



# Serra Club of Louisville

November, 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.*

**Nov 6** - Joan Smith, Exec Director of Lifehouse Maternity Home, will give us an update on their activities.

**Nov 20** - Dr. Karen Shadle, Director

of the Office of Worship, will speak on “It's Complicated: Millennial and iGen Catholics' Relationship with Liturgy”

**Dec 4** – Serra Club Luncheon for Retired Women Religious, open to the public, at the University Club on the U of L campus. See pg. 4.

For more information, contact Neil Manias at (502) 267-5011.

## INVITATION TO JOIN THE SERRA CLUB OF LOUISVILLE

We want everyone to know that the Serra Club of Louisville is always open to new members. We usually meet twice a month (first and third Mondays for lunch, at the Golden Corral in Hikes Point), with speakers at almost all our meetings.

Dues help cover the cost of the many things we do, including a Christmas luncheon for retired women religious; a send-off luncheon for our seminarians in August of each year; sponsorship of the annual men’s and women’s Archdiocesan conferences; coordination with the Vocation Office for the annual poster and essay contests; promotion of the Newman Connection, which keeps college students in touch with parishes near their college; and much more. There is also a discount for the first year’s dues for new members.

## INSTALLATION OF KEN PEET AS DISTRICT GOVERNOR FOR SERRA CLUBS

At our October 2 meeting, Sally Nance, Regional Director for Serra International, came to Louis-

## 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.

ville and performed the ceremony to officially install our new District Governor – Ken Peet. Fr. Pat Dolan blessed the lapel pin that was given to Ken. Thank you, Ken, for agreeing to take on this role. And thank you, also, to Ralph Williams, who had previously held this position for many years.



## FROM THE PLANTING SEEDS COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEP 6

Ken Peet is also our liaison with this Archdiocesan Committee, consisting mostly of vocation coordinators for various orders which have a presence in our area. Here are some of his notes from the quarterly meeting held last month.

The next Jubilee Mass will be on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at St. Stephen Martyr at 10:30am with reception to follow.

Grade School / High School visits - Usually at the start of the school year the Vocation Office sends out information about the different resources / visits that can be provided. However, many principals said they did not receive the information. So that the information doesn't get lost in the beginning of the school year shuffle, this material will be sent out over the next couple weeks. The Vocation Office is also going to push to give talks in more High Schools this year.

## SERRA CLUB MEETING OF OCTOBER 2

Our main speaker for this meeting was Sally Nance, a second generation Serran, born and raised in Nashville. She worked in Washington, D.C. on Capitol Hill for two Tennessee Senators. Then she went to work at the U. S. Department of State, where she met her late husband who worked with the Foreign Service of the State Department. They married in Washington and were later assigned to several offices throughout the world – serving in Singapore (where their two children were born); Jakarta (Indonesia), Rangoon (Burma), Tokyo (Japan), and Mexico City (Mexico).

In 1990 her husband retired and they moved to Franklin, TN. There they opened and ran Cruises Galore & More for 16 years.

Sally joined the Nashville Serra Club in 1992 and became a Charter member of the Williamson County Serra Club in 2003. She's held several different offices within both clubs. She was appointed District Governor in May 2015 and accepted the office of Regional Director in May 2017.

When not doing Serra business, Sally (who claims to be over 75 years old) assists Asian students with English classes and can be seen cheering three grandsons playing in different sports.

Sally views her role with Serra as a special ministry. Quoting St. Thomas Aquinas, she said "The

things we love tell us who we are." She spoke of Serrans love for vocations and for those who have chosen a religious vocation.

At this meeting, Sally, the Regional Director for Region 5 (covering Serra Clubs in five states) spoke on the annual Serra International Convention, held in Rome late in June of this year.

She purchased her ticket to go to the annual convention before finding out she needed a pacemaker. But her son joined her and they had a great time in Rome (as well as in Paris and Normandy).

The Mass at the Vatican, attended by 600 Serrans, was officiated by Cardinal Stella. Sally sat in the front row! Cardinal Stella spoke highly of the Serrans. Sally reminded us to "be a friend to the priest." After Mass, the group went to the Pope Pius X Auditorium, saw the Swiss Guards, and heard the Pope speak to the Serrans.



Throughout the four-day convention, the attendees heard speeches by people from around the world. One speaker from Asia spoke of how, in Seoul, Korea, there were about 100 men ordained to the Priesthood this year.

The last night of the convention included a banquet with plenty of pasta, wine, and a performance by three opera singers!

Then Sally introduced the next speaker, Bob Rudman - the Serra International Convention



## OCTOBER 2 MEETING (continued from page 2)

Chairman for 2018, as well as a Board Member for Serra International.

Bob, a grandfather who has been married for 55 years, spoke about eventually getting the Serra International board to agree to Nashville for the 2018 convention, which will run from June 27 through July 1. Nashville is only three hours from Louisville; and Bob promises the convention will be a very informative one.

Wednesday evening will include the option of attending the Grand Ole Opry.

Thursday morning will be the opening Mass at the Nashville Cathedral, with Seattle's Archbishop Peter Sartain. Thursday evening there will be the choice of a reception or outings to see more of Nashville.

On Friday, the Serra Foundation will host a luncheon. Friday's speakers will include Toronto's Cardinal Thomas Collins, two bishops, a military chaplain, a speech by a seminarian, and a presentation by a Dominican Sister who does vocation recruitment.

Friday evening's activities will include a Mass at the Catholic Pastoral Center, followed by a reception.

Saturday evening will be the grand banquet; and the convention will close with Mass on Sunday, the feast of Saint Junipero Serra.

This convention will be limited to the first 400 who register. However, you can always extend your stay to enjoy the Fourth of July in Nashville. For more on the upcoming 2018 International Serra convention in Nashville, click <http://www.serrainternational.org/content/serras-76th-international-convention-nashville-tennessee-usa>.

We want to thank Sally Nance and Bob Rudman for traveling to Louisville from Franklin, TN to meet with us and tell us about the Serra International conventions – the one in Rome this year, as well as the one to be held in Nashville next year.

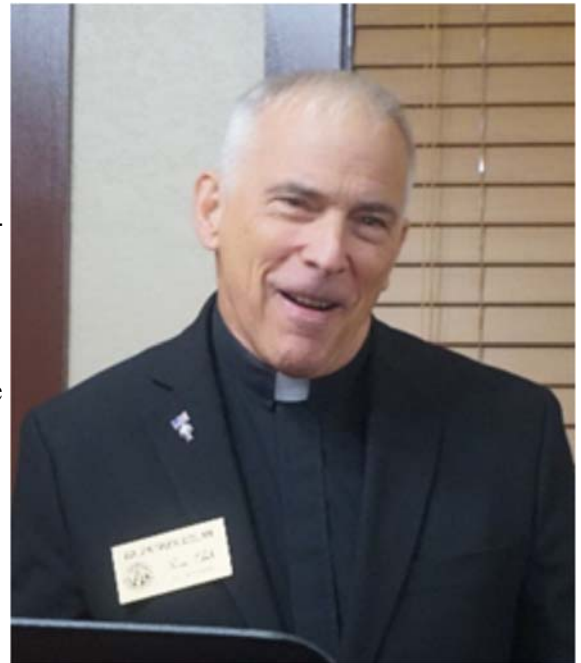
*(Thanks to Jerry Zimmerer for the pictures with this article.)*



## FR. PAT DOLAN SPOKE AT OUR OCT 16 MEETING, ON "WHAT REALLY CONSTITUTES PRIESTHOOD?"

Fr. Pat was ordained a priest of our Archdiocese in 1978. He's currently the Pastor of Saint Teresa of Calcutta parish in Fairdale. He holds a Master of Science and PhD in Chemistry from Indiana University; and a Doctorate in Sacred Theology from the Angelicum University in Rome.

In 1986 he received a Direct Commission as First Lieutenant chaplain, and served a year in the 168<sup>th</sup> Support Group in the Army Reserves in Louisville before serving more than five years on active duty. Tours of duty outside the US included time in 10 countries. He has a variety of military awards and is a pathfinder and a paratrooper, among other things.



A few years ago, he was one of only 11 Chaplain general officers in the whole US military. As a Brigadier General in 2011, he was the highest-ranking chaplain in the Army National Guard.

He has published on a variety of topics, from Inorganic Chemistry to Sacramental Theology to political and gaming theory, to spirituality for both laity and clergy. He has also written music and published a number of poems.

At this meeting, Fr. Pat spoke on the topic "What really constitutes Priesthood?" Fr. Pat reminded us that we should not only pray for vocations, but help find people who should consider a religious vocation.

What is unique to priests? They can look just like Protestant ministers, or

**FR. PAT DOLAN**  
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rabbis, or imams. We can pray, connect with God, and read Scriptures without a priest. Even without the priest, we can have a sense of longing for God and want to offer back to God.

Jesus is the one true priest connecting us with God completely.

The Pope is also called the “Pontifex” – meaning a bridge builder between the divine and the human. Jesus did this perfectly. Jesus connected the divine and the human.

Think of the priest today as our “connectivity with Christ” or the “on ramp” to reaching God. Even Millennials (many of whom have moved away from organized religion) long for connection, but are not succeeding in achieving it.

Protestants say we can all connect with God. And Scriptures tell us where two or three are gathered in his name, Christ will be there with them. (Matt 18:20). So, why do we need the priest?

Christ had twelve apostles, and he specifically commissioned them, and their successors, to act in his name. He instituted the Eucharist and asked the apostles to repeat this “breaking of the bread.” He instituted the Sacraments, gave his apostles the power to forgive sins. And he sent the Holy Spirit to give them the grace and strength to carry on his work.

Any of us could baptize; and Deacons can also officiate in the sacrament of Matrimony. However, priests are ordained to bring Christ to others through the Sacraments, specifically through the Mass, Reconciliation, the Eucharist, and Anointing of the sick.

Priests are empowered to teach, govern, and sanctify. Through teaching and hermeneutics, the priest helps us make sense of God’s word as it applies to our lives. Through governing in a pastoral role, the priest helps us all figure out “who fits where” in the Church. By way of the Sacraments, the priest sanctifies us; and bishops, through Holy Orders, sanctify priests and deacons.

Although all of us are “earthen vessels” of God’s grace, the priest channels God’s grace to us like a gardener using a hose. He has the power to turn on the graces of the sacraments – the sacramental access to Jesus Christ.

As we look for good candidates for the priesthood, Fr. Pat reminds us to look for people who are comfortable with the sacred – people who feel they fit into the sacred, having a resonance with and con-

nectivity to the sacred.

We want to thank Fr. Pat for taking the time to address our group on this topic.

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

**VOCATION OF A PARISH AND THE PARISH DISCERNMENT PROCESS**

As our Archdiocesan parishes go through the discernment process requested by Archbishop Kurtz, we should keep the following quote (by Pope Saint John Paul II) in mind:

“Many people today are disoriented and lost in search of genuine fellowship. Often their lives are either too superficial or shattered by brokenness. Their work often is dehumanizing. They long for an experience of genuine encounter with others, for true fellowship. Well, is this not precisely **the vocation of a parish**? Are we not called to be a warm, brotherly family together? Are we not people united together in the household of God through our common life? Your parish is not mainly a structure, a geographical area or a building. The parish is first and foremost a community of the faithful. This is the task of a parish today: to be a community, to rediscover its identity as a community. You are not a Christian all by yourself. To be a Christian means to believe and to live one’s faith together with others. For we are all members of the body of Christ.... For fellowship to grow, the priest’s role is not enough, even though he plays an essential role. The commitment of all parishioners is needed. Each of their contributions is vital.” - *from “Draw Near to God” by Pope Saint John Paul II*

**DEC. 4 LUNCHEON FOR RETIRED WOMEN RELIGIOUS**

Annually the Serra Club sponsors a Christmas Luncheon for retired women religious (even though many of them are still in active ministry beyond age 65). This year, it will be open to the public. The purpose is to honor and thank the many women religious who have devoted their lives to various ministries, including, for many of them, the teaching profession.

The luncheon will be at 12 noon on Monday, December 4, at the University Club on the U of L campus. Cost will be \$25 for members (and their spouses), and \$35 for all others. Parking is free. Archbishop Kurtz will be our guest speaker; Gary Montgomery will be the emcee; and we will be entertained by

**DECEMBER 4 LUNCHEON FOR  
RETIRED WOMEN RELIGIOUS**  
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the Cardinal Singers, as well as Serran Mary Means, pianist.

**Reservations must be made by Monday, November 27, with payment to our Treasurer by Wednesday, November 29.** For more information or to make reservations, please contact the Serra Club Treasurer, Jerry Gonsoski, at 245-5392.

**POTPOURRI - VARIOUS  
ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**Serran Birthdays this month**

Ron Mazzoli, Nov 2  
Donna Richardson, Nov 13  
Don Buckler, Nov 18  
Jerry Zimmerer, Nov 27

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

Christians in Asia - That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

**National Vocation Awareness Week** begins November 5. For ideas, bulletin inserts, parish and school materials, and much more, check out these links:

- 1) <https://www.vocationawarenessweek.com/>
- 2) <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/educators-and-youth-leaders/lesson-plans/lesson-plans-for-national-vocation-awareness-week-grades-k-8.cfm>
- 3) <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/vocations/national-vocation-awareness-week.cfm>
- 4) <http://www.detroitpriest.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/V-Lessons-and-Activities-for-Vocations.pdf>
- 5) <https://brothersvocation.org/2015/11/01/national-vocation-awareness-week-resources/>
- 6) <http://www.cincinnati vocations.org/national-vocation-awareness-week-resources/>

**Our Sunday Visitor's recent Fall Vocations insert** is now free online. Check out its eight great articles at

<https://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/Article/TabId/535/PID/13567/TagID/2749/TagName/FallVocations2017/Default.aspx>

**Charity Quotes**

- "Nothing makes us so prosperous in this world as to give alms." - Saint Francis de Sales
- "Many have discovered helping others to be the most enduring therapy, for it's the burdens you help another to bear that make your own seem light." - Dr. Albert Schweitzer
- "If we are able to enter the church day and night and implore God to hear our prayers, how careful we should be to hear and grant the petitions of our neighbor in need." - Saint John the Almoner

**Saint John Paul II Francis Center**

The Francis Center is offering free exercise classes for senior citizens! The classes are held at Gallagher Hall on the Hikes Point Campus of Saint John Paul II, 3042 Hikes Lane.

The exercise program is open to anyone, but is geared to those 60 years or older. The program focuses on strength, mobility, flexibility, and core balance. All exercises are done sitting or standing.

Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to 10 am, except for holidays.

Should you have an interest in joining the classes or learning more about the program, please contact Donna Kenney at 459-4251 Ext. 12, or [dkenney@franciscenter.org](mailto:dkenney@franciscenter.org).

**Catholic Spirituality** - Here are some good summaries of the spirituality of a few of the larger religious orders within the Catholic Church - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic\\_spirituality](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic_spirituality)

**Catholic Women's Conference** - Save the date of Saturday, March 10, 2018. More information can be found at [www.cwclouisville.com](http://www.cwclouisville.com). The Serra Club will, once again, be a sponsor.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS.**

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

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