



# Serra Club of Louisville

July, 2017  
Newsletter

### MISSION:

To foster and promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

**“To always go forward – to never turn back!”**  
– Saint Junipero Serra

If you receive this through regular postal delivery, but would be willing to receive it by email, please contact Chuck Lynch, (502) 244-2752.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

*Unless noted otherwise, all lunches are at 11:45 at the Golden Corral in Hikes Point, and are open to the public.*

**July 3** – Charlie Hulsman, Chairman of the Louisville Catholic Committee on Scouting, will speak on “Why Scouting is Ministry.”

**July 17** - Fr. Anthony Chandler, Pas-

tor of Immaculate Conception, will talk about his sabbatical in Rome and problems in other dioceses

**August 7** – Seminarian Luncheon – **at Holy Family Parish. Members only.**

**August 21** – Fr. Chris Eggleton, O.P. – Topic is the Sacrament of Reconciliation .

## PUBLIC PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS:

**Each Mon.** - Holy Spirit Church, Lexington Road, Mondays at 7 pm.

**Each Tue.** - Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Holy Hour for Vocations - 9 to 11 am.

**Each Wed.** - St. Patrick Church, 7:30 am.

**Each Wed.** - St. Thomas Church, Bardstown, KY - 6 to 7:30 pm.

**2nd Mon.** - Mount St. Francis, Floyds Knobs, IN, 7 - 8 p.m.

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS AT OUR JUNE 5 MEETING

After the election of the new fiscal year’s Serra Club officers, **Ralph Williams**, our District Governor, let us in a ceremony and prayer. The new officers for this year are:

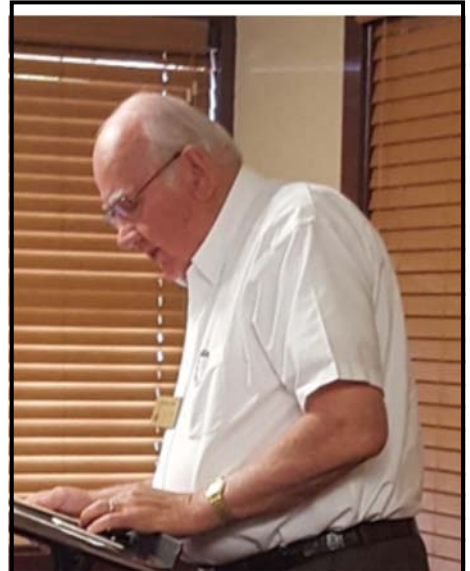
**President Bob Hublar; V.P. & Secretary Ken Peet; V.P. of Membership Neil Manias; V.P. & Treasurer Jerry Gonsoski; V.P. of Programs Chuck Lynch; other Board Members - Theresa Fiedler, John Tichenor, Norm Beat, Jerry Zimmerer, and Debbie Farmer.**

The prayer said by all of us at this meeting was the **Prayer for Generosity** (by St. Ignatius of Loyola): “Lord, teach me to be generous. Teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to

heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for reward, save that of knowing that I do your will.”

Then Bob Hublar spoke on the club’s activities and progress for the past year. We had a successful vocation essay and poster contest, with the poster contest being a new addition this year. Once again, we organized another Seminarian Luncheon in August and the Retired Women Religious Luncheon during Advent.

We started Parish Visits in the last 12 months, and also put more energy into the Newman Program to keep college students in touch with their faith. We are working on a Holy Hour for Vocations, as we continue to search for new members. The USA Council and Serra International seem to now be working well together. These organizations also now invite all Serrans to join in a monthly Rosary for Vocations.



District Governor Ralph Williams leading the installation ceremony

Our club continues to focus on the spiritual life of its members, partly through the guest speakers at our regular meetings.

Pray for our members and especially for our officers.



New officers (pictured left to right) are Ralph Williams, Chuck Lynch, Bob Hublar, Jerry Gonsoski, Norm Beat, Ken Peet, Neil Manias, Theresa Fiedler and John Tichenor. Not pictured here are Jerry Zimmerer and Debbie Farmer.

## JERRY GONSOSKI SPOKE ON THE FATIMA CENTENNIAL



Also at our June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, member Jerry Gonsoski took a few minutes to speak on the Centennial of the Apparitions at Fatima. He shared a personal witnessing of his devotion to Mother Mary, telling us the story of his first wife's rheumatoid arthritis, which occurred

when she was only in her 20's. In 1985, his parish had a bulletin announcement about a trip to Rome, Lourdes and Fatima. Jerry read up all he could on Fatima as they decided to make the trip.

He told us all about the wonderful story of Fatima, the three apparitions of an angel in 1916 and several others of Mother Mary in 1917, to Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta – three children in Portugal. Jerry spoke of the words Mary shared with the three children, as well as his resulting devotion to praying for the souls in Purgatory. He spoke of the young death of two of these children, the face of Jacinta later being found incorrupt, and the canonization of two of these children this year.

Jerry and his wife both felt spiritually fulfilled after their 1985 visit to Fatima. Following that trip, Jerry developed a love of the Rosary and daily Mass, and

even began to lead a regular saying of the Rosary in his parish. Even though his wife experienced no physical changes from their visit to Fatima, they did get to interact with Pope John Paul II during an audience with the Pope in Rome of that year. Jerry's wife died a few years later, at age 50, during hip surgery.

We want to thank Jerry for his inspiring, personal witnessing regarding his devotion to Fatima, the Blessed Virgin Mary, daily Mass, and the Rosary.

## DEACON DENNY NASH SPOKE ON PRISON MINISTRY AT OUR JUNE 19 MEETING

Deacon Denny Nash, Director of the Office of the Diaconate for the Archdiocese (since early 2016), was born and raised in Louisville, attended St. Lawrence School, graduated from Bishop David High School in 1972, and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Spalding University. He was ordained a Deacon by Archbishop Kurtz on August 25, 2012.

Deacon Denny has been married to his wife Teresa for 40 years. They have two children and two grandchildren. In 2016, he retired after 39 years in the construction equipment rental business.

In addition to running the Office of the Diaconate for the Archdiocese, he is also assigned to Good Shepherd parish in the Portland neighborhood, and he is one of the team of Catholic Chaplains that serves the inmates and staff at the Kentucky State Reformatory in LaGrange - a medium security, all-male penitentiary with a current inmate population of around 2,000.

Denny joined us at this meeting to talk about

## DEACON DENNY NASH (continued from page 2)



prison ministry. He started by quoting from Matthew 25:35-40, where Christ said “For I was hungry and you gave me food, ... in prison and you visited me. ... whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” This is the foundation for prison ministry.

Denny said that when he was ordained, if he were asked to list his top 10 ministry preferences, prison ministry would not have even been on the list. But he was eventually asked to consider it and pray over it. After accepting it and devoting time to it, it has become a labor of love – so much so that when he was asked to head the Diaconate Office, he agreed to it only if he could continue doing prison ministry.

He spoke of a distinction between prison ministry, where the average prisoner is incarcerated for 10 or more years, and jail ministry, where the jailed individual is usually awaiting a trial or is about to be transferred to a prison. So, the circumstances, atmosphere, and people are very different.

Denny started by saying that prison ministry is *not* social work, information gathering, or passing on communications to or from outsiders. He said that many of the prisoners will still con you if they can; and they have nothing but time to think up how to do



that. Consequently, there are many rules that apply while visiting in prison. The priest and deacon can only carry in communion hosts, two ounces of wine, a Bible, and a key to the chapel. Wallets, identification, and jewelry must all be removed. They are wanded and patted down like any other visitors.

They can't hug an inmate, although holding hands in prayer is allowed. They can't give anything to the prisoners (not even a rosary, a scapular or a Bible); and they can't accept anything from the inmates. (Rosaries are sometimes turned into jewelry to be sold for cash, or even turned into gang symbols. Contraband of any kind can be sold for cash that sometimes gets used for illegal items.) However, there are procedures whereby inmates can request and keep certain items, after a log is made of the specific items to be kept in their cells. Unfortunately, there have been outsiders (even nurses, laborers, and ministers) who have smuggled contraband to the inmates.



Retired priests have been extremely helpful and make possible weekly Masses for the inmates. The Deacons and priests wear their “clerics” as a sign of the “Church present.”

The state is required to provide religious gatherings to the prisoners who want it. One chapel is used for services for 80 different faiths. The Catholic services (prayers, confessions and Mass) are limited to Saturday mornings - 9 to 11 am each week. Inmates set up the altar and act as acolytes. Some prisoners are even going through the RCIA program. Twelve have become Catholics while in prison in the last few years. For all practical purposes, this group of men is treated like a parish, involving discussions of spiritual problems, confessions, Masses, prayers, visiting and anointing the sick, trips to the psychiatric ward, etc.

Denny said one of the powerful images occurs when he crosses “the yard” to open the chapel, and there are men huddled outside the chapel doors waiting to go inside – sometimes standing in the heat, the

**DEACON DENNY NASH**  
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cold, or the rain. He reminds us that he's not there to judge or convert the inmates. He's there to help them find Christ in their situation. He sees his role as one of making Christ present, then planting seeds and getting out of the way.

He also spoke of a time that he was having a very bad day, but helped a prisoner having a terrible time handling the unexpected death of his mother while he was in prison. Denny explained that some experiences and encounters with the inmates become true blessings, and make the hassles and fears worthwhile.

We want to thank Deacon Denny for a great presentation.

*(Thanks to Jerry Zimmerer for the pictures with this article.)*

**SERRA CLUB MEMBER**  
**DON BUCKLER - ARTIST**

Don Buckler, one of our own Serrans, is an artist in his retirement years. He will have a showing of his art at the Galerie Hertz, 1253 S. Preston Street, Louisville, KY 40203. The opening reception will be Sunday, July 9, 1 to 4 pm. The exhibit will continue for about 30 days. More on the Galerie Hertz can be found at <http://www.galeriehertz.com/>. For samples of some of Don's artwork, click these links: <http://www.artebelladaily.org/artists/don-buckler/>

<http://www.artebelladaily.org/artists/don-buckler-2/>

<http://www.artebelladaily.org/artists/don-buckler-3/>

<http://www.artebelladaily.org/artists/don-buckler-4/>

**POTPOURRI - VARIOUS**  
**ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**Serran Birthdays this month**

- Fr. Michael Wimsatt (Voc. Director), July 1
- Chuck Lynch, July 7
- Sr. Sarah Yungwirth (Assoc. Dir. of Vocations), July 9
- Mary Means, July 10
- Jack Nooning, July 10
- Cheryl Bowling, July 18
- Bert Trompeter, July 19

**The Pope's Prayer Intentions for this month**

Lapsed Christians - That our brothers and sisters who have strayed from the faith, through our prayer and

witness to the Gospel, may rediscover the merciful closeness of the Lord and the beauty of the Christian life.

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**On the Life of Saint Junipero Serra** (Feast Day is July 1) – In this year of the Centennial of the Fatima Apparitions, it is worth noting that Saint Serra compiled a novena book to Our Lady under the title of her Immaculate Conception – published as a 35-page book, “*A Marian Novena Attributed to Fray Junipero Serra*,” during the Marian Year of 1988. One of the prayers composed by Saint Serra: “Most holy and immaculate Mary, since Almighty God has preserved you from all stain of sin, in order that you might be a worthy Mother for your only Son, who took on human flesh and became man in your womb, I beseech you, most pure and blessed of all women, to obtain for me complete pardon of all my sins so that I may merit in this life the eternity which I seek. This I ask through your Son who lives and reigns through all ages, world without end. Amen.”

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**Our Lady of Fatima – Nine facts you may not have known** - <http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/nine-more-fatima-facts#.WTLd7PcpDqA>

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**Mary's Fatima Messages** to the Shepherd Children - <http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/marys-fatima-messages-to-the-shepherd-children#.WUKG0vcpDqA>

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**Fatima's Essential Requests:** Our Lady's Plan for Peace - <http://www.fatima.org/essentials/requests/plan.asp>

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**For an excellent article by Archbishop Kurtz on the four C's:** civility, compassion, courage, and calm see <https://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/ByIssue/Article/TabId/735/ArtMID/13636/ArticleID/19876/If-all-politics-is-local-let%E2%80%99s-be-more-neighborly.aspx>.

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**Housewife and mystic Rhoda Wise is on the path to Sainthood** – Read the article at

[http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/ohio-mystic-rhoda-wise-is-on-the-path-to-sainthood?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%253A+NCRegisterDailyBlog+National+Catholic+Register&utm\\_content=FeedBurner#When%3A2017-03-11+14%3A45%3A01](http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/ohio-mystic-rhoda-wise-is-on-the-path-to-sainthood?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%253A+NCRegisterDailyBlog+National+Catholic+Register&utm_content=FeedBurner#When%3A2017-03-11+14%3A45%3A01) .

**Prayer Before Scripture Study** - Lord Jesus, open our minds to understand the Scriptures that we may

**POTPOURRI**  
**(continued from page 4)**

fully comprehend the truth of your word. Anoint us with your power and give us joy and boldness to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.

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**Building a Culture of Vocations** – The Loving Environment of a family draws forth an individual’s greatest talents and gifts. We’ve come to realize that creating an atmosphere in which children can hear the Lord’s call is one of the most significant responsibilities resting on our shoulders as parents. Our own lives must reflect the presence of God, His Word, and the love He offers His people.

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**Praying for Vocations** - "The entire Church must formally pray for vocations because the purpose of the prayer to gain vocations must concern all the faithful, every Christian who has at heart the good of souls and, in a particular way, the Bishops who are the shepherds of the spiritual flock and to whom souls are entrusted. They are the living Apostles of Jesus Christ today." - Saint Hannibal (1851-1927)

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**Lost track of a (living) priest or deacon in our Archdiocese?** – They’re all listed at <https://www.archlou.org/about-the-archdiocese/archdiocesan-clergy-priests-and-deacons/>

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**Convocation of Catholic Leaders** meets July 1 thru 4. Some of the conference will be shown on EWTN television. See your local listings. Details are in this article: <http://m.ncregister.com/daily-news/unprecedented-gathering-of-us-church-will-discuss-evangelization#.WTgu4PcpDqA>

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**Family of vocations** - St. Paula Frassinetti (1809-1882) was one of five children. She became a woman religious, founding a group later called the Frassinetti Sisters. And all four of her brothers became priests. Must have had wonderful parents!

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**Is Giving the Secret to Getting Ahead?**  
Read <https://nyti.ms/10LrYjQ>.

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**Quote from a Saint:** “Nothing wins hearts like cheerfulness.” - Saint Dwynwen (5th century)

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**On the Eucharist** - "If the Angels could envy, they would envy us for Holy Communion." – Pope Saint Pius X

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**Pope Francis grants PLENARY INDULGENCE for Fatima Centennial.** The indulgence removes the temporal punishment due for sins. There are three ways to obtain the indulgence (see below). To obtain the plenary indulgence, the faithful must **also** (within 8 days of completing any one of items 1, 2, or 3 below) fulfill the ordinary conditions: go to Confession and Communion, be interiorly detached from sin, and pray for the intentions of the Holy Father.

1) Make a pilgrimage to the shrine - An indulgence will be granted to those who make a pilgrimage to the Fatima Shrine in Portugal and participate in a celebration of prayer dedicated to the Virgin. In addition, the faithful must pray the Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke the Mother of God.

2) Pray before any statue of Our Lady of Fatima - An indulgence will be granted to those who visit with devotion a statue of Our Lady of Fatima solemnly exposed for public veneration in any church, oratory or proper place during the days of the anniversary of the apparitions, which is the 13th of each month through October 2017, and there devoutly participate in some celebration or prayer in honor of the Virgin Mary. In addition, the faithful must pray the Our Father, recite the Creed and invoke Our Lady of Fatima. (**St. Louis Bertrand parish is having a devotion at 6:30 pm on Thursday, July 13.** For other dates and times, see <http://therecordnewspaper.org/mass-will-mark-centenary-apparitions/>.)

3) The elderly and infirm - For the faithful who, because of age, illness or other serious cause, are unable to get around, they may pray in front of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima and spiritually unite themselves to the jubilee celebrations on the days of the apparitions, the 13th of each month through October 2017. They must also “offer to merciful God with confidence, through Mary, their prayers and sufferings or the sacrifices they make in their own lives.”

Thanks to **Donna Richardson** for proofing  
this newsletter.

Newsletter questions, comments, or submissions?  
Contact Chuck Lynch at (502) 244-2752.