



Serra Club of Louisville

December, 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.

Dec 2 – Luncheon for Senior Women Religious, at the University Club. **Reservations were required by Monday, November 25, with payment to our Treasurer by Wednesday, November 27.**

Dec 16 – Mass & Luncheon at St.

Margaret Mary parish. **Reservations required for lunch.** See article on page 3.

Board meeting in December - Due to the Holidays, there will be no board meeting in December.

Jan 6 - Regular meeting.

Jan 20 - Regular meeting.

Jan 28 - Board meeting at St. Margaret Mary.

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.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – LYNN HANER

Lynn just joined the Serra Club of Louisville. She is single and a retired special needs educator, most recently in the Jefferson County Public School system. Originally from Louisville, Lynn taught 41 years in three states. She has five nieces, two of whom have also become Catholic elementary school teachers (one in Ohio and one in Hawaii)!

She is a member of St. John Paul II parish, where she is a lector, a Eucharistic Minister, and a member of **CLOUT** - Citizens of Louisville Organized and United Together). She has also been involved with the RCIA program some years. She has been a big supporter of the seminarians of the Order of the **Salvatorians** in

South America.

Soon after retiring, she took a fall and ended up with a broken arm and a shoulder needing surgery. So, she says her immediate retirement plans were not what she



expected; but she smiles and laughs through it all!

Lynn, welcome to the club! You are in our prayers for your early December shoulder surgery.

Our Club now has a Facebook page. Go to www.Facebook.com and search “Serra Club of Louisville.”

Thanks to **Fr. Dave Harris** for allowing us to have a Holy Hour for Vocations at St. Albert Church on November 20, and to **Fr. Albert Añover** for helping us with that Holy Hour.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN TICHENOR FOR BEING A SERRAN FOR 60 YEARS!

Congratulations to Serran John Tichenor, who has been a member

JOHN TICHENOR (continued from page 1)



of the Serra Club of Louisville for 60 years as of 11/1/19! John, thanks for all you have done for the Serra Club of Louisville! John was presented with a certificate and recognition at our November 4 regular meeting.

CONGRATULATIONS!

CHUCK LYNCH SPOKE AT OUR NOVEMBER 4 MEETING



Unfortunately, Fr. Don Halpin, O.F.M. Conv. of Mt St Francis, IN, who was scheduled to speak at our November 4 meeting, took ill at the last minute and was unable to give his presentation on the retreats he leads for the Louisville Archdiocese and for southern Indiana. Serran Chuck Lynch spoke, instead, on Indulgences.

For a copy of Chuck's entire handout on Indulgences, see a copy after the end of this newsletter. In response to questions about Scripture verses on Purgatory, Chuck suggests you check out the excellent article [here](#).

(Thanks to Paul Willett for the picture with this article.)

SISTER MICHELE INTRAVIA SPOKE AT OUR NOVEMBER 18 MEETING

Sr. Michele Intravia, of the Ursuline Sisters of Mount St. Joseph, was our speaker for the November 18 meeting. She has been with the [Sister Visitor Center](#) for 15 years, and its Director for the last eight years.

Sr. Michele was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri, on The Hill, which is the Italian Section of the city. She attended Bishop DuBourg High School and Fontbonne College (St. Louis). She then completed her Bachelor's Degree at Brescia University (Owensboro). She entered the Ursuline Sisters in

1979. She has two older sisters, eight nieces and nephews, 13 great nieces and nephews, a great-great-nephew, and a great-great-niece.

She also did missionary work in Chile for two years, and was an educator for 13 years, including six years as a principal. She said the hardest day of her life was the day she had to close down her home parish school in St. Louis.

The Sister Visitor Center (SVC) is one of the nine divisions of Catholic Charities of Louisville, and is celebrating 50 years of serving in West Louisville. It is an emergency crisis center in West Louisville, serving the poor in the Shawnee, Russell, and Portland areas – everything west of the Ninth Street divide and north of Broadway to the river.

The SVC was originated by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, but Ursuline Sisters have always worked there, too. Today, there are two Ursuline Sisters and two lay women running the Center.

They help families with financial needs (utility bills, rent bills, and preventing evictions). They are one of the 14 area ministries throughout Jefferson County. The SVC operates a clothes closet, and also coordinates the distribution of food from Dare to Care.

Forty-five percent of their budget comes from



grants and private donations. They are also supported by regional churches, the [Pax Christi Collaborative](#), the K of C, Catholic Charities, the Metro Government, individual volunteers, the Catholic Service Appeal, and individual donations of cash, food and clothing. Many of our parishes support them with food, clothing and cash on a regular basis. Even football's Hall of Fame (and Louisville's own) Paul Hornung is a big supporter of the SVC.

To do their work, they have "financial appointments" and "clothing appointments" with people to determine their needs, and to be sure that food, clothing and money is going where it is really needed. They require paperwork and ID's to be sure people are who they say they are. For financial assistance, they also require things like utility cut-off notices and eviction notices.

In October they distributed food to 767 people. Year round, they serve 10,000 people. For Christmas they'll try to help 200 children with new clothes,

SR. MICHELE INTRAVIA
(continued from page 2)

shoes, hats, gloves, and coats. Sr. Michele said that 95% of the poor they serve are not Catholic. She reminded us that “we’re not serving them because they are Catholic, but because we are Catholic.”

When she gets overwhelmed or frustrated with people testing her patience, she reminds herself to “Suck it up, Buttercup!”

Speaking at Masses for the parishes of the Pax Christi Collaborative, she challenged them to raise \$4,000 to help with the SVC needs. The parishes came through with \$5,000 instead.

With a core base of only 20 weekly volunteers, they can always use many more volunteers. Although SVC gets middle-schoolers and high-schoolers from parish youth groups, students working on service hours, and others, it is still very hard to get volunteers due to some people’s reluctance to drive to West Louisville.

Sr. Michele says they welcome all the volunteers and prayers they can get, as well as donations of food, clothing, and financial assistance.

We want to thank Sr. Michele for meeting with us and giving us an update on the Sister Visitor Center.

(Thanks to Paul Willett for the picture with this article.)

VOCATION ESSAY AND
POSTER CONTESTS

The contests are for grade schoolers. Schools, parishes and youth leaders have been notified of the annual Vocation Essay and Poster Contests sponsored by the Vocation Office and the Serra Club. Entries must be received in the Vocation Office by January 10. The Serra Club will provide cash prizes to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. For more details, click [here](#).

CALIFORNIA RALLY AND
MISSION PILGRIMAGE

In January, you can attend the Serra Rally and/or the Pilgrimage Tour of the old missions founded by St. Serra and the Franciscans – missions located between Los Angeles and San Francisco.

For Rally information and agenda, click [here](#) and [here](#). For Rally registration, click [here](#).

For Hotel registration, click [here](#). And for the Mission pilgrimage, click [here](#).

MONDAY, DEC 16 MEETING -
MASS AND LUNCH

In lieu of a regular meeting at the Golden Corral, we will meet at St. Margaret Mary for noon Mass, followed by lunch in the parish’s Hospitality Room. The lunch will be catered by Goose Creek Diner. Fr. Pat Dolan will celebrate Mass and also give us a Christmas homily / presentation on “Recapturing Christmas Traditions.”

Reservations must be made by Monday, December 9, with payment to our Treasurer by Wednesday, December 11. For more information or to make reservations, please contact the Serra Club Treasurer, Jerry Gonsoski, at 245-5392.

If you are attending, be sure to give yourself plenty of time due to Shelbyville Road traffic in December.

POTPOURRI -
VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Member birthdays this month

Sam DuPlessis, Dec 6 Marie Heckel, Dec 11
Neil Manias, Dec 25

Pope’s Prayer Intentions for this month – Universal – The Very Young - That every country resolutely commits to taking the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

Shop for Christmas and support our seminarians and religious orders:

St. Meinrad Archabbey - <https://smagiftshop.com>;

Franciscans - <https://mountsaintfrancis.org/gift-shop-1>

Passionists - <https://passionist.org/product-category/seasonal-cards/>

Sisters of St. Benedict (Ferdinand, IN) -

<https://www.monasterygiftshop.org>

Trappists - <https://www.gethsemanifarms.org>

Ursulines (Mt. St. Joseph) -

<https://ursulinesmsj.org/gift-shop/>

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Thanks to **Mary Means** for proofing this newsletter.

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

INDULGENCES

HELP A DECEASED FRIEND OR RELATIVE OUT OF PURGATORY

Compiled by Chuck Lynch

11-4-19

- A) **THEOLOGY** - The Catholic Church teaches that Christ became man, suffered, died, and rose from the dead. All of this was to save us from our sins. In doing so, Christ left an infinite treasury of graces for our benefit. He also gave Peter, and thus all his successors, the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven. Consequently, the Church has the power to dispense from this treasury. The Church also teaches that when our sins are forgiven, we still need to be purified (through our good deeds and sufferings on earth, as well as our experience of Purgatory after death) before entering Heaven.

However, the experience of Purgatory can be reduced (by *partial indulgences*) or even fully eliminated (by *plenary indulgences*) if we take on certain devotions, some of which are relatively simple.

- B) **WHO CAN BENEFIT** - Indulgences can normally be applied to *oneself* or to *one of the souls of the deceased*, but they cannot be applied to another *living* person. (Norm 3)
- C) **DEVOTIONS FOR EARNING INDULGENCES** - An indulgence can be obtained in a number of ways, as long as you meet all of the requirements. The "*Manual of Indulgences*" (see footnotes) lists dozens of ways to earn indulgences. Here are just *some* of the simpler devotions that can be used to obtain a *plenary* indulgence, when combined with the requirements in Part D below. (Only one *plenary* indulgence can be earned each day.)
- 1) On the last Sunday before Advent, the Feast of Christ the King, publicly recite the act of dedication of the human race to Christ the King. (See Grant 2 of the *Manual*, which also contains the dedication prayer.)
 - 2) Thirty minutes of Eucharistic Adoration. (Grant 7)
 - 3) Spend at least three entire days in the exercise of a spiritual retreat. (Grant 10)
 - 4) Lenten Good Friday adoration of, and kissing of, the Cross (Grant 13)
 - 5) The pious exercise of the Way of the Cross - must be done before the Stations of the Cross, moving from one station to the next as you pray and meditate on each. (Those who are "impeded" from such movement can pray a half hour in pious reading and meditation on the Passion and Death of Christ.) (Grant 13)
 - 6) Recitation of the Rosary (5 decades) and meditation on the mysteries, in a church, a family group, or a pious association. (Grant 17)
 - 7) On January 1 or the Feast of Pentecost -- recitation of "Come, Holy Spirit, Creator Blest" ("Veni Creator"); Grant 26; the words can be found here:
<http://www.preces-latinae.org/thesaurus/Hymni/VeniCreator.html>.
 - 8) Renewal of one's Baptismal promises on the anniversary of the date of your baptism.

(Grant 28; Baptismal promises can be found at <https://www.ourladywarriors.org/indulge/g70.htm>.)

- 9) All Souls Day - visit a church, reciting the Our Father and the Creed. (Grant 29)
- 10) Visit a cemetery from Nov 1 through Nov 8 (cannot be applied to oneself, but only to the souls in Purgatory) and devoutly pray for the deceased. (Grant 29)
- 11) Thirty minutes of devout Scripture reading and meditation. (Grant 30)
- 12) Attend the first Mass of a newly ordained priest. (Grant 37)
- 13) Piously and devoutly receive, even by radio or television, the Blessing of the Pope when imparted to Rome and the world (Urbi et Orbi, is usually given on Christmas Day and Easter Sunday). (Grant 4)
- 14) Devoutly visit your parish church either on the feast day of the Saint for whom it is named or on the 2nd of August when the indulgence of the "Portiuncula" occurs. In your visit, recite one Our Father and the Creed. (Grant 33)

D) REQUIREMENTS FOR A PLENARY INDULGENCE - In order to obtain a ***plenary*** (full) indulgence, one of the devotions described above (see others in the *Manual*) must be performed; ***and all*** of the following items 1 through 4 below are *also* required:

- 1) **Intention** – In order to qualify for any (partial or plenary) indulgence, we must have the *intent* to earn the indulgence. (Norm 17)
- 2) **State of grace / detachment from sin** – In addition to having been baptized and not excommunicated, we must have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, even venial sin, in order to qualify for a plenary indulgence. (Norm 17) Some experts consider this the most difficult requirement in obtaining a plenary indulgence.
- 3) **Sacraments** – (Norm 20, regarding plenary indulgences) In addition to the devotion, you must also
 - a) Sacramentally confess your sins (within 20 days before or after the devotion);
 - b) Receive the Holy Eucharist (also within 20 days). **Although one Confession can be applied to many indulgences, separate receipt of the Eucharist is required for each ***plenary*** indulgence.**
- 4) **Pope's Intention** (Norm 20, regarding plenary indulgences) - We must pray for the intention of the Pope.
 - a) An "Our Father" and a "Hail Mary" are suggested.
 - b) The Pope's intentions change each month and, for **2019**, can be found at <http://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>.
 - c) The Pope's intentions for **2020** can be found at <https://popesprayerusa.net/2019/03/14/pope-francis-entrusts-2020-prayer-intentions-popese-worldwide-prayer-network/>.

E) PARTIAL INDULGENCE – Although a plenary indulgence can be acquired only once in the course of a day, a partial indulgence can be acquired multiple times. Without meeting

the requirements in paragraphs (C) and (D) above, the indulgence will only be a ***partial*** indulgence. (Norm 18)

- F) **SOUND TOO SIMPLE?** - Does this sound too simple for eliminating a person's entire Purgatory experience? Yes! However, consider the story of Naaman, a commander in the Old Testament (2 Kings 5).

Naaman was told, by a messenger of the great prophet Elisha, that he could rid himself of leprosy by simply washing in the Jordan River. Naaman could not accept Elisha's suggestion because the great prophet himself would not come out to see him personally; washing in the Jordan seemed too simple; the Jordan was not as clean as some other rivers; and Naaman was not required to pay any of the gold or silver he brought to Elisha. However, after a servant reasoned with him, Naaman did what the prophet said; and he was totally cured!

- G) **ALL INDULGENCES** - For a brief list of *all* the indulgences in the Manual of Indulgences, both plenary and partial, see <https://www.catholic.org/prayers/indulgw.php>. In that list, the plenary indulgences are in all capitals. This list is probably a little easier to read than the *Manual*, which is not as user-friendly.

FOOTNOTES:

1) The "*Catechism of the Catholic Church*" (CCC) section on indulgences can be found at <http://www.scborromeo.org/ccc/p2s2c2a4.htm#1471>.

You can access the entire CCC at http://www.scborromeo.org/ccc/ccc_toc.htm.

2) The "*Manual of Indulgences*" by the USCCB was last updated in 1999. A *free, digital (and thus searchable) edition* can be found by copying and pasting this link into your browser: d2y1pz2y630308.cloudfront.net/3189/documents/2018/4/Indulgences_v2.pdf

3) The 20-day period described in D(3) above is addressed at http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/tribunals/apost_penit/documents/rc_trib_appen_pro_20000129_indulgence_en.html.

4) When Serra International was aggregated to the Vatican's Pontifical Work for Priestly Vocations in 1951, Pope Pius XII granted special plenary indulgences, but only to **members of Serra Clubs** affiliated with **Serra International**. Details can be found in the brochure at <https://www.serrainternational.org/sites/default/files/PDFs/1951AggregationBooklet.pdf>.