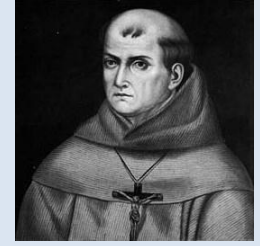




SERRA CLUB OF ORANGE COUNTY



April 2026

Pacific Region

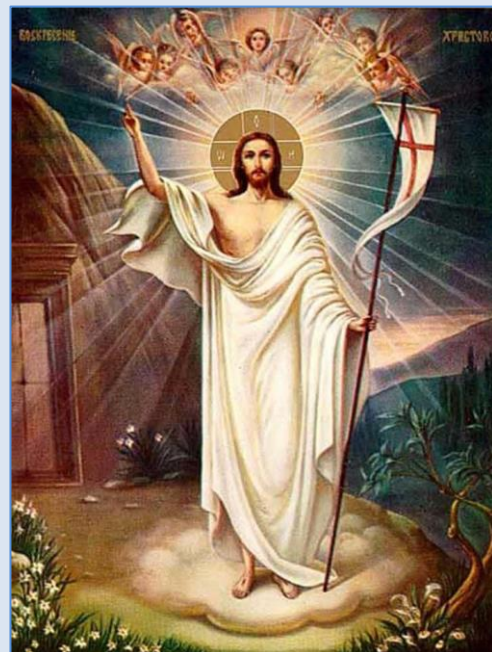
District 79

Charter 438

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

FUTURE EVENTS

April 26 – World Day of Prayer for Vocations
May 1 – National Religious Brothers Day
May 7 – Club Meeting, Speaker: Rev. Michael Hanifin
June 4 – Club Meeting
June 6 – Priesthood Ordination - Francis Ang
June 12 – Priests/Seminarians Basketball Game Mater Dei
July 2 – Club Meeting
July 9-12 – Serra Int'l Convention – Indianapolis
July 14 – Ordinati Luncheon
August 6 – Club Meeting
September 3 – Club Meeting
September 14 – Msgr. Sammon Golf Tournament
October 1 – Club Meeting
November 5 – Club Meeting
November 27 – Priests/Seminarians Soccer Game
December 3 – Club Christmas Luncheon
December 5 – Transitional Deacon Ordination



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Serrans,

In this holy season of Easter, we celebrate the triumph of life over death and the enduring call of Our Lord to each of us. Through His Resurrection, we are reminded that every vocation is born from God's love and sustained by His grace. As Serrans, we are united

SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL
EILEEN CONNOLLY
LANI MUEGO

SERRAN BIRTHDAYS IN MAY
SARA ADAMO
JULIE FRALICK
PATRICIA HOBBS
THOMAS WOORE
MAUREEN KOSINSKI
DIANE SALINGER

SPEAKER



in this sacred mission – to prayerfully support and encourage those discerning their call, and to be living witnesses of faith, hope and charity. May the risen Christ renew our hearts and strengthen us together in this work He has entrusted to us.

Our commitment to this mission was evident in our busy month of March. Some of our members and new members, had the privilege of visiting our seminarians at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo. We joined the Serra City Club on their luxurious bus. We all attended a beautiful Mass in their newly refurbished Chapel, enjoyed a delicious luncheon, and toured the Seminary guided by our seminarians. Our Serra Club presented a \$1,000.00 donation to Fr. Leon Hutton, the new Rector at St. John’s Seminary. It was a very enjoyable and meaningful day for all.

I went to visit our Serran member, Phyllis Soloy, at the St. Francis Home for Women, and after a very enjoyable visit with her, we both had the privilege of presenting Sr. Veronica Villalpando with a \$750.00 donation on behalf of our Serra Club. Sr. Veronica was very grateful for our donation and shared that the 85-year- old home was in great need of repairs. When she first arrived, rainwater was leaking into the dining room forming puddles during storms. Part of the roof has been replaced, and she is now overseeing much-needed renovations to ensure a safe environment for the residents. Phyllis is happy there and recovering very well but is looking forward to going home soon.

We are also grateful to welcome Kelley Stagner as a new member of our Serra family. She will be inducted at our May meeting.

May the joy of Easter fill our hearts, the peace of the risen Christ dwell within us, and His love guide us as we look forward to working together in faith and service.

God bless you,
Lourdes Papac, President

Father Ben Hoang, our March Speaker, has served in several parishes within the Diocese of Orange. St. Cecilia, Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Anthony Claret, and St. Barbara are those he named. He currently serves as Parochial Vicar in the oldest Parish within the Diocese of Orange, St. Boniface in Anaheim, which celebrated its 150th Anniversary in 2025.

Father Ben’s journey to the priesthood left us with more questions than time allowed him to answer. During his Mass with us, Father Ben asked the first question, “Do you put your trust in men or in God?” During his talk with us, he generated many other questions.

How many priests have you met ...

- ... who fled the Communists in 1954 by migrating with their parents from North Vietnam to South Vietnam?
- ... whose Pastor was burned alive after he surrendered to the Communists to prevent those Communists from killing everyone in the village?
- ... who applied to the seminary while living in a communist country?
- ... whose application to the seminary was one of one hundred and sixty applications out of which once every two years just ten were selected?

- ... who taught themselves to speak English and Spanish, and worked as a translator before becoming a priest?
- ... who chose to migrate to the United States of America to follow God's call to become a priest?
- ... who lived as a Benedictine Monk before serving as a Parish Parochial Vicar?

So many questions each with a long story to tell. Father Ben could have taught and talked for hours. But Time is the ever-present tyrant. We had only minutes and we were left to imagine what his years from 1954 when his family left North Vietnam to 2012 when he was ordained a priest in the United States were like. Father Ben advised us, "Wait on the Lord. God will lead. We must listen and Follow," or was that advice from a Polar Bear?

Happy Easter Season Everyone!

Jeanne Bullington
Secretary

REGISTER NOW FOR THE SERRA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



[Convention 2026 - Serra International](#)

NEW MEMBER PROFILES



KELLEY STAGNER

A little bit about me.

I grew up in a small town called Chico, Ca. I moved to Southern California in 1977.

I married my husband in 1979.

I have two children named Sean and Laura.

I just recently retired after 38 years in the semiconductor industry.

My hobbies are crocheting/poetry/drawing and reading. Recently, growing flowers and fruit trees.

I began my faith journey at St. Cecilia Catholic Church in 1993. I was previously a Baptist growing up.

I wanted to join the Serra Club to learn more about the journeys of the young men who are becoming priests.

*



CARMEN KEALLY

My name is Carmen Macapagal Keally.

I'm a registered dietitian.

I'm married, blessed with 2 kids, expecting my first grandchild.

I joined the Serra Club because I believe supporting priestly vocations is very important for the Church.

My hobby is bird watching and I'm an active member of the OC and Morro Bay Audubon Society.



EILEEN CONNOLLY

I was introduced to the Serra club by my good friend Virginia. I have always prayed for vocations but realized maybe I should join Serra to pray in greater numbers.

My name is Eileen Connolly. I was born to Bee and Martin Casey, Irish immigrants to England. We lived in a Catholic community, mostly Irish, in the North of England. I had a very happy childhood. Then at the early age of 17 I met the love of my life whom I was to spend the rest of my life with - 68 years so far. We immigrated to California in 1970 with 3 little girls and one on the way. We now stand at 13 grandchildren and 3 greats with one on the way. We are members of St Cecilia's parish for 54 years.

*



DENISE ESPARZA

I am a third generation resident of Santa Ana, California. I attended schools in the area and graduated from Cal-State University Fullerton with a B.A. and a California Teacher's Credential. I later completed a Master's Degree in Education. I taught for 40 years at Madison Elementary School in Santa Ana. I also had a business practice in preparing Income Tax Returns.

Throughout my youth and up to the present, I have had the luxury of traveling around the world. I love all genres of music, especially Jazz. I enjoy playing golf, and going to the gym. I am currently a parishoner of Saint Cecilia's Church in Santa Ana. I was invited by Virginia Mort, whom I met at the gym, to attend a Serra luncheon. She then recruited me to join the membership and expressed her deep love for the organization and the many benefits, such as new friendships, sponsoring young priests, traveling to conferences and above all, deepening her faith.

VISIT WITH PHYLLIS AND DONATION TO ST. FRANCIS HOME FOR WOMEN



LENTEN MORNING OF REFLECTION



DONATION TO ST. JOHN'S SEMINARY



Members of our Serra Club visit St. John's Seminary and present a \$1,000 donation to Rector Fr. Leon Hutton.

MARCH MEETING







INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER CARMEN KEALLY



SERRA OFFICER ROSTER

OFFICE	NAME
President	Lulu Papac 2025-2026 Remaining term of previous President
President-Elect	TBD
Secretary	Jeanne Bullington
Treasurer	Pat Manzo
VP Membership	Virginia Mort
VP Programs	Silvia Uriarte
VP Vocations	Phyllis Soloy
VP Communications	Catherine Walton
Trustees	Tom Woore through 2026 James Papac through 2027 Molly Thomas through 2028
Newsletter	Catherine Walton
Sacristan	Margot Ang
Telephone Chair, Cards	Lily Hanson
Lunch	Barbara Benneville Jeanne Bullington Lulu Papac Maureen Kosinski
Chaplain	Msgr. Kerry Beaulieu
Spiritual Advisor	Sister Nadine McGuinnes
Serra International Board	Pat Manzo