



Serra Club of Louisville

April, 2021
Newsletter

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

MISSION:

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

If you receive this through regular postal delivery, but would be willing to receive it by email, please contact Chuck Lynch, (502) 442-9302.

DIACONATE ORDINATION OF SEMINARIAN DUSTIN HUNGERFORD

The Diaconate Ordination of Seminarian Dustin Hungerford will be celebrated by Archbishop



Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D. Saturday, April 10, 2021 at 11am. The people of the Archdiocese of Louisville are welcome and encouraged to view the livestream of this joyful celebration. To access the livestream, go to www.youtube.com and search for **Cathedral of the Assumption Louisville, KY**. For more information, contact Sr. Sarah Yungwirth in the Vocation Office at 502-471-2121.

“SERRA MEETS” ZOOM MEETING OF SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021

The USA Council (USAC) of Serra International (SI) hosted its fourthly monthly “Serra Meets” on March 13. These are online, monthly meetings (via Zoom) to keep Serrans in touch with USAC leadership. Each of these will have a keynote speaker. This meeting was hosted by USAC President Richard Arians.

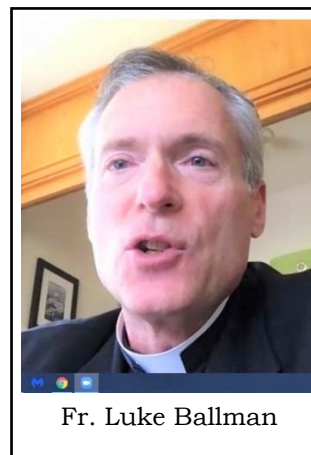
There were two guest speakers. **Father Luke Ballman** is Executive Director of the USCCB’s Secretariat for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations (CLLV). **Father Daniel Hanley** is the Associate Executive Director of the CLLV.

Fr. Ballman began by quoting from 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11 – “But since we are of the day, let us be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love and the helmet that is hope for salvation. For God did not destine us for wrath, but to gain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live together with him.” He said we are to partner with Christ in saving souls.

He reminded us that Serra’s work is “vital” and that we are a consulting organization to the USCCB on vocations. About every three years the bishops develop a

strategic plan; and it always includes vocations. The [Serra SPARK program](#) came out of this partnership between Serra and the CLLV.

Annually, the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) works with the CLLV to report on the status of vocations in the U.S. When surveying priests ordained in 2020, about what helped them most in their prayer life, over 70% said they participated in Eucharistic Adoration on a



Fr. Luke Ballman

regular basis before entering the seminary. The SPARK program recognizes this by strongly encouraging Eucharistic Adoration.

Fr. Ballman spoke of there being many young people, not just seminarians, who participate in Eucharistic Adoration.

Fr. Ballman thanked us for our role in vocations and discipleship.

Fr. Hanley spoke of the many anxieties that young Catholics face today – including questions like “What does God want me to be?” He suggested that we all recognized Christ’s sermon on the two greatest commandments – loving God and loving neighbor. He

SERRA MEETS **(continued from page 1)**

spoke of how we've all received "grace upon grace" (John 1:16).

Fr. Hanley spoke of the incredible intimacy with God that we have in the Eucharist. Our Lord can love each of us personally.



Fr. Daniel Hanley

He spoke of the two famous tax collectors in the Gospels – Matthew and Zacchaeus. Having a relationship with Christ, each was forever changed; but each had very different vocations. Zacchaeus may well have stayed in Jericho, while Matthew went on to become an Apostle and traveled to promote the Gospel. Likewise, Lazarus, Mary and

Martha were changed people because they knew Christ. Fr. Hanley said the key to all of this is that we are each called to be intimate with Jesus. "The joy is in living this great truth," he said.

Fr. Hanley spoke of the three-fold reality of a vocation. First is the universal nature of the call, in that we are all called to intimacy with God. Secondly, this call is to be a friend, as well as a brother or sister, to Christ. Thirdly, is the specific nature of the vocation – whether it be to build up the Church through marriage, the priesthood or diaconate, a consecrated life, or a single life.

We were reminded that we are all part of the Body of Christ, even though we, and young people in particular, may struggle to determine where exactly we fit in. He said that "Holiness happens now. We don't have to wait to be able to please Christ."

Our message to young people should be that vocations fall in to place, once you know God's love for you. "A vocation is an adventure with Christ," he said. We should encourage young people to be curious about Christ, like Zacchaeus climbing the tree to learn more about the Lord.

Fr. Hanley spoke of the primacy of prayer and the primacy of intimacy with Christ.

The following three reports, referenced in the presentations, were a collaboration between the CCLV and the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA). Each report contains an Executive Summary in case you don't have time to read

the entire report.

Survey of men ordained to the priesthood in the U.S. in 2020. There were 448 men being ordained in 2020. The report can be found [here](#).

Survey of women and men professing perpetual vows in the U.S. (to orders of priests and sisters) in religious life. There were 172 doing so in 2020. The report can be found [here](#).

Survey of men ordained to the permanent diaconate in the U.S. in 2019-2020. There were 176 men ordained in this period. The report can be found [here](#).

For a recording of the whole meeting, click [here](#).

Our next "Serra Meets" gathering by Zoom will be at noon, Louisville time, on Saturday, April 10, when the keynote speaker will be Archbishop Bernard Hebda of the St. Paul & Minneapolis Archdiocese.

KEN PEET RECEIVES **THE FACE OF SERRA AWARD**

In the business part of the March 13 "Serra Meets" Zoom meeting, USAC President Richard Arians announced those people being given the "Face of Serra" Award – given by each Regional Director to honor one of the District Governors in his/her region.

Our very own **Ken Peet** was given the award for the Great Lakes Region (with over 30 local Serra



2021 Face of Serra Award
Kenneth Peet, Great Lakes Region

Clubs), due to his time, service and leadership throughout the Serra organization.

Ken, a Serran since 2013, has served in several roles on our club's Board of Trustees; is our current District Governor; and is just a heck of a nice guy! These awards are usually presented at an annual Serra Rally early in the year, which was canceled this year due to the pandemic.

Ken, congratulations for the well-deserved Face of Serra Award; and thanks for all you do for our Club, as well as for our District, our Region, and for all of the USA Council.

MARCH 15 MEETING - WHETHER HELL IS CROWDED OR EMPTY

For this meeting, we had a video by **Bishop Robert Barron**, the Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, the largest Catholic community in the nation. Bishop Barron, born in 1959 in Chicago, was ordained a priest in 1986, and a bishop in 2015.

He is a speaker, essayist, theologian, founder of “Word On Fire Catholic Ministries,” and a #1 Amazon bestseller author (“To Light a Fire on the Earth: Proclaiming the Gospel in a Secular Age” 2017). He has published 17 books. His film series, “Catholicism: The Pivotal Players” was nominated for an Emmy Award. He has 1.5 million Facebook fans, 140,000+ YouTube subscribers, and 100,000+ Twitter followers.

Bishop Barron tells us that the Bible makes it clear



that Hell exists. Jesus spoke more of Hell than anyone else in the New Testament. Bishop Barron referred us to the separating of the goats and the

sheep (Matthew 25) as just one example.

He says that modern day speaker and author Rob Bell created quite a stir when, in his book “Love Wins,” he claimed that all souls will be saved. For 2,000 years, theologians have debated whether any human ever goes to Hell. Origen, the third century theologian, taught apocatastasis – a belief that we *know* all souls will be saved – a belief which was condemned by the Catholic Church as not taking Hell seriously enough.

St. Augustine of Hippo believed that original sin damned all of mankind, but that God would pick a “handful” to be saved. St. Thomas Aquinas also believed that most all souls would be damned, even saying that there would be joy in Heaven to see the justice of the damned suffering in Hell.

Carl Barth, a popular protestant Swiss theologian of the 20th century, felt that Christ, through the Cross, saved all souls, and that it was the job of the Church to announce that Good News to the whole world.

The Catholic theologian, Fr. Hans Urs von Balthasar, was against the darker view some theologians

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

* **Regular meetings** during the pandemic will be announced once scheduled. We target the third Monday each month, at noon, in the **Heritage Room** on the first floor of **St. Louis Bertrand**’s old school building. All attendees must bring their own food, drink, napkins, utensils, mask, and sanitizer. You can also attend via Zoom to hear and see the guest speaker. There is no charge to attend, but reservations are required for non-members.

* **Apr 5**, at 7 pm (first Monday each month) - Rosary for Vocations, by Zoom. (1st Mondays)

* **Apr 10** – Seminarian Dustin Hungerford will be ordained a temporary Deacon at a Mass at **11 am**. To access the **live stream**, go to www.YouTube.com and search for the **Cathedral of the Assumption, Louisville, KY**.

* **Apr 10 – noon** Louisville time - “**Serra Meets**” - national Zoom meeting for all Serrans. (2nd Saturdays)

* **Apr 19** - *scheduled* regular meeting at St. Louis Bertrand. (3rd Mondays)

* **Apr 25** - Sun - World Day of Prayer for Vocations

* **Apr 27** - Tue, 11 am – Serra Board meeting at St. Margaret Mary Spirituality House.

* **Questions?** - Contact Chuck Lynch at (502) 442-9302 or ChuckLynch4782@gmail.com.

had. He believed “we may reasonably *hope* that all people will be saved,” said Bishop Barron – all based on the dramatic action of God, the Incarnation, death, and Resurrection of Christ. Bishop Barron spoke of Balthazar’s belief as summarized in the statement “Christ went to death to bring us all back from death.” Bishop Barron thinks of Heaven as a party to which we’re all invited; but we can choose not to attend.

Bishop Barron’s own belief, in line with beliefs of Fr. Balthasar, is we Catholics teach that God is love and humans have free will. A corollary to these two teachings is that Hell exists, because divine love can be refused by our free will. Thus, the Church holds to the possibility of Hell. But it’s not a place; rather, it is a condition – a state of being – refusing divine love. The Church has never declared if anyone is in Hell. However, we can pray that all will be saved.

Bishop Barron spoke of C.S. Lewis as saying the door to Hell is locked from the inside. In other words, it’s not that God puts us in and locks the door, but rather we can send ourselves and thus forever lock the door. C.S. Lewis also said that the love of God lights up the fires of Hell.

MARCH 15 MEETING
(continued from page 3)

The 9-minute video of Bishop Robert Barron can be viewed [here](#).
Related questions and answers can be viewed [here](#).

We want to particularly thank **Christina Graney** for helping us deal with all the technology required to use St. Louis Bertrand parish's projector and screen for this meeting.

VOCATION POSTER AND ESSAY
CONTEST WINNERS

The Vocation Poster Contest and the Vocation Essay Contest are a joint effort of the Archdiocesan Vocations Office and the Serra Club of Louisville. In addition to the student awards listed below, the Serra Club also gives a \$50 check to each of the teachers of the First Place Winners.

GRADES 4-6 POSTER CONTEST

FIRST PLACE (\$100): **Katie Wancket** of St. Agnes School (Grade 5). Katie's teacher is **Mrs. Kathryn Cornett** (\$50).

SECOND PLACE (\$75): **Wade Carter** of St. Catherine Academy (Grade 6).

THIRD PLACE (\$50): **Brecken McKiernan** of St. Agnes School (Grade 5).

GRADES 7-8 ESSAY CONTEST

FIRST PLACE (\$100): **Jack Stevenson** of St. James School in Elizabethtown (Grade 7). Jack's teacher is **Ms. Olivia Dvorjak** (\$50).

SECOND PLACE (\$75): **Felicity Kaufman** of Holy Angels Academy (Grade 8).

THIRD PLACE (\$50): **Campbell Meumann** of St. James School in Elizabethtown (Grade 7).

All of the winning contest posters and contest essays can be found on the website of The Record by clicking [here](#).



Katie Wancket



Wade Carter



Brecken McKiernan



Jack Stevenson



Felicity Kaufman



Campbell Meumann

BLESSED MARGARET CASTELLO, O.P. IS TO BE CANONIZED.

At the March 15 meeting of our club, Deacon Bill Klump of St. Louis Bertrand parish reminded us that Louisville has a shrine at his parish devoted to



Blessed Margaret Castello, O.P. (1287-1320). She was a crippled, blind, and hunch-backed dwarf, taken in as a third order Dominican during her life in Italy.

It was announced in March that Blessed Margaret will be canonized a saint on September 19. She was beatified in 1609 by Pope Paul V and named a patron of the blind in 1988 by Archbishop Urbino. Her

feast day is April 13. More than 200 miracles have been credited to her intercession. For more detail on the shrine and her life, click [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The fourth Sunday in the Easter season each year – aka Good Shepherd Sunday – is always designated the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. It is on **Sunday, April 25 this year**. For more information, suggestions, and resource materials, click [here](#). The Pope just issued a new message for this year's World Day of Prayer for Vocations. To see his message for this year, click [here](#).

Here is a Prayer for this annual occasion.

Holy Spirit, stir within us the passion to promote vocations to the consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, diocesan priesthood, and permanent diaconate.

Inspire us daily to respond to Your call with boundless compassion, abundant generosity, and radical availability.

Help us to remember our own baptismal call to rouse us to invite the next generation to hear and respond to Your call.

Inspire parents, families, and lay ecclesial ministers to begin a conversation with young Catholics to

consider how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service.

Nudge inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about monastic life, apostolic life, missionaries, cloistered contemplative life, and evangelical Franciscan life.

Ignite our Church with the confident humility that there is an urgent need for religious sisters, brothers, deacons, and priests to live in solidarity with those who are poor, neglected, and marginalized.

Disrupt our comfortable lives and complacent attitudes with new ideas to respond courageously and creativity with a daily 'YES!' Amen.

PRIESTS CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES OF ORDINATION THIS MONTH

Congratulations to our priests celebrating ordination anniversaries in April:

Rev. Ronald Corl, C.P., 4/28/66, 55 years

Rev. Eric Meyer, C.P., 4/28/66, 55 years

Rev. George Stanfield, C.P., 4/27/19, 2 years

SEMINARIAN CELEBRATING A BIRTHDAY

We have a seminarian celebrating a birthday in April - **Michael Schultz – April 8**

For a list of all our seminarians, pictures, the seminaries they are attending, email addresses, and videos on their backgrounds and hobbies, click [here](#).

THE “CALLED BY NAME” PROGRAM

Do you know a faithful young man or woman who may have a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? We believe that many of our future priests will come from our own parishes and schools, but we need your help to identify them. We're looking for high school age and older. Please feel free to submit names even if you do not have all contact information. Just click [here](#).

VOCATIONS IN THE NEWS

‘The little nonprofit that could’: Water with Blessings, led by Sr. Lorraine Lauter, OSU buys Jeffersontown HQ. Read the story [here](#).

VOCATIONS IN THE NEWS
(continued from page 5)

Sisters of Charity 5K Run/Walk – June 5-13. See details and register [here](#).

Syracuse bishop revives Ember Days, calls for prayer and fasting for vocations. Read the story [here](#).

Father Paul Dumais: ‘Your Vocation Is That Vocation That Will Cause You to Love the Most’ - Read the story [here](#).

In Rochester, NY, moms' group prays for vocations to come from among their families. Read the story [here](#).

World's second-oldest person, a nun in France, survives COVID-19 and turns 117. Read the story [here](#).

Dominicans, some from Kentucky, cut an album. Read the story [here](#).

Pakistanis Mourn Sister Ruth Lewis, Who Cared for Children with Disabilities – Read the story [here](#).

The Power of Eucharistic Adoration – by Susan Tassone, author of a book on St. Faustina. Read the story [here](#).

In the Body of the Church, Each Vocation Strengthens All Vocations. Read the story [here](#).

Exhausted hospital chaplains bring solace to lonely, dying. Read the story [here](#).

After wasted years, a journey toward happiness – Read the story [here](#).

Religious life: Ever ancient, ever new – Read the story [here](#).

My (vocation) story and I’m sticking by it. – Read the story [here](#).

Thanks to Pastor Bernard Timothy, OP and Deacon Bill Klump for allowing us to have a Holy Hour for Vocations at St. Louis Bertrand Church on March 24.

FUTURE RALLY AND CONVENTIONS

You can attend Serra's 78th International Convention in Chicago, October 7-10, 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

A USA Council Serra Rally is being planned for **Jan. 13-16, 2022** in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

The next full Serra International convention will be held in Toronto, Canada July 14-17, 2022.

POTPOURRI – VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Birthday celebrations this Month:

Serran **Charlie Francesconi** – April 3

Fr. Anthony Chandler, Dir of Vocations – April 15

Pope’s Prayer Intentions for April – Universal intention - Fundamental rights - We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

California Missions of St. Serra

One of the California Serran Missions, named a minor basilica, is undergoing renovations. Read the story [here](#).

Book review - How Should Catholics Respond to Crises in the Church? “*A Church in Crisis: Pathways Forward*” by Ralph Martin, is already on the best seller list. It sounds very good. Read the book review [here](#).

New book on St. Junipero Serra - A new edition of a biography of St. Junipero Serra was published late last year - titled “Junipero Serra: Pioneer, Missionary, Saint.” You can read a very good “Our Sunday Visitor” review of it [here](#). The original edition was published in 1933 by Agnes Repplier. The book has been re-edited by Jeremy Beer, and it can be purchased [here](#).

Thanks to **Mary Means** and **Lynn Haner** for proofing our newsletters.

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