Walton

**15TH 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, California 92782**

Monday, September 12, 2022

Entry Fee: \$140.00

Golfing Fee
Golf Cart Lunch
Cocktails and Dinner

**Cocktails and
Dinner Only: \$40.00**

For information contact:
Maureen Kosinski 714-309-3206

SPEAKER



This month the Serra Club once again happily welcomed Fr. Cheeyoon Chun as our guest speaker. Fr. Cheeyoon was enthusiastic to present this month's topic as the vocation story of his favorite saint, St. Pope John Paul II and how his environment shaped him and inspires us to persevere in our faith journey, however difficult it may appear to be.

Fr Cheeyoon began by quoting Jesus' words from John 15:16: "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide; so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, He may give it to you." This quote is especially noteworthy in the life of Pope John Paul II who, having endured suffering and heartache from an early age, chose to follow the good narrow path instead of a bad one.

As stated by Fr. Cheeyoon, vocation transcends the individual. Fr. Cheeyoon gave us an example by using the Polish word "srodowisko" which is a formative force and the environment that shapes a person. JP II understood srodowisko as allowing yourself to be a product of your environment or learning from it. He believed we do not acknowledge srodowisko as we should. JP II's srodowisko was Poland during WWII, a time surrounded by death, hate and the questioning of human value, yet he addressed it and became a champion for the whole human race. His love for his country would inspire him to write nationalistic plays and act them in an underground resistance theater group he co-founded. Due to Nazi persecution, his seminary classes met in private and his ordination was small; all this was his srodowisko. All the while, he exercised his mind for his future role studying philosophy and theology, becoming one of the great writers of our time, hence being known as The Philosopher Pope. JP II would identify priestly vocation as "a mystery of divine election" backed by Jeremiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before I set you apart, I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

Fr. Cheeyoon points out that if we allow God to clear our spiritual blindness we can surrender and see for once where God is leading us. Will we refuse to budge and see what is open to us? Srodowisko affects everything and we can choose not to care or recognize that we need God in our lives. Fr. Cheeyoon reminds us that we are all God's children and there is nothing we did to deserve or earn this life, yet what are we going to do with this life we have been given? Life is a collaboration with God and His people. For Fr. Cheeyoon, priesthood was a calling and he is not here on his own but with the help of Serran prayers.

Gabriella Negrete



group of faithful men. They are also happy to welcome their new Vocation Director, Father Scott Borgman. Rev. Ian feels the seminarians will benefit greatly from Father Borgman's presence. Father has a very interesting vocation story which was featured in last month's Serra Club Newsletter. At our club's next meeting, members will have an opportunity to adopt one of our newly entered seminarians. Our prayers and support of our seminarians is so important. The journey to ordination is long and often challenging. Our prayers really help.

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

VOCATIONS PRAYER: Dear God, bless each of us as we respond to your call. May we encourage and support one another in discerning and living out our vocation. Help us to foster a culture of vocations in which your seed will bear much fruit. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

VOCATIONS REPORT



Mary Brockschmidt
Vice President, Vocations

The seminarian who received the gift card for September, donated by Joan Golding, is John Huan Nguyen. John is in Theology 1 at St. John's Seminary. He is from Our Lady of La Vang parish in Santa Ana.

Seminarian Benjamin Nguyen, who was ordained a Transitional Deacon in June, thanked our club for our prayers and support of his vocation. He asks that Our Lord and His Blessed Mother bless all of our good deeds. Benjamin is also at St. John's Seminary.

The seminarians have now returned to their respective seminary. The Vocations Office has reported that we have eight new seminarians. There are eleven seminarians at St. John's Seminary, seven at Mt. Angel and two at Bishop White, one seminarian is in his Pastoral Year. Rev. Ian Gaston wrote that he is excited to return to Mt. Angel and he is now in the "home stretch." He will be ordained next June. He shared that they have a very solid



Pat Manzo was installed as Treasurer at our August Meeting.

**SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN
SEPTEMBER
MADRIENNE PETERS AND
JANE VIRGILIO**