



# Serra Club of Louisville

July, 2019  
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.*

**Mon, July 1 Mtg** - Eddie Jarboe, seminarian in his pastoral year, will speak on "Working with your hands and not just your head."

**Mon July 15 Mtg** – Cole McDowell, seminarian, will

speak on his vocation journey. Fr. Antoninus Samy, O.P. will also speak on a topic yet to be determined.

**Mon, Aug 5** – No regular meeting due to Aug 8 event.

**Thu, Aug 8** – Seminarian Luncheon, **at Archdiocesan Pastoral Center** - not open to the public.

**Mon, Aug 19 Mtg** – Speaker not yet determined.

## 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.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS WAS VOTED INTO OFFICE AT THE JUNE 3 MEETING.

We had a final reading of the new slate of officers and they were voted in at this meeting: **Bob Hublar** – President; **Ken Peet** - VP & Secretary; **Neil Manias** - VP for Membership; **Jerry Gonsoski** - VP & Treasurer; **Paul Willett** - VP for Programs; **Chuck Lynch** - VP for Communications; Other Trustees: **John Tichenor**, **Theresa Fiedler**, **Ralph Williams**, **Norm Beat**, **Debbie Farmer**; **Fr. Joe Voor** will continue as our Chaplain. **Ken Peet** will continue as our District Governor.

Ken Peet, our District Governor, led a ceremony to install the officers, having each officer take an oath, with a blessing by our As-

sistant Chaplain, Fr. Pat Dolan, 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 seek for rest; to labor and not ask for any reward, save that of knowing that I do your will, O God.

Amen." (prayer by St. Ignatius Loyola)

We were reminded by Ken that the Serra Club is known as "a university of Christian principles." In addition to promoting vocations, we are to constantly update ourselves on the Christian faith and move toward greater holiness.



**Board of Directors** - pictured above are: Bob Hublar, Norman Beat, Debbie Farmer, Neil Manias, Jerry Gonsoski, Ken Peet, John Tichenor, Chuck Lynch, and Theresa Fiedler. (Board members unable to attend were Paul Willett, Ralph Williams, and Fr. Joe Voor.)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS INSTALLED (continued from page 1)



Ken Peet, District Director, led the installation ceremony.



Fr. Pat Dolan, Assistant Chaplain, giving a blessing to the newly elected officers.

Thanks to Jerry Zimmerer for the pictures with this article.

### SPOTLIGHT – NEW MEMBER RON EADES



Ron joined the club in April, having been sponsored by Neil Manias. Like Neil, Ron is a member of St. Edward's parish and enjoys their pastor, Fr. Troy Overton. At the June 3 meeting, Ron gave us some background on himself.

He is married to Mary; and he's surrounded by women named Mary Eades – his mother, his

wife, and a daughter-in-law!

Before retiring, Ron spent 50 years in the insulation business, working on insulation in power plants, chemical plants, etc. and also functioning as the friendship coordinator for the union. Much of that was in southern Indiana and western Kentucky. When retiring, he moved to Louisville to be close to

his children.

Now that Ron is retired, he plans to go back to college since UK offers a free, no-credit, no-degree program for seniors.

In his spare time, he plays golf, helps his sons in farming, and devotes time to his and Mary's eight children and 14 grandchildren.

Ron, welcome to the Serra Club of Louisville!

### VIDEO AND HISTORY OF THE SERRA CLUB

Although our current Serrans have been members for anywhere from one month to 60 years, the Board of Directors thought we could all benefit from a [new PowerPoint presentation](#) which is all about Serra International and the U.S. Council. We viewed it and discussed a number of its slides. There was also a [handout](#) that went with presentation.

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 Arch-



## **VIDEO AND HISTORY OF THE CLUB (continued from page 2)**

bishop 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 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.

**Our clubs have three distinct missions: to foster new vocations; to affirm existing vocations; and to increase the holiness of our members.**

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

For a great list of 27 activities Serrans utilize, check out the extensive online resources at <https://serraspark.org/>. Once you’ve read the introductory page, then just click the “Tools Index.”

## **ARCHBISHOP KURTZ SPOKE AT OUR JUNE 17 MEETING**

Archbishop Kurtz joined us to discuss the topic “The Church’s Pastoral Response to the Scandal of Sexual Abuse of Children and Youth.” He broke the topic down into three parts – (1) basic principles, (2) the last 17 years, and (3) what the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops did during its mid-June General Assembly (<http://www.usccb.org/news/2019/19-116.cfm>) in Baltimore. He also remind-



ed us of the *Archbishop’s Leadership Briefing* (<https://www.archlou.org/archbishops-leadership-briefings/>) that he sends to members of the Archdiocese to keep individuals informed of the worldwide, national and local steps taken to address the scandal.

On basic principles, Archbishop Kurtz said the scandal of sex abuse of minors by priests and others within the Church

really did happen. The vast majority of the complaints are true, and the victim survivors have been carrying hurt for decades. The harm to the victims is real.

Archbishop Kurtz spoke of several tenets that we must recognize. The truth will set us free; we must never be afraid of the truth. We have only one savior; and we are the Church of Jesus Christ. Leaving Christ is not the answer. We must be humbled by this reality and at the same time have a firm resolve to address the problems. The scandal is an occasion to renew our commitment to purity and change. We also must recognize the call from every circle to be transparent in our handling of sexual abuse. The media is not our enemy – rather, members of the media have helped us to be aware of much that has gone wrong.

Seventeen years ago in 2002, three years after Archbishop Kurtz was ordained a bishop, the “Dallas Meeting” was held in which the U.S. Conference of Bishops addressed the crisis, adopting the 30-page “Dallas Charter,” entitled the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* (<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/charter.cfm>). This *Charter* includes a zero-tolerance rule regarding the ability of offenders to minister in the Church that is now part of the law of the Church. As part of the response to the abuse crisis



at that time, the Bishops commissioned two studies by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York. One detailed exactly what happened and the other examined the cause of what happened.

The 2005 John Jay report, dealing with abuses back to the 1950s, showed that the sexual abuse by clergy and other Church leaders peaked in 1975 to 1985. The vast majority of these incidents, even what is being reported today, occurred in that period. The Church had become too much like the secular culture. Lessons learned included always cooperating with civil authorities, notifying them of the abuses, and not interfering with civil investigations. The zero-tolerance rule was adopted because of the rate of recidivism among child abusers and the need to protect children and youth in Church settings.

In mid-June of this year, the U.S. Bishops met in Baltimore. Actions taken at this meeting were intended to address the issue of bishop accountability. (<http://www.usccb.org/news/2019/19-116.cfm>) They recognize that in the past, bishops did a poor job of policing themselves. Thus, the Bishops are establishing an independent, third-party reporting system for the reporting of acts of sexual abuse or negligence by a bishop by way of a 1-800 #. This reporting system will address allegations against bishops.

After a report is received, the abuse claim involving a bishop will be reported to the Metropolitan bishop for that area of the country. (Archbishop Kurtz is the Metropolitan for the Kentucky and Tennessee dioceses.) The Metropolitan will notify the Holy See of every complaint and, if credible, will request the delegation to initiate an investigation. The Bishops also presented a plan that includes an outline for lay involvement in these investigations.

In the 18 months prior to this assembly, there have been several good examples of how this stepped-up approach to responsibility – involving a Metropolitan receiving a complaint against a bishop and initiating an investigation after receiving a delegation from the Holy See – has already worked. These were cases involving the former Cardinal McCarrick, as well as bishops in New York, West Virginia, and Los Angeles.

Archbishop Kurtz reminded us that the Church's leadership has to act and address these issues and help victim survivors. At the same time, we should not be discouraged when the media sometimes treats this as only a Catholic issue, while Protestant churches and other organizations have all made headlines for similar problems. He admitted that "I listen better than I

did years ago."

We want to thank Archbishop Kurtz for taking the time to meet with the Serra Club, and for all he does for the Archdiocese, the U.S. Church, and the world-wide Church.

We also wish to thank Fr. Bill Hammer, Pastor of St. Margaret Mary, for allowing us to use their Hospitality Room for this meeting.

*(Thanks to Ken Peet and Paul Willett for the pictures with this article.)*

### **JULY 1 IS THE FEAST DAY OF ST. JUNIPERO SERRA.**

He was born Miguel Jose Serra Ferrer on November 24, 1713, in the village of Petra, on the island of Majorca in Spain. He was baptized when he was just a few hours old. At age 17 he became a novice with the Franciscans. He was given the religious name Junipero, in honor of Brother Juniper, one of the first friends and companions of St. Francis. He was ordained a priest in 1737, and was teaching philosophy three years later. He received a doctorate in theology and was considered intellectually brilliant.

In 1748 Fr. Serra and a friend confided in one another that they each wanted to become missionaries, even though he could have had a prestigious career as a scholar. The following year, they were in Mexico. He walked everywhere and developed a problem with his left foot, which often made him limp and troubled him the rest of his life. He devoted time to learning the language and dialects of the Mexican natives.

Serra helped people improve their farming while also improving their practice of the Catholic faith. Serra often found himself settling disputes between the natives and the Spanish soldiers who supervised the area on behalf of the King of Spain. At the same time, he lived a simple life of austerity.

After the Spanish expelled the Jesuits from Mexico and Baja California, the Franciscans took their place. Serra was appointed the man in charge of the missions of Baja California. Serra traveled north, leading Franciscans accompanied by Spanish soldiers, as he converted Indians and built missions up and down what is now the California coast. The Franciscans were there to convert pagans to Christianity. The Spanish soldiers were there in hopes of discouraging the Russians from taking control of the west coast of North America.



## ST. SERRA'S FEAST DAY (continued from page 4)

The mission of San Diego was founded in 1769. Traveling north was not without its problems – having trouble in a rendezvous with a supply ship, finding food to be scarce, fighting disease, surviving by slaughtering and eating their mules, developing missions spread over many hundreds of miles of the west coast, and more. However, the Franciscans eventually established 21 missions on the west coast – from San Diego up to San Francisco.

To settle one dispute with the local Spanish military commander, Serra once had to walk to Mexico City, the seat of the Spanish Viceroy. The Viceroy ruled in favor of Serra, who then returned to the coast.

He died of tuberculosis at the age of 70, on August 28, 1784. He is buried at the Mission San Carlos Borromeo, Carmel, CA – about 120 miles south of San Francisco. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on September 25, 1988; and he was canonized by Pope Francis in Washington, D.C. on September 23, 2015 – the first canonization to take place on American soil.

## KEN PEET'S TRIP TO SERRA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Ken, our District Governor, volunteered to be our delegate at the Serra International Meeting held in Mexico City this year. He was also authorized to vote for our club in various matters.

There was one talk on the Serra International Foundation, which has a \$2 million endowment and gives all interest and ongoing donations as grants to various clubs based on needs and projects. Grants in the last year totaled \$123,000.

The Serra Club of Louisville received the Carmel Club Award for having a donation of at least \$5,000



but under \$10,000, made to the Serra International Foundation in the last 12 months, by a member or deceased member of our club.

The next national meeting of the U.S.A. Council (USAC) will be in 2020, in Ventura, CA. Next year's International meeting will be in New Orleans, June 25 -27, 2020.

Included below are some of the pictures Ken brought back from Mexico City. More information from the convention will be in the next issue of the Serra International magazine.



Ken, thanks for representing us at the Serra International Convention and for bringing back pictures!





**POTPOURRI – VARIOUS  
ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**Birthdays this month**

Fr. Anthony Chandler, Vocation Director, July 1  
Fr. Peter Do, Assoc. Vocation Director, 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!!**

**Pope's Prayer Intentions for this month** - Justice -  
That those who administer justice may work with integrity and that the injustice which prevails in the world may not have the last word.

**Letter to an aspiring priest** - <https://www.firstthings.com/article/2019/03/letter-to-an-aspiring-priest>

**Another good prayer** - "O gracious and Holy Father, give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you, patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you, a heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord." (Prayer of Saint Benedict of Nursia, 480-547 AD)

Thanks to **Mary Means** and **Paul Willett**  
for proofing this newsletter.

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

