



Serra Club of Louisville

July, 2018
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, Louisville, and are open to the public.

July 1 Feast Day of St. Junipero Serra, our patron saint.

July 2 Mtg - Fr. Gregory Pine, O.P. will speak on "The Theology of Vocation."

July 16 Mtg - Cathy Reynolds, Director of Campus Ministry at St. X will speak on "The current

status of high school campus ministry."

July 17 – Holy Hour for Vocations, St. Albert the Great parish, 6:30-7:30 pm.

Aug 6 Mtg - Fr. David Cockson will speak on "The Power of the Anointing of the Sick."

Aug 20 Mtg - Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU will speak about the *Water With Blessings* organization.

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

Our next Holy Hour for Vocations will be **Tuesday, July 17, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, at St. Albert the Great parish, 1395 Girard Dr, Louisville, KY 40222**. Leading us will be Fr. Albert Añover, the Associate Pastor of St. Albert parish.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS VOTED INTO OFFICE AT OUR JUNE 4 MEETING

We had a final reading of the new slate of officers and they were voted in at this meeting:

President - **Bob Hublar**

V-P Secretary - **Ken Peet**

V-P Membership - **Neil Manias**

V-P Treasurer - **Jerry Gonsoski**

V-P Programs - **Chuck Lynch**

Other Board Members: **John Tichenor, Theresa Fiedler, Ralph Williams, Norm Beat, and Debbie Farmer**

Fr. Joe Voor will continue to be our Chaplain; Ken Peet will continue to be our District Governor.

Ken Peet, our District Gover-

nor, led a ceremony to install the officers, having each officer take an oath, with a blessing by our Chaplain, Fr. Joe Voor, followed by the following prayer by all in attendance: "Dear 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 see for rest; to labor and not ask for any reward, save that of knowing that I do your will, O God. Amen."

This was followed by a history of the Serrans, by President Bob Hublar. In 1934, four Catholic businessmen in Seattle would meet over lunch and felt there was a need to promote the faith and the friendship of Catholic men, while promoting religious vocations. They chose to name the organization the Serra Club of Seattle. In February of 1935, they had the approval of Bishop Gerald Shaughnessey. They met regularly

and often used the phrase "Each one, bring one." Their Archbishop said "better to ask a person twice than not at all."

The main goals of the club were to support those who had chosen a religious vocation, including men in the seminary, and to assist club members to understand and respond to the call to their own call in the world and the Church.

In June of 1935 the purpose of the organization was enlarged, the club expanded to other cities and by July of 1938 there were five clubs. They formed Serra International; and the first president was Dr. Sheehan. They also began to assist with funding seminarian education.

In 1946 the headquarters was moved to Chicago. In 1986 membership was opened to women.

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS (continued from page 1)

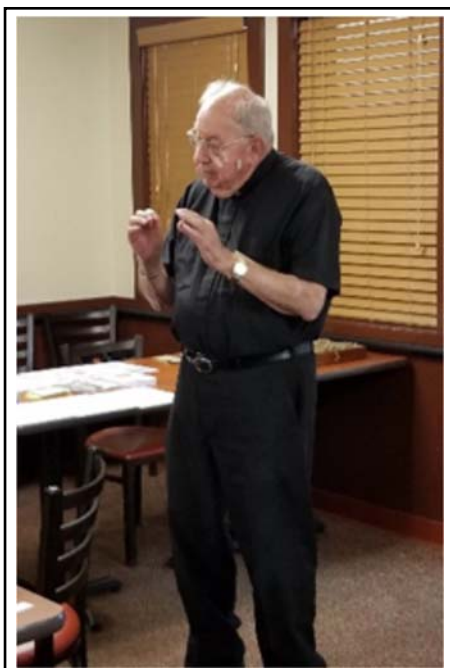
FR. HOPPER WAS THE SPEAKER AT OUR JUNE 18 MEETING

Serra International has special recognition from the Vatican - it is aggregated to the Pontifical Work for Vocations to the Priesthood within the Sacred Congregation for the Clergy. Almost 1,100 Serra Clubs have been chartered in 44 countries since the formation of Serra in the U.S. in 1935. Membership of Serra exceeds 15,000 and is open to Catholic laymen, laywomen and to permanent deacons.

The Louisville club was formed in 1954. Of our own clubs founding members, the only one still living is member Tom Ransdell, who has also served as a national and international leader for Serra.



Pictured above are: Back row: Tom Ransdell (the only living charter member of the Serra Club), John Tichenor, Norm Beat, Jerry Gonsoski, Fr. Joe Voor, Ken Peet; Front row: Debbie Farmer, Chuck Lynch, Neal Manias, and Theresa Fiedler



Fr. Joe Voor giving a blessing to the newly elected officers and board of directors.

Thanks to all who volunteered to be on the Board of Directors of the Serra Club of Louisville!

Fr. Jeffrey Hopper joined us to tell us of his unique vocation story.

He was born in Columbia, Kentucky and grew up in Russell County near Lake Cumberland. "We were poor but didn't know it," he said about his childhood. His dad was a tenant farmer growing tobacco in rural Kentucky. The county had only 13,000 people; and there was only one high school in the whole county. While he was a child, his family attended the evangelical Separate Baptists in Christ church. Instead of sacraments, they spoke of "ordinances" – Baptism, the Lord's Supper (only on Holy Thursday), and foot washing. He grew up with a love of the Scriptures, using the King James Bible.

Their church community attended revivals every spring and fall, treating them as "confession and restoration." The church was his life – with Sunday morning and evening services, as well as a Wednesday evening service. He was also involved with the local 4H Club and the Future Farmers of America.

He and his future wife met when they were only in the first grade. At some point along the way, she started calling him "Grasshopper." He said he got back at her when they married and he made her a "Hopper."

As part of the Evangelical tradition, he felt a call to the ministry as a teenager – around the age of 17 or 18. He says he may have forgotten some of his childhood, but not the day that he was baptized in Lake Cumberland one cold December day. His denomination had no formal education or seminary for ministers. Instead, someone interested in the ministry simply took on an apprenticeship under another preacher. Not being real interested in that approach, and postponing his call to a vocation, he joined the Navy, eventually working on a nuclear submarine.

After graduation from High School, he married and then joined the military for eight years. He married in 1976 and went to school at WKU, paid for by the government after being in the Navy for a while. It was at charismatic renewals that he met some Catholics and decided "they weren't all bad." While with the Navy in the Great Lakes area, he attended an Episcopalian church while his wife attended a Baptist church.

He became an Episcopalian and then went to the seminary after leaving active duty in the military. However, during this time he remained in the reserves.

After serving in an Episcopal parish for three years, he went back on active duty as an Army Chap-

FR. HOPPER **(continued from page 2)**

lain for 12 years. Fr. Hopper found alluring the concepts of Liturgy and Sacraments, as he read about various religions, including the Anglicans. He wanted more than just a memorial host; he wanted the real Eucharist. He finished his four-year degree while studying on a submarine. (He said there wasn't a lot of other things to do on a sub, anyway.) Then he went to the Navy's Officer Training Command. With the Navy he also spent time in Connecticut. He also attended two seminaries in Lexington, Kentucky and



was ordained an Episcopal priest in 1988 – 30 years ago. In the 90's he served as a chaplain in the U.S. Army. As a chaplain, he said there was not a lot of pressure on what he believed theologically. In the

Army, he spent time in various military bases around the country.

During this time, Fr. Hopper could see the slow disintegration of his Protestant denomination, especially over certain issues – e.g., women priests and the definition of marriage.

Fr. Hopper was, and is, conservative in his thinking – both politically and theologically. During this time is when he began to feel the pull to the Catholic Faith. In the late 90's, he could see the value of the Catholic Church's beliefs in the Chair of Peter, the Magisterium, and having limits on what people should believe if they want to call themselves mem-

bers of a specific faith. He was challenged on his faith by a friend who was a Catholic priest. Although he had trouble with Marian devotion, he came to realize it was all “part of a package deal,” and the Church has the authority to interpret the Scriptures as it does on Mary. His wife was also feeling drawn to the Catholic faith; and she joined the Catholic Church through RCIA two years before Fr. Hopper finally became a Catholic. At this point, Fr. Hopper was told when he joined the Catholic Church, there was no promise that he could eventually become a Catholic priest. So, he temporarily gave up the idea of ministry.

In the meantime, Fr. Hopper and his wife had two children, now grown up. His son is in the Air Force; and his daughter is a nurse. He also has several grandchildren.

A 1980 change instituted under Pope John Paul II allowed married Protestant ministers to convert to Catholicism and become Catholic priests. To do the same, he would have to find a Catholic bishop who would sponsor him. He was welcomed by Archbishop Kelly in the late 90's. (The Archdiocese of Louisville includes Russell County, where Fr. Hopper grew up.) Around 2003 he became a Catholic and took a job as a school teacher in rural Texas. He eventually came back to Louisville and taught 6th grade at St. Rita school and then he taught at St. James school in E-town.

When he started moving toward acceptance for the priesthood in the Catholic Church, he had to go through seven written exams and seven oral exams. After passing these, he became a deacon in 2006 and was ordained the first married Catholic priest in our Archdiocese on May 27, 2006 – the feast day of St. Augustine of Canterbury. Fr. Hopper says that when he was ordained a Catholic priest, he felt things shifting in a way that he never felt when he was first ordained as an Episcopal minister.

He was assigned as Pastoral Administrator to St. James parish for five years, and then, in 2012, St.



FR. HOPPER
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Thomas parish (the year the parish celebrated its 200th anniversary), followed by a period of time with St. Monica parish in Bardstown. In 2016 the Vatican announced that certain married clergy who had been former Protestant ministers, could be appointed as parish pastors. In June of 2016 he was made Pastor of St. Christopher parish in Radcliff. He really liked this because he can really relate to the military and their families. In December of 2017, the job of pastor at St. Martin of Tours in Vine Grove was added to his duties.

Fr. Hopper said “I have not regretted one day of being a Catholic.” He spoke of how important the Church is to him and that he wanted to be a Catholic even more than he wanted to be a priest. His brother and sister, as well as his grown children, all converted to the Catholic faith, too.

We want to thank Fr. Hopper for his presentation and all that he does for the Church and for the Archdiocese of Louisville.

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

HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

We continue to attempt one Holy Hour for Vocations each month – with the goal of having them in different regions of the Archdiocese, including outside of Jefferson County. The last one was on Thursday, June 21, at St. John Paul II parish, for which we had about 25 in attendance. Thanks to Deacon Jim McGoff for leading that Holy Hour.

The next one will be on **Tuesday, July 17, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, at St. Albert the Great parish, 1395 Girard Dr, Louisville, KY 40222.** Leading us will be Fr. Albert Añover, the Associate Pastor of St. Albert.

THE POPE’S NEW APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION
“REJOICE AND BE GLAD”

Earlier this year, the Pope issued an apostolic exhortation entitled *Gaudete et Exsultate* (Rejoice and Be Glad). **Fr. Joe Voor will speak on this document at our October 1 meeting** later this year. So, you may want to read it before then. The whole document is only 41 pages long and can be found at

https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20180319_gaudete-et-exsultate.html.

THE CDF’S “PLACUIT DEO”

Earlier this year the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF) issued a letter to bishops entitled *Placuit Deo*, (“It pleased God,” subtitled “On Certain Aspects of Christian Salvation”).

“The ultimate vocation of man is in fact one, and divine.” is a quote from the Second Vatican Council, used in this letter.

The whole document is only 15 paragraphs long and can be found at

http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20180222_placuit-deo_en.html.

A couple of good commentaries can be found at

<http://www.vaticannews.va/en/vatican-city/news/2018-03/congregation-doctrine-faith-placuit-deo-michael-sirilla.html>

and

<https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.catholicnewsagency.com/amp/news/commentary-placuit-deo-against-new-paradigms-18800>.

This article is a CORRECTION to one placed in our June newsletter – which mistakenly referred to this letter as the exhortation “Rejoice and Be Glad.”

POTPOURRI – VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

July 1 is the feast day of St. Junipero Serra, our Patron Saint!

Birthdays this month:

- Fr. Michael Wimsatt, July 1
- Fr. Peter Do, July 2
- Chuck Lynch, July 7
- Sr. Sarah Yungwirth, July 9
- Mary Means, July 10
- Cheryl Bowling, July 18
- Bert Trompeter, July 19

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Pope’s Prayer Intentions for this month

Evangelization: Priests and their Pastoral Ministry - That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.

POTPOURRI
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Priests' Variety Show - Friday, August 24, 2018, 7 PM, Holy Trinity Clifton Campus Theatre, 2117 Payne St. Louisville, KY 40206.

Water With Blessings – This wonderful organization, headquartered here in Louisville, was the subject of a recent Catholic Digest article. See <http://www.catholicdigest.com/from-the-magazine/love-your-neighbor/201701-12water-with-blessings/> The **Executive Director, Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU, will speak at our Monday, August 20 meeting.**

Another good prayer – “O Jesus, I promise You to submit myself to all that You permit to befall me, make me only know Your Will. My most sweet Jesus, infinitely merciful God, most tender Father of souls, and in a particular way of the most weak, most miserable, most infirm which You carry with special tenderness between Your divine arms, I come to You to ask You, through the love and merits of Your Sacred Heart, the grace to comprehend and to do always Your holy Will, the grace to confide in You, the grace to rest securely through time and eternity in Your loving divine arms.” - Saint Gianna Beretta Molla (1922-1962)

Discernment: It May Not Turn Out The Way You Expect - See the article from the "Catholic Stand" magazine - <http://www.catholicstand.com/discernment-may-not-turn-way-expect/>

Each of Us is a Letter From God - "Every Christian must be a living book wherein one can read the teaching of the gospel. This is what Saint Paul says to the Corinthians, 'Clearly you are a letter of Christ which I have delivered, a letter written not with ink, but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh in the heart' (2 Corinthians 3:3). Our heart is the parchment; through my ministry the Holy Spirit is the writer because 'my tongue is nimble as the pen of a skillful scribe' (Psalms 45:2)." - from a sermon by Saint Joseph of Leonissa (1556-1612)

Food for thought – “Let nothing bother you, let nothing dismay you. Everything passes ... Patience gains all ... God alone is enough.” – mystic St. Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

Quote from a saint - "As Christians, our task is to make daily progress toward God. Our pilgrimage on earth is a school in which God is the only teacher, and it demands good students, not ones who play truant. In this school, we learn something every day. We learn something from commandments, something from examples, and something from sacraments. These things are remedies for our wounds and materials for study." - Saint Augustine of Hippo (430-543)

Students encourage seminarians with letters – See the inspiring article at <https://www.osv.com/OSVNewsweekly/Article/TabId/535/ArtMID/13567/ArticleID/25001/Students-encourage-seminarians-with-letters.aspx>.

A thought on helping our neighbors - "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 (552-616)

On persecutions - Being persecuted for not decorating a cake for a same-sex wedding might remind you of the four Christian stone carvers who were martyred in the third century for not sculpting a Greco-Roman god - <http://catholicsaints.info/four-crowned-martyrs/>.

Serra Club Website – Don't forget that the Serra Club of Louisville has a new website – www.Archlou.org/Serra, where you can find past issues of our newsletters, the History of Serra, upcoming events, and information on the U.S. Council of Serra International.

Life at Conception Act – for a video on this proposed legislation, and a way to sign an online petition, see http://nationalprolifealliance.com/rlaca_petition.aspx.

**PRAYER IS A
VOCATION, TOO!**

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

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

WLCR AM 1040 PROGRAM-JULY 2018

Eastern	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6:30AM	Begin Broadcast Day						
6:30AM	Divine Intimacy Dan Burke & Melissa Elson	Son Rise Morning Show Anna Mitchell & Matt Swain					Where God Weeps Mark Riedemann
7:00AM	Catholic Cafe	Morning Glory Brian Patrick					Word on Fire Bishop Robert Barron
7:30AM	EWTN Rosary						EWTN Rosary
8:00AM	Rosary with Archbishop Joseph Kurtz						
8:15AM	Sunday Mass from EWTN Chapel (Live)	Divine Mercy Chaplet	Sunday's Homily Fr. Matt Hardesty	Divine Mercy Chaplet			Holy Mass from EWTN Chapel (Live)
8:30AM		Vatican Insider Joan Lewis	Catholic Cafe Den. Jeff Drzycimski & Tom Dorian	Catholic Catechism Archbishop Fulton Sheen	Light of the East Fr. Thomas Loya	Divine Intimacy Dan Burke & Melissa Elson	
9:00AM	StoriesFromTheHeart	Fr. Spitzer's Universe	Journey Home Marcus Grodi	Best of The Journey Home Marcus Grodi			The World Over (E) Raymond Arroyo
9:30AM	EWTN Bookmark Doug Keck						
10:00AM	EWTN Pro-Life Weekly Catherine Hadro	Fathers Know Best Fr. Larry Richards, Fr. John Riccardo, Fr. Benedict Groeschel					Scripture and Tradition Fr. Mitch Pacwa
10:30AM	Word on Fire Bishop Robert Barron						
11:00AM	Register Radio Jeanette DeMelo	EWTN Live(E) Fr. Mitch Pacwa	The Great Adventure Jeff Cavins	Celtic Connection Kathy Sinnot	Right to Life Margie Montgomery	Vocation Boom Jerry Usher	Mother Angelica Live Classics
11:30AM	Light of the East Fr. Thomas Loya				Word on Fire BishopRobertBarron		
12:00PM	Rosary with Archbishop Joseph Kurtz						
12:15PM	Divine Mercy Chaplet						
12:30PM	Where God Weeps Mark Riedemann	Liturgy of the Word (starts about 12:28 PM)					Vatican Insider Joan Lewis
1:00PM	Scripture and Tradition Fr. Mitch Pacwa	Doctor Is In 1-877-573-7825 Dr. Ray Guarendi					Call Me Catholic Peggy Normandin
1:30PM							
2:00PM	Best of Called to Communion	Called to Communion 1-800-585-9396 Dr. David Anders					The Good Fight 877-573-7825 Barbara McGuigan
3:00PM	Best of Happy Hour (E) with Mike and Vince	Open Line (Live) 1-800-585-9396 John Martignoni- Fr. Wade Menezes, CPM- Fr. Mitch Pacwa - Fr. Larry Richards- Colin Donovan					
4:00PM	Word on Fire Bishop Robert Barron	Kresta in the Afternoon 877-573-7825					Catholic Cafe De.J. Drzycimski & T. Dorian
4:30PM	Right to Life (E) Margie Montgomery						EWTN Bookmark Doug Keck
5:00PM	Rosary with Archbishop Kurtz	Kresta in the Afternoon 877-573-7825	Happy Hour with Mike&Vince 502-541-1040	Kresta in the Afternoon 877-573-7825	Happy Hour with Mike&Vince 502-541-1040	Kresta in the Afternoon 877-573-7825	Rosary with Archbishop Kurtz
5:15PM	Divine Mercy Chaplet						Divine Mercy Chaplet
5:30PM	Family Theater						CatholicCatechism Archbishop Fulton Sheen
6:00PM	Best of Catholic Answers	Catholic Answers Live 888-31-TRUTH					Bear Woznack Adventure
7:00PM							Register Radio
7:30PM							Blessed to Play
8:00PM	Sunday Night Prime	Journey Home Marcus Grodi	Mother Angelica Live Classics	EWTN Live Fr. Mitch Pacwa	TheWorldOver Raymond Arroyo	Fr. Spitzer's Universe	Encounter Dan DeMatte&PatrickReis
8:30PM	EWTN Pro-Life Weekly Catherine Hadro						
9:00PM	End Broadcast Day						
BOLD: Local Programs							