



Club chartered May 22, 1955

Saint Serra Club of Louisville VOCATION DIGEST

“Always Forward, Never Back”

– Saint Junipero Serra

**MAY, 2025
Newsletter**

MISSION:

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

POPE FRANCIS DIED APRIL 21, 2025 AT AGE 88



Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in 1936, the oldest of five siblings, to parents who immigrated to Argentina from Italy, he grew up near Buenos Aires. He was in a Catholic school run by Salesian priests. He would later say that at age 16 he knew he wanted to be a priest.

Bergoglio was ordained in 1969 to the Jesuit order and led the Argentine Jesuits starting at age 36. He was appointed the Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998. He was made a cardinal in 2001.

After Pope Benedict XVI resigned, Cardinal Bergoglio was chosen the 266th successor to St. Peter in March of 2013; and he took the name of Pope Francis, after St. Francis of Assisi. He was the first Jesuit and Latin American pope.

During his pontificate he took over 40 foreign trips; issued four encyclicals and seven exhortations; canonized 942 saints (including St. Junipero Serra on 9/23/15 in his only visit to the U.S.); changed Church policy and the Catechism on the death penalty; spoke out for migrants, the poor, and the marginalized; and he appointed over half of the current College of 135 Cardinals who will elect his successor.

He was called “a man of profound faith, peace and humility.”

His final message to the world, his Easter “*Urbi et Orbi*” can be found [here](#).

May his soul rest in peace. We also pray for the College of Cardinals who will choose his successor in the coming weeks.

SERRAN NORMAN BEAT HAS PASSED AWAY



Norm Beat, a veteran and a retired police officer, had been a member of our Club since April 1, 1997. He passed away peacefully, at age 90, on March 31, 2025 – completing exactly 28 years as a Serran. He served as a Trustee, Treasurer and VP of Membership.

His daughter Teresa Ward said, “Dad found true friends in the St. Serra Club, the Knights of Columbus, and St Margaret Mary parishioners.”

You can read his obituary [here](#).

May Norm rest in the peace of the Lord.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Regular meetings - We target to have most meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month, at **11:30**, in the **Golden Corral at Hikes Point** (4032 Taylorsville Road). The charge will be \$12 for members and \$15 for guests. Non-members wanting to attend should contact Chuck Lynch in advance.

May 5 (1st Mon) – **Dr. DeKarlos Blackmon**, Vice Chancellor for Pastoral Services, will speak on his duties with the archdiocese

May 12 14 (2nd Mon) - **Rosary for Vocations**, 7 pm, by Zoom. See separate article for details.

May 14 (2nd Wed) - **Holy Hour for Vocations** – After the noon Mass in St. Margaret Mary Chapel.

May 19 (3rd Mon) – **We celebrate the club's 70 anniversary of our 5/22/55 Charter - 11:30 Mass with the Archbishop** at Holy Family Chapel, followed by a hot meal / catered lunch in the Pastoral Ctr Rooms 1A & 1B. **Reservations required.** See separate article.

May 19 (3rd Mon) - “**Serra Meets**” by Zoom – 8 pm Louisville time – **Fr. Jack Wall** of the Catholic

Extension Society will speak. See [here](#) for details and the link.

May 27 (Tue) – 11:45 - **Serra Board Meeting** - St. Margaret Mary Spirituality Center.

May 31 (Sat) - **Ordination of Deacon Cole McDowell to the priesthood.** Cathedral of the Assumption - 11 am.

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

MATT WHISMAN, DEPUTY CORONER, SPOKE TO OUR CLUB ON APRIL 7

Matthew Whisman, the **Indigent Burial Coordinator for Catholic Charities**, as well as the Deputy Coroner for Jefferson County, spoke at our April 7 meeting.

Matt graduated from St. Xavier High School in 2012 and then went on to U of K and got his bachelor's in history and international studies. After leaving there he attended U of L and received his master's in public administration. Then he went to Eastern Washington University where he received a master's in education. He also went to the University of North Alabama for his master's in criminal justice; and he's currently working through New Mexico State for his master's in public health. Matt is also a certified end-of-life doula, a thanatologist (a specialist in death, dying, bereavement and grief), and has certifications as a funeral services associate, a non-profit leader, and a grief counselor.

Matt has been with the St. Joseph of Arimathea Society since his time at St. X, first volunteering in 2011 and staying active after he graduated by raising money for the headstone program, *Be A Memory Maker*. In 2020, he was asked to join Catholic Charities of Louisville as the Indigent Burial Coordinator serving full-time until he took a job as a Deputy Coroner for Jefferson County. He currently serves in both roles until the new Indigent Burial Coordinator takes over at Catholic Charities.

When Matt is not working, he enjoys hiking, traveling, and going to concerts.

The Indigent Burial Program in Louisville has made national headlines for schools like St. X, Trini-

ty, Mercy and Sacred Heart volunteering to bury the indigent. The indigent are people who died with no funds for burial, and no family who could afford it or were interested in bearing the cost.

The program was started in the 1980s by local government and was run by the Coroner's Office until 2021, when it was taken over by Catholic Charities, although the county provides the grave plots. The students have been leading the prayer and graveside services since 2006 through the St. Joseph of Arimathea Society.

With the support of Metro Council, the Coroner's Office, and Metro Parks (which maintains the public cemeteries), Catholic Charities of Louisville got involved with this program in 2020. Louisville Metro has been supporting the program with tax dollars. Meadowview Cemetery filled up this year, with Archbishop Shelton Fabre assisting at the last indigent burial there. The indigents are being buried mostly in River Valley Cemetery now. Other sights are also being used, especially for indigent veterans.

"Louisville prides itself on being a compassionate city," Matt said.

The Indigent Burial Program is currently looking for other sights for burials. The program is searching for a plot of land, maybe 25 or more acres, where they could continue this for many years, since the indigent burial sights of all the other cemeteries are almost filled. Due to tree roots, rocks, and other problems, not all land is appropriate. Matt applauds Metro Council for being proactive on these issues.

The program has nothing to do with maintaining the sights. That job falls to Metro Parks.

While a normal burial can cost \$9,000 to \$10,000, this program attempts to keep the costs to a minimum, with tax dollars usually under \$1,000 per burial.

To qualify for the Indigent Burial Program, the deceased must have had limited assets at death and must have lived and died in Jefferson County (since local tax dollars are being used). They bury people of any religion. Matt says he's never buried a child.

Matt also spoke of how much the families really appreciate this program, even years after the burial.

They bury about 80 to 85 people per year. In some cases, there may be one or two dozen family members in attendance. But in most cases, the only people present are the volunteers.

Since court orders are required to put two people in one burial plot, that is rarely done; so, each person gets a separate plot.

The high school volunteers not only turn out to provide a dignified burial, but some also work to make concrete markers for about \$20 apiece.

When Metro Police find a deceased homeless per-



son, usually identification can be made. Matt knows of only one case in his experience where burial was made without identification, while identification came later.

Matt says most burials are for men; and they are mostly in the 50 to 75 age range. It's rare to have one under age 40. He says it's also rare to have people from another country since people of other nationalities take care of their own.

We want to thank Matthew Whisman for taking the time to speak to our club.

(Thanks to Ken Peet for the picture with this article.)

SEMINARIAN HARRISON FREY **SPOKE AT OUR** **APRIL 21 MEETING.**

Harrison Frey, age 28 and one of our seminarians, is currently on a pastoral year, assigned to St. Athanasius parish. He's gaining pastoral experience and will return to a seminary in August to continue with his studies.

He's originally from the Eastern Shore of Maryland and grew up attending St. Francis de Sales parish in Salisbury. He studied psychology and Chinese at Stony Brook University on Long Island; he studied Pastoral Care at Fordham University; and most recently, Harrison studied philosophy and completed his first year of theology at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore.

He has two brothers, a fraternal twin brother and a younger brother. In his spare time, Harrison enjoys playing the piano, cooking, and reading. He has also enjoyed getting to know the city of Louisville over the past few months. He's "looking forward to spending time ministering here to the people of the Archdiocese of Louisville, as the Lord wills."

For a time in college, he fell out of regular practice of the faith. However, starting his senior year, there was a Chapter of FOCUS (the Fellowship of Catholic University Students); and this helped to get him back into his Catholic faith. One priest, who was very kind and frequently available to the students, helped Harrison in his return to the Church.



Also, Harrison attended the 2019 SEEK Conference in Indianapolis. There was also an opportunity to venerate the heart of St. John Vianney, which was traveling the U.S.

He began pursuing a master's degree in pastoral care at Fordham University, but later discerned he was not called to continue that path, but, instead, to discern the priesthood more intently in seminary.

He finally entered St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore for the Diocese of Wilmington, Delaware. It was there that he met Louisville seminarians Michael Schultz and Yen Tran, now both priests for the Archdiocese of Louisville. Eventually he met Fr. Martin Linebach, our Vicar for Vocations. Harrison felt a call to serve the people of the Louisville Archdiocese. He joined our own seminarians in May of 2024.

Harrison has much gratitude for all the support he has received from people in Louisville. At this time, he has not yet been informed of the seminary he'll attend this fall. He has now completed one year of theology.

Working at St. Athanasius for the last year, he speaks of having been surprised at the 40+ different spiritual and outreach groups and activities in the parish.

When asked what surprised him about seminary life, Harrison spoke of the old quote, "Man plans, and God laughs." He said that as a child he was the one of the three brothers who complained the most about going to Mass. And his brothers were surprised when Harrison spoke of becoming a priest and then surprised again when he decided to move to Louisville. However, everyone in his family appreciates good bourbon; so, they all accepted the change, he joked! He says his family is very supportive.

Harrison could be ordained in three years, including one year as a transitional deacon. He asks for our prayers.

We want to thank Harrison for his time and the update on his vocation journey.

(Thanks, too, for Ken Peet and Lincoln Lewis taking pictures at this meeting.)

CARA SURVEY OF PRIESTS BEING ORDAINED IN 2025

The Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA), commissioned by the USCCB to survey priests expected to be ordained this year, has issued a [report](#) (well-written, with graphs and charts) on its findings.

The executive summary begins on page 1 of that report.

A *Catholic News Agency* article summarizing the report can be found [here](#).

HELP US CELEBRATE THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHARTERING OF OUR LOUISVILLE CLUB.

Our club was chartered on May 22 of 1955. On May 19, we will have a Mass and lunch with **Archbishop Shelton Fabre** to celebrate the occasion. The 11:30 Mass will be in the Holy Family Church Chapel (Poplar Level Road), followed by a catered luncheon in the Pastoral Center's Rooms 1A & 1B. **\$12 per head.**

Reservations and payment in advance are required due to catering. If interested, contact Chuck Lynch at (502) 442-9302.

CELEBRATE SERRA INTERNATIONAL'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY WITH THE CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY, JUNE 26-29, 2025.

The 82nd Annual Serra International Convention is coming to Kansas City! Slated to unfold at the Marriott Downtown Kansas City, the event begins Thursday, June 26, 2025, and concludes on the following Sunday, June 29, 2025.

Speakers include Archbishop Joseph Naumann, Bishop James Johnston, Stephen Minnis, Cardinal Thomas Collins, Bishop Thomas Daly, Abbott Primate Gregory Polan, OSB, Sr. Nancy Rose Gucwa, OSB, Rev. Paul Sheller, OSB, and others.

Learn more about the convention and register [here](#) and [here](#).

OUR MONTHLY NATIONAL "SERRA MEETS" WAS HELD APRIL 21

The 52nd monthly "Serra Meets" by Zoom had **Rosie Chinae Shawver** as the guest speaker. She is the Executive Director of [Catholic Campus Ministry As-](#)

[sociation](#) (CCMA) and an energetic speaker. She has 20 years of experience in ministry.

Rosie is committed to empowering Catholic campus ministers and students across the country. She has served as the director of campus minister at the University of Southern California in L.A. as well as the University of New Mexico. She was the executive director of the Catholic Association for Latino Ministry. She has extensive experience working with the US / Mexico border in El Paso. Also, she worked with Catholic Charities in Santa Fe, which helped her incorporate faith with social justice ministry.

She holds a BS in psychology, with a major in healthcare, from the University of San Diego.

She got a master's in divinity from the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley. And she has a certificate of not-for-profit management from Indiana University's Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. She began her ministry at UC San Diego.



Rosie gave us some very interesting statistics. There are 6,000 college and university campuses in the U.S. Also, Pew Research shows that 79% of disaffiliated Catholics leave the Church by age 23 – during the college years. Thirty percent of U.S. adults now identify with no religion, with higher percentages among Millennials (born 1980 - 1995) and Gen Z (born 1996 - 2010).

Despite 3.1 million Catholic college students in the U.S., only one in four four-year institutions and one in 64 community colleges have a campus ministry presence.

Eighty-two percent of students engaged in Catholic campus ministry remain active in their faith post-graduation. There are 600+ CCMA ministers on 335+ campuses across the country. Students engaged in campus ministry are six times more likely to attend Mass regularly post-graduation. They are five times more likely to consider a religious vocation. They are eight times more likely to stay connected to parish life after college. Students who are active in their faith during college and attend Mass, give four times more than their non-church going counterparts after college.

Rosie also spoke of how several national organizations work together. The [Newman Connection](#),
(continued on page 6)

NEWMAN CONNECTION

Help your new college students **CONNECT** to their Catholic faith in campus communities at all colleges and universities.

As many young adults start a college, they have an opportunity to connect with their new Catholic campus faith community, but many don't ... until they are personally invited.

We are speaking here of all colleges and university campuses across the country. And if there's not a Newman Center or Catholic ministry *on* campus, there are parishes close to the campus.



Did you know:

- * There are 6,000 college and university campuses in the U.S.
- * Also, Pew Research shows that 79% of disaffiliated Catholics leave the Church by age 23 – during the college years.
- * Thirty percent of U.S. adults now identify with no religion, with higher percentages among Millennials (born 1980 - 1995) and Gen Z (born 1996 - 2010).
- * Despite 3.1 million Catholic college students in the U.S., only one in four four-year institutions and one in 64 community colleges have a campus ministry presence.
- * Eighty-two percent of students engaged in Catholic campus ministry remain active in their faith post-graduation.
- * Students engaged in campus ministry are six times more likely to attend Mass regularly post-graduation.
- * They are five times more likely to consider a religious vocation.
- * They are eight times more likely to stay connected to parish life after college.
- * Students who are active in their faith during college and attend Mass, give four times more than their non-church going counterparts after college. (Source: Catholic Campus Ministry Association)

YOU CAN HELP, AND IT'S EASY.

If you will be an incoming college student this fall or are their parent, complete the form at <https://signupnc.newmanministry.com/> to have your information passed on to your college or university campus ministry.

If you are a friend or relative of a new college student, first obtain permission from the student to share their contact information. Then, with their permission, complete the form at <https://signupnc.newmanministry.com/> to have the student's information passed on to their college or university campus ministry.

If you are a parish youth ministry leader or a Catholic high school campus ministry leader, you can get information and resources to help your graduating high school seniors at <https://newmanministry.com/#CTA-Forms>.

Or, you can contact us with the information; and we'll take care of the rest.

This information is sponsored by the **St. Serra Club of Louisville.**

Saint Serra Club of Louisville Contact: **Chuck Lynch**, (502) 442-9302, ChuckLynch4782@gmail.com

which is part of [Newman Ministry](#), works to keep high school graduates in touch with their faith as they go off to college. The people they get in touch with are local campus ministers, including people trained by CCMA and young “missionaries” of the Fellowship of Catholic University Students ([FOCUS](#)). These missionaries are usually young people who have recently graduated and are devoting a couple of years of their lives to campus ministry just before they move on with their lives. The CCMA certified individuals are usually older and more experienced individuals who are making a career out of campus ministry.

Rosie also made some very good suggestions for “ways you can awaken the giant” of faith evangelization on college campuses. She spoke of getting to know your local campus ministry; welcoming college students at your parish; giving strategically – to groups like your local campus ministry, FOCUS, Newman Ministry, and CCMA; being a connector; talking to your local bishop; and praying intentionally.

We thank Rosie for her very powerful presentation!

You can watch Rosie’s entire presentation, as well as the business portion of the meeting [here](#).

In upcoming *Serra Meets*, we will have Fr. Jack Wall of the Catholic Extension Society in May; David Shellenberger of the Saint John Vianney Center in June; and Father Lawrence Lew, O.P., the Promoter General of the Rosary for the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) in July.

RECALLING EMBER DAYS, AND USING THEM TO PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Fr. Patrick Dolan, the Chaplain of the St. Serra Club of Louisville, wanted to share a [message](#) that is in the Catholic Answers Spring magazine about the Ember Days. They were three days of prayer, fasting, and abstinence (Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday) observed four times a year - when we thanked God for creation; and we can also offer prayers for vocations on these



days.

Fr. Pat suggests that we voluntarily participate in those days (still part of the church calendar but hidden since Vatican II's reforms) for vocations

(particularly here in the US). The days fall in the first week of Lent (almost a review of Ash Wednesday), the week after Pentecost, the days following the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sep. 14th) and the feast of St. Lucy (Dec. 13th).

Rather than extreme abstinence, Fr. Pat recommends the partial abstinence of the ordinary days of Lent (except the Friday of the first week of Lent) with fasting (essentially no eating between our small meals) and meat at only one meal - but a special prayer for vocations (perhaps our two Serra prayers). This would keep the need for priests a bit more alive by recapturing a courageous ancient Catholic tradition. We could certainly do it at the individual level and the club level. But he suggests we pass the word on to encourage that it be done on the national and international level.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS IS MAY 11 THIS YEAR

The fourth Sunday in the Easter season each year – aka Good Shepherd Sunday – is on **Sunday, May 11 this year**. 2025 is the 62nd World Day of Prayer for Vocations. For more information, suggestions, and resource materials, click [here](#) and [here](#).

Pope Francis’ message for this day, issued in March, can be found [here](#).

ANNOUNCING THE NEW SLATE OF CLUB OFFICERS

There will be an election of officers at the June 2 meeting. We need a quorum to elect officers. Please attend if possible.

The slate of officers: **Chuck Lynch** - President & VP of Communications; **Bob Hublar** – Secretary and VP of Vocations; **Jerry Gonsoski** -Treasurer; **Lynn Haner** - VP of Membership; **Melody Denson** - VP of Programs; **Ken Peet** - VP of Cultural Outreach.

The following will be Trustees: **Debbie Farmer**, **Kevin Thieneman**, **Lincoln Lewis**, and **Sam Willett**.

Positions not elected by the members:

Ken Peet will continue as the Club Rep with the Serra International Foundation.

Our **Chaplain Fr. Pat Dolan** and **Assistant Chaplain Fr. Jeff Hopper** will continue in their existing roles.

For the record, our District Governor is now Michael Murray of the Northern Kentucky Serra Club. And our Regional Director is Frank Hartge of the Columbus Ohio Serra Club.

We thank all our volunteers!

99 PRIESTS CELEBRATING ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES THIS MAY

Congratulations to our priests celebrating anniversaries of ordination this month. We always include here priests from religious orders, as well as priest from other dioceses who are working in our Archdiocese. The asterisk (*) indicates "Retired." Shown are the dates of ordination as well as the years as a priest.

BARNELL, ROBERT D., 5/26/18, 7 years / **BATCHELDOR, REV. C. JOSEPH***, 5/25/57, 68 years / **BEACH, VERY VERY REV. R. PAUL**, 5/19/01, 24 years / **BOWLING, REV. WILLIAM M.**, 5/24/97, 28 years / **BRADSHAW, REV. TERRY L.***, 5/31/80, **45 years** / **BREEN, REV. BERNARD J.***, 5/27/72, 53 years / **BROWN, REV. BEN J.**, 5/25/74, 51 years / **BROWN, REV. NICHOLAS J.**, 5/25/13, 12 years / **BRYAN, REV. KEVIN J.***, 5/29/76, 49 years / **BUCALO, REV. PETER**, 5/30/15, **10 years** / **BURKE, REV. JOHN R.***, 5/27/72, 53 years / **BURKS, REV. WILLIAM P.**, 5/24/86, 39 years / **CALVANO, O.P., REV. JAMES S. "BARTHOLOMEW"**, 5/21/22, 3 years / **CAMURATI, O.P., REV. LEO JOSEPH**, 5/19/18, 7 years / **CARR, VERY REV. DAVID J.**, 5/26/12, 13 years / **CECIL, REV. ANTHONY L., JR.**, 5/25/19, 6 years / **CHANDLER, VERY REV. ANTHONY L., KCHS**, 5/27/89, 36 years / **CIESLIK, REV. ROBERT DALE**, 5/22/82, 43 years / **CLARK, REV. THOMAS R.***, 5/26/62, 63 years / **COCKSON, VERY REV. DAVID A.***, 5/31/14, 11 years / **COUSENS, REV. DENNIS L.***, 5/28/77, 48 years / **CREWS, REV. CLYDE F.***, 5/26/73, 52 years / **CZAJA, C.P., REV. BLAISE**, 5/23/64, 61 years / **DAVIS, REV. GARY G.,***, 5/24/75, **50 years** / **DELAHANTY, REV. PATRICK D.***, 5/17/69, 56 years / **DENGLER, REV. PIER GIORGIO, O.P.**, 5/19/18, 7 years / **DETOMA, REV. BRANDON T.**, 5/26/18, 7 years / **DITTMEIER, REV. CHARLES R.**, 5/16/70, **55 years** / **DO, REV. TUNG M. "TOAN"**, 5/22/04, 21 years / **DOLAN, REV. PATRICK J.***, 5/27/78, 47 years / **DOMHOFF, REV. RONALD J.***, 5/27/72, 53 years / **DUVALL, REV. SHAYNE R.**, 5/30/15, **10 years** / **EIFLER, REV. JOHN G.***, 5/27/61, 64 years / **ELLIOTT, REV. TRUMIE C.***, 5/28/88, 37 years / **ERICKSON, VERY REV. PHILIP L.**, 5/27/95, **30 years** / **EVE, REV. PAUL W.***, 5/22/82, 43 years / **FARRELL, REV. DAVID JOSEPH**, 5/26/18, 7 years / **FERNANDEZ, REV. L. WILFREDO**, 5/28/16, 9 years / **FORTENER, REV. KENNETH R.***, 5/17/69, 56 years / **FOWLER, REV. JOSEPH M.***, 5/27/61, 64 years / **GELTHAUS, REV. HARRY J.***, 5/25/85, **40 years** / **GENTILE, REV. THOMAS E.***, 5/26/73, 52 years / **GRAF, REV. JAMES W.***, 5/27/72, 53 years / **GRAFFIS, REV. JOSEPH T.***, 5/29/71, 54 years / **HACKETT, REV. JAMES F.***, 5/18/68, 57 years / **HAMMER, REV. WILLIAM D.**, 5/24/80, **45 years** / **HARDESTY, REV. MATTHEW T.**, 5/28/11, 14 years / **HARRIS, REV. J. JASON**, 5/30/15, **10 years** / **HEMMERLE, REVEREND R. JOSEPH***, 5/20/67, 58 years / **HOANG, O.P., REV. JOHN BAPTIST**, 5/21/16, 9 years / **HOEFER, O.P., REV. REGINALD**, 5/21/21, 4 years / **HOPPER, REV. JEFFREY G.**, 5/27/06, 19 years / **HUNGERFORD, REV. JUSTIN**, 5/21/22, 3 years / **JENKINS, REV. J. WAYNE***, 5/27/72, 53 years / **JUDD, O.P., REV. AUGUSTINE**, 5/24/96, 29 years / **KILCOURSE, REV. GEORGE A.***, 5/29/76, 49 years / **KLOTTER, REV. FREDERICK W.**, 5/25/96, 29 years / **KNOTT, REV. J. RONALD***, 5/16/70, **55 years** / **LANGFORD, REV. TERRY L.***, 5/25/96, 29 years / **LEGER, REV. JEFFREY P.**, 5/24/97, 28 years / **LINCOLN, REV. DANIEL L.***, 5/19/84, 41 years / **LINEBACH, VERY REV. MARTIN A.**, 5/30/87, 38 years / **LUBECKE, VERY REV. CHRISTOPHER B.**, 5/25/13, 12 years / **MARTIN, REV. MICHAEL C.**, 5/27/17, 8 years / **MARTINY, O.P., REV. L. MARTIN**, 5/22/98, 27 years / **MOUSER, REVEREND JOSEPH IRVIN***, 5/8/65, **60 years** / **MUDD, REV. JAMES T.***, 5/23/64, 61 years / **NELSON, C.P., REV. JUSTIN**, 5/7/00, **25 years** / **NGO, REV. ANTHONY C.***, 5/17/94, 31 years / **NGUYEN, REV. KIEN**, 5/26/18, 7 years / **NGUYEN, REV. QUAN**, 5/29/21, 4 years / **OSBORNE, REV. ROBERT E.***, 5/8/54, 71 years / **PHAM, REV. LOI**, 5/29/21, 4 years / **RAY, REV. ROBERT E.***, 5/17/69, 56 years / **REEVES, REV. STEVEN**, 5/25/19, 6 years / **REINHART, REV. JAMES M.***, 5/29/10, **15 years** / **RHODES, REV. CHRISTOPHER S.**, 5/26/12, 13 years / **RICE, REV. G. NICHOLAS***, 5/20/67, 58 years / **RUST, REV. KIRBY B.**, 5/25/19, 6 years / **SANDERS, REV. M. CASEY**, 5/27/17, 8 years / **SCAGLIONE, REV. PAUL A.***, 5/26/73, 52 years / **SEXTON, O.P., REV. ZACHARY**, 5/20/23, 2 years / **SMITH, REV. T. ANTHONY***, 5/28/83, 42 years / **SPALDING, REV. LEON C.***, 5/23/59, 66 years / **SPRINGMAN, REV. DONALD W.***, 5/20/67, 58 years / **STUEMPER, REV. ROBERT L.***, 5/24/75, **50 years** / **SULLIVAN, REV. J. RICHARD***, 5/28/77, 48 years / **THOMSON, O.P., REV. RICHARD**, 5/24/69, 56 years / **TIMMEL, REV. GERALD L.***, 5/26/56, 69 years / **TIMOTHY, O.P., REV. BERNARD**, 5/24/13, 12 years / **VU, REV. MINH D.**, 5/26/18, 7 years / **WALKER, REV. CHARLES D.***, 5/30/81, 44 years / **WALLING, C.P.M., REV. JAMES**, 5/31/01, 24 years / **WEISS, C.P., REV. ROBERT**, 5/8/65, **60 years** / **WHELAN, REV. DANIEL**, 5/22/04, 21 years / **WIMSATT, VERY REV. MICHAEL T.**, 5/29/10, **15 years** / **WIMSETT, VERY REV. SCOTT J.**, 5/28/88, 37 years / **YOUNG, C.R., REV. GARY**, 5/22/76, 49 years / **ZETTEL, REV. DAVID H.***, 5/14/66, 59 years

DEACONS CELEBRATING ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to our Deacons celebrating ordination anniversaries this month. The asterisk (*) indicates Retired; (^) indicates Senior Deacon. The names of the wives of deacons are in parentheses.

HARRIS, PATRICK D.^(JEAN), 5/22/77, 48 yrs
STANFORD, JAMES E.^(*), 5/14/99, 26 yrs

A list of all our deacons, their wives, ordination anniversaries and parishes can be found [here](#).

EVARD MUHOZA WAS ORDAINED AS A TRANSITIONAL DEACON ON APRIL 26

On Saturday April 26 Archbishop Shelton Fabre ordained seminarian Evrard Muhoza as a transitional deacon at 11 a.m. at the Cathedral of the Assumption in downtown Louisville.

A native of Burundi, Muhoza and his parents moved to Louisville in 2014. He currently attends St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in southern Indiana where he is completing his seventh year of formation. He also holds a bachelor's degree in Catholic Studies from Marian University in Indianapolis.

For more information on Deacon Evrard, see the article from The Record [here](#). And see the article regarding his 2023 talk to the St. Serra Club [here](#).



Evrard & family after ordination, with the Archbishop

SAVE THE DATE – DEACON COLE MCDOWELL TO BE ORDAINED A PRIEST

Seminarian Deacon Cole McDowell's Presbyteral Ordination is scheduled for Saturday, May 31, at 11

AM at the Cathedral of the Assumption. All are welcome.

SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Happy Birthday to our seminarians this month:

Jonathan Heitkemper – May 5

Emerson Wells – May 6

Peter Bifone – May 8

David Vest – May 8

You can get more information on all our seminarians, as well as where they're going to school, videos on hobbies, and videos on vocation stories by clicking [here](#).

SEMINARIAN JOHNNY HEITKEMPER

Seminarian Johnny Heitkemper is being given the 2025 Boy Scout Troop 243 Distinguished Scout Award. Troop 243 is sponsored by St. John Paul II Parish. Johnny is from the Shrine of St. Marin of Tours Parish, and attended Holy Angels Academy. He goes to the St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, DC.

Congratulations, Johnny!



ALTAR SERVER AWARDS FROM THE ST. SERRA CLUB

Starting in 2019, annually we invite all Archdiocesan parishes and grade schools to work with us on this recognition. The purpose is to thank the eighth-



grade graduates for their dedication and devotion in serving at the Eucharist by giving them a certificate that is signed by their Pastor as well as the President of the Saint Serra Club of Louisville.

Thirty parishes and schools chose to participate this year; and Altar Server Awards were given to **191 graduating eighth grade servers** – a record for this program.

We hope this recognition is a reminder of their service to the Church and will encourage them to continue serving as they transition into high school.

If you missed out, but would like your eighth-grade servers to receive a certificate, please contact Chuck Lynch at (502) 442-9302.

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY “ROSARY FOR VOCATIONS”

Our Saint Serra Club of Louisville gathers online by **Zoom** for a Rosary for Vocations at **7 pm**, on the **second Monday of each month**. By link, click [here](#).

By phone, call (312) 626 6799. Meeting ID is 874 8155 6033.

CELEBRATING RELIGIOUS BROTHERS DAY ON MAY 1

May 1 of each year, the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker, is the date we also celebrate (internationally) the life and vocations of Religious Brothers in the Church. It was first celebrated in the U.S. in 2017.

For more about Religious Brothers, this event, and ideas on how to celebrate this occasion, see the following:

[Aleteia article](#) on the history of Religious Brothers.

[National Religious Vocations Conference](#) information

[De La Salle Christian Brothers](#) information on this event

[Religious Brothers Conference](#) publications back to 1966

[Brochure on the most recent \(2020\) study of Religious Life](#)

TO ALL MOTHERS:
**“HAPPY MOTHER’S
DAY!”**

VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Serran & Vocation Office Birthdays this month:

Fr. Martin Linebach, May 9

Tom Kennedy, May 10

Thom Barnell, May 13

Deacon Craig Roberts - May 17

Pope’s Prayer Intention for the month of May –

For working conditions - Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

The Six Major Websites for Serrans:

Website	Address
Serra International	https://serrainternational.org
SI Member Website	https://serraclub.clubexpress.com
Serra Council for the U.S.	https://serraus.org
Serra SPARK	https://serraspark.org
SI Foundation	https://theserrafoundation.org
Join Serra	https://joinserra.org

The USA Council Board was in Louisville for one of its quarterly meetings. We hope they had a good visit and a productive meeting.



**“Your vocation in life is where
your greatest joy meets the
world’s greatest need.”**

Frederick Buechner

1926-2022

author and theologian

Thanks to **Paul Willett** for maintaining our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SerraLouisville.

Thanks to **Lynn Haner & Charlie Francesconi** for proofing our newsletters.

Newsletter questions, comments, or submissions? Contact Chuck Lynch, Editor, at (502) 442-9302.

FRIENDS OF SERRA - Affiliates of the Saint Serra Club of Louisville

PROMOTING VOCATIONS THROUGH PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

WHAT IS THE SAINT SERRA CLUB? WHAT DO WE DO?

We are an international lay group of men and women, who do what we can to support all people who have chosen a religious vocation. We also promote future vocations, and try to develop the faith formation of our Members.

We usually meet twice a month (first and third Mondays for lunch, usually at the same location each month), with speakers at almost all our meetings.

In addition to prayers for vocations, we have organized annual luncheons for women religious; sponsored send-off luncheons for our seminarians in August of each year; sponsored the Men's and Women's Archdiocesan Conferences; Coordinated with the Vocation Office for the Vocation Poster and Essay Contests (providing certificates and cash prizes); promoted the Newman Connection, which keeps college students in touch with the Church through campus ministry or nearby parishes; sponsored the pictorial seminarian prayer card for the Archdiocese; sent birthday cards to our seminarians; promoted the Traveling Chalice Program and the Traveling Crucifix Program in schools and parishes; given boxes of candies to 500 sisters for Christmas; promoted the 31-Club of parishion-

ers each picking a day of the month to pray for vocations; promoted Adopt-A-Seminarian and Adopt-A-Priest programs; promote Priest Appreciation Day and Deacon Appreciation Day; and much more.

About \$4,000 of our budget is spent on these items. Member dues (\$110 every six months) help cover the cost of the many things we do. Also, about 42% of our Member dues help support Serra International and the USA Council of Serra International.

WHO ARE FRIENDS OF SERRA?

Some Serra Clubs have "Friends of Serra" for people who are unable to become full Members due to time constraints or the physical constraints of getting out of their homes.

The Saint Serra Club of Louisville has decided to start a Friends of Serra program, asking for donations of **at least \$50 per year.** (That's less than \$5 per month.)

Our club could do so much more if we had additional financial support. This would include increasing prizes for vocation poster and essay contests, doing more for Clergy Appreciation Day, senior women religious, seminarians, etc.

BENEFITS OF BECOMING A FRIEND OF SERRA

1 - You never have to attend meetings, pay Member dues, or pay national or international dues.

2 - If you ever choose to attend our meetings, you can attend at Member Prices, instead of the higher price we normally charge non-Members.

3 - You will receive our monthly Club Newsletter.

4 - You can provide input to our Club and its Board of Directors. We always welcome ideas on how to improve the methods to achieve our mission.

5 - Financial support is tax deductible.

6 - We will recognize you as a Friend of Serra in our newsletter. (Of course, anyone wishing to remain anonymous can do so.)

7 - You'll have fellowship with other like-minded Christians who care about the future of the Catholic Church.

8 - Through interaction with our Club and its Members, you can learn more about Serra and hopefully consider becoming a full Member at some later date.

IF YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION ON BECOMING A FRIEND OF SERRA, PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM.

You can mail it to Bob Hublar (our Secretary) at 300 East Daisy Lane, New Albany, IN 47150.

Or you can just call Bob at (502) 216-0945.

Or you can email the information to Bob at RJHublar@Bellsouth.net.

Name: _____ Nickname: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____