



Club chartered May 22, 1955

# Saint Serra Club of Louisville VOCATION DIGEST

**“Always Forward, Never Back”  
- Saint Junipero Serra**

**February, 2026  
Newsletter**

**MISSION:  
To foster and promote  
vocations to the priesthood  
and religious life.**

## **DR. MARY BETH BOWLING SPOKE ON HER NEW ROLE AS A VICE CHANCELLOR.**

At our January 5 meeting, Dr. Mary Beth Bowling was our speaker.

### **About our speaker**

Dr. Bowling was appointed Vice Chancellor for Administration in the Archdiocese of Louisville by Archbishop Shelton Fabre and began in this role on



July 1, 2025. This position supports the work of the archbishop’s office by serving on his leadership team, as well as supporting the 107 parishes and 22 agencies of the Archdiocese of Louisville.

Prior to the appointment as Vice Chancellor, she served as Superintendent of

Schools for the Archdiocese of Louisville from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2025, transitioning into this role after serving as Assistant Superintendent for seven years.

Dr. Bowling has served in the Archdiocese of Louisville her entire career, primarily in the role of elementary principal for 25 years for three different schools, serving as the founding principal of St. Patrick School in 1993.

Dr. Bowling attended college at the University of Louisville where she received a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, a master’s degree in early childhood and her administrative endorsement. She

completed her Doctorate in Leadership Education at Spalding University in 2004.

She was honored as the National Catholic Education Association (NCEA) Principal of the Year for Region 12 in 2005. In 2020, she also received the NCEA 2020 Lead, Learn, Proclaim Award, which recognizes leadership and excellence in Catholic education.

She most recently served on the Board of the Catholic Education Foundation and the Assumption High School education committee; and she continues in her role on the Spalding Board of Trustees where she has served since 2021.

Dr. Bowling is a wife of 46 years, a mother of two, and she has a 1 ½ year old grandson.

### **Her Presentation**

Dr. Bowling says her faith was renewed by being a teacher, starting at age 21, when she taught students preparing for First Eucharist and Confirmation. It planted the seed for her commitment to Catholic education and the Catholic community in the archdiocese throughout her career.

Dr. Bowling is Vice Chancellor for Administration while Dr. DeKarlos Blackmon is Vice Chancellor of Pastoral Services. She says when she was asked to consider this role, she had to discern and pray over it. The opportunity to inform and support other agencies and archdiocesan parishes on a different level was part of the discernment process and ultimately what led to her commitment to the new role. She spoke of how much of the leadership skills and processes she used in our school system have carried over to help her in her role as one of the two Vice Chancellors for the archdiocese. She spoke of the importance of looking at the system” to strategize about how to best serve parishes and schools.”

She works closely with, and meets frequently with, the whole leadership team – including the Archbishop, Chancellor Dr. Brian Reynolds, Vice Chancellor Blackmon, the Vicar General (Fr. Jeff Shooner), and Vicar for Priests (Fr. Anthony Chandler).

Her role in the last six months has included supporting parish planning projects in individual communities, supporting the closure of three parishes, and supporting the work of various agencies within the archdiocese. She will serve on the Parish Planning Commission. Currently, the deaneries are reviewing data and giving input that is due back to the archbishop by the end of January.

Dr. Bowling says one of her key roles is meeting with, and being responsive to the needs of, our pastors, “who have very complex jobs.” “Pastors take priority for me,” she said.

Asked about being the only woman in the top parts of the archdiocesan leadership, she pointed out that women lead many of our 22 agencies. Some of the six or seven agencies that she supports include the Office of Catholic Schools, Archives, and the Office of Mission Advancement. She also supports the work of Archbishop Shelton and Chancellor Reynolds.

Dr. Bowling says, “I do believe that we’re at a pivotal point in our Church history. We’ve got a lot of challenges. But others before us have had challenges.” Asked of the most important change or reform on the horizon, she responded about the planning process for parishes and deaneries. She talks about the need for sustainability of our parishes and schools, from both an economic and a pastoral point of view.

We were also told that, although we will have parishes close, there are opportunities to look at growth in other areas of the archdiocese. There is the opportunity for new parishes; and we now have over 20 seminarians.

We want to thank Dr. Mary Beth Bowling for her presentation.

*(Thanks, too, to Sam Willett for the pictures with this article.)*

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

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

**Feb 2 (1<sup>st</sup> Mon)** – Ken Peet and Chuck Lynch will summarize the St. Louis Serra Leadership Rally of January.

**Feb 9 (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon)** – **Zoom Rosary for Vocations**, 7 pm. See the separate article for details.

**Feb 11 (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed)** - **Holy Hour for Vocations** – After the noon Mass in St. Margaret Mary Chapel.

**Feb 16 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon)** – **Trevor Timmerberg**, Assistant Superintendent of Catholic Schools, will speak on his journey to this position and his vision for moving forward

**Feb 16 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon)** - “**Serra Meets**” by Zoom – **8 pm** Louisville time. **Cardinal Collins** will give a Lenten message. See [here](#) for details.

**Feb 24 (Tue)** - 11:45 - **Serra Board Meeting** - St. Margaret Mary Spirituality Center.

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

## **VALERIE WILSON, CONSECRATED VIRGIN, SPOKE AT OUR JAN. 19 MEETING.**

### **About our Speaker**

Valerie Wilson’s family is from Bardstown, Kentucky. However, she was raised in Oldham County and attended St. Aloysius and Immaculate Conception schools in grades K-8. As a teenager she attended Oldham County High School. Upon graduation, Valerie entered

Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where she received a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science and Fine Arts.



Valerie is also an alumni of Bellarmine University and earned a Master’s of Science in Information Technology from the university. She has also completed half of her work towards a Master’s Degree in Theology from Holy Apostles Seminary and University.

Raised a cradle Catholic, Valerie fell away from the faith in her teen years and early twenties. In her late twenties and early thirties, she had a reversion to the faith. During this time, Valerie sought to enter religious

Valerie is available to talk about her vocation to schools, parishes and organizations. Her contact information is [valerielynnwilson@yahoo.com](mailto:valerielynnwilson@yahoo.com) and phone is (502) 594-8756.

life but eventually received the *Rite of Consecrated Virginity Living in the World* from the Most Reverend



Archbishop Kurtz on June 4, 2016. Valerie's baptismal feast day is on the Feast Day of St. Joseph who is the guardian and protector of virgins.

Valerie has over thirty years of experience working in corporate America, mostly in IT roles. Her most recent job at Automatic Data Processing (ADP) ended in 2023 and she is currently seeking work after taking a hiatus to care for her ailing parents.

During her late twenties, Valerie had to undergo multiple operations to correct foot deformities brought on by a neurological issue. Valerie credits her recovery to the intercession of Our Lady and St. Peter. She has also survived cancer and has been cancer free for almost 10 years.

Valerie's interests include spending time with friends and family, traveling (especially to national parks and Catholic shrines), playing Scrabble, cooking, reading and stargazing.

### **Her Presentation**

Valerie says the consecrated virgin is a rare and unique vocation. But she pointed out that the Church has several different consecrated vocations including religious orders (most common and well-known), consecrated hermits and those in [secular institutes](#).

Anyone in formalized consecrated life within the Church is deemed a sacred person and is reserved solely for service of the Church.

The consecrated virgin is the original vocation for women and dates to Apostolic times. It is believed that the Apostle St. Matthew wrote the first Rite for the Order of Consecrated Virginity, and that St. Peter's daughter was a consecrated virgin.

In the Old Testament, God often used marriage imagery to describe his covenant with His people. Also, in the New Testament Christ is spoken of as the bridegroom and the Church as His bride. Likewise, the consecrated virgin is the bride who symbolizes and foreshadows the eternal marriage union of God with man.

Most consecrated virgins live in the world and are a diocesan vocation (including Valerie) however, a consecrated virgin could choose to live a cloistered life, even though there are only known to be about five who do so in the U.S.

A consecrated virgin must be consecrated by the diocesan bishop regardless of whether they live in the world or in a cloister. Globally, it is believed that there are about five thousand consecrated virgins in the world. However, the rules and conditions seem to differ from one part of the world to another, possibly

because there just aren't that many who have been called to this vocation. And it was in little use for centuries.

After the sixth century, women religious were much more likely to join congregations or orders. It was always easier to help bear the load, the responsibilities, and the financial aspects of this way of life. Although consecrated virginity in cloistered communities almost died out over the centuries, the Carthusians and the Benedictines kept it alive.

In the United States, there are an estimated three hundred consecrated virgins. In the U.S. most of the consecrated virgins have jobs working for parishes, Catholic agencies or are self-employed. With the Internet, there is now more interest in this vocation.

Valerie outlined three main points about defining virginity. First, it is a state of life, one to which we all belonged, at least early in life. Secondly, it is a gift from God. We are free to use it as we wish, even though some abuse it in the sexual revolution that has been going on for over half a century. Thirdly, it is a charism of the Holy Spirit.

We are all given the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation; but some people are given special gifts, or charisms. And virginity is a charism. St. Paul wrote that the mind of the virgin is always on the things of God. (1 Cor. 7:34)

Speaking of the Rite of Consecrated Virginity, she said it is like ordination in that there is an anointing. The Holy Spirit anoints the virgin with a new title - Bride of Christ. The heart is consecrated to the Lord. It is an irrevocable election which lasts into eternity. Consecrated virgins take no formal vows but make a holy resolution to remain a perpetual virgin.

From a theological perspective, the consecration of the virgin mirrors the consecration of the Eucharist. The virgin offers the gift God has given her. her virginity, back to God; and God, in turn, makes her His bride. Valerie says it mirrors what we do in the Eucharist, in which we offer the gifts God has given us, bread and wine, back to God; and He, in turn, gives it back as the Body and Blood of Christ.

Valerie said that consecrated virgins are expected to pray for the welfare of all married people (because we need strong

marriages to have good families in the Church). They also pray for Christian unity (and we were celebrating the International Week of Prayer for Christian Unity the week of January 18-25 this year). They pray for the spread of the Christian faith, for the lost sheep, and for the salvation of the whole world.

In the rite of consecration, she was given a book of the Liturgy of the Hours, which she prays daily, in addition to going to daily Mass and attending Holy Hours. Valerie explained that the consecrated virgins “are compelled out of love to do these things.”

The consecrated virgin is seen as virgin, mother, and bride. In addition to being a bride of Christ, she is also seen as a spiritual mother to others. The rite also uses the words that consecrated virgins are apostles to the Church and the world. They cooperate with the Holy Spirit. Consecrated virgins use the Blessed Virgin Mother (who was “under the radar” so to speak) as a role model. Like her, they can be virgins and spiritual mothers to others.

Pope Benedict said that the motherhood of consecrated virgins is comparable to the fatherhood of priests. We need more spiritual mothers – more women who will answer the call to become spiritual mothers. One saint wrote, “The more consecrated virgins you have, the more joy there is in the church.”

One of the rules is that she must support herself financially.

Answering a question on why she didn’t simply join an order of sisters, she said she investigated several orders, but it didn’t work out. And she had spiritual advisors who recommended considering consecrated virginity. She applied to the archdiocese around age 41 and was consecrated at age 44. There are no age restrictions for this vocation - some have been consecrated in their twenties and others later in life - one was even consecrated at the age of 85!

We want to thank Valerie Wilson for sharing her vocation journey.

*(Thanks, also, to Jerry Zimmerer for taking the picture with this article.)*

## **WE HAD OUR NATIONAL “SERRA MEETS” ZOOM MEETING ON JAN. 19.**

The speaker was **Monsignor James Shea**, a distinguished Catholic leader, who spoke of his journey from Hazleton, North Dakota, to becoming the youngest university president in the U.S. at age 34. He highlighted the growth of the [University of Mary](#) (with 4,000 students in Bismark, ND), including a partnership with Arizona State University (ASU, with 77,000 students in Phoenix, AZ, 1,500 miles away) to establish Nazareth Seminary. Msgr. Shea emphasized the importance of prayer in fostering vocations, noting that

“vocations begin in God's heart” and require divine invitation.

He also mentioned their [Vocations Jamboree](#) at the University of Mary, which attracts religious communities and service organizations to interact with students. He also spoke of the need for prayerful environments to sustain vocations.

Msgr. Shea was ordained in 2002 and served as a parochial vicar and religion teacher before becoming the sixth president of the University of Mary. He was made a Monsignor by Pope Benedict in 2012 and partnered with ASU to establish a new seminary for the American Southwest.

He explained that “vocations begin in God's heart” and that prayer creates the conditions for hearing God's voice, especially in a noisy and distracting world. Msgr. Shea discussed the importance of prayer in fostering vocations, noting that prayer creates silence, space, and openness.

He encourages young people to ask fundamental questions about their vocations, such as whether they would follow God's call if it came. Msgr. Shea reflected on Pope Benedict XVI's message that giving everything to God leads to gaining everything, not losing anything of what makes life beautiful.

Msgr. Shea stressed that prayer is not just for discovering vocations but also for sustaining those who have already said yes to their vocations. He explained that prayer provides unseen support to seminarians, priests, and religious who may experience doubt, fatigue, or loneliness. Msgr. Shea highlighted the importance of prayerful environments in fostering vocations, noting that strong communities of faith are crucial in a post-Christian society.



He encouraged Serra members to pray for vocations daily, by name, and to participate in activities like Eucharistic Adoration and the Rosary. (Our President, Anne Roat, reminded us that each Serran is asked to pray one

hour per day for vocations.) He emphasized that vocations are everyone's responsibility and that prayer moves people from anxiety to trust.

Msgr. Shea reflected on the importance of prayer in transforming anxiety into hope and in anchoring the church in God's faithfulness. He concluded by encouraging Serra members to pray for vocations consistently and to see their prayers as essential in God's work.

## **WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE**

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. The World Day for Consecrated Life (WDCL) is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd.

This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day - the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. If Feb. 2 is not a Sunday, the celebration of WDCL is transferred to the following Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church.

You can learn more about the WDCL [here](#). Other resources can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

## **NATIONAL CATHOLIC SISTERS WEEK IS MARCH 8 - 14**

Established in 2014, as part of Women's History Month, the National Catholic Sisters Week is March 8 through 14 each year, regardless of the day of the week that period begins. According to the national office, "The NCSW mission is to honor women religious through a series of events that instruct, enlighten, and bring greater focus to the lives of these incredible women. We welcome events of any type and encourage organizations to think about creative ways to celebrate sisters for the entire week."

This is a good time for all parishes, schools, and others to choose some way to celebrate this occasion. Maybe you can simply take your favorite religious sister out for a meal.

For more information, click [here](#).

Events that some are considering include - a Mass and supper; a Sisters' Appreciation Day; a card or letter to your favorite sisters; Vespers; a Cupcakes, Coffee, and Conversation event; a retreat; etc.

To see the Global Sisters Report: Sharing Stories of Women Religious, check out the nine-minute video [here](#).

## **FOR NEWSLETTERS OF SOME OF THE SISTERS IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE**

A list of the religious orders of women serving in the Archdiocese of Louisville can be found [here](#).

News & Blogs for most of these orders:

**Benedictine Sisters of Ferdinand, IN** - [here](#).

**Dominican Sisters of Peace** - [here](#).

**Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia** - [here](#).

**Little Sisters of the Poor** - [here](#).

**Sisters of Charity of Nazareth** - [here](#).

**Sisters of Loretto** - [here](#).

**Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, U.S. East-West Province** - [here](#).

**Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods** - [here](#).

**Ursulines Sisters of Louisville** - [here](#).

**Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph (Maple Mount, KY)** - [here](#).

## **VOCATION OFFICE AND SAINT SERRA CLUB VOCATION CONTEST**

Judging has started for the Vocation Poster Contest (grades 4 through 6) and the Vocation Essay Contest (grades 7 and 8). The Vocation Office will be announcing winners probably by early February. Home schooled students and Religious Education students were also invited to participate.

We will also include a list of winners in a future issue of this newsletter. First, Second, and Third place winners will all be invited to a meeting of the St. Serra Club of Louisville to receive cash prizes and winner certificates. Parents, teachers, principals, and pastors will also be invited.

## **SAVE THE DATES - EXPECTED ORDINATIONS**

**Seminarians David Vest and Cuong Le** are expected to be ordained to the transitional diaconate Saturday, April 11.

**Deacon Evrard Muhoza** is expected to be ordained a priest on Saturday, May 30.

Both ceremonies will be at the Cathedral of the Assumption, 11 am, followed by a reception open to the public.

**“The only thing we have to ask God for, in prayer, is the desire to be holy.” - Blessed Carlo Acutis**



Dominican  
Sisters of Peace  
Sisters and Associates  
in Mission

FREE EVENT!

# BEYOND GIVING THINGS UP:

## Lenten Discernment Retreat

Retiro de discernimiento Cuaresmal  
Tĩnh Tâm Mùa Chay và Phân Định

**FEB 27**

6-8 PM EST; 5-7 CST; 4-6 MT; 3-5 PT

**FEB 28**

1 - 3:30 PM; 12-2:30 CST;  
11-1:30 MT; 10-12:30 PT

**We invite:**

*Single, Catholic women,  
ages 18-45, for a  
two-day Zoom & See*

Secure your spot by February 20 →



## **WORLD MARRIAGE DAY & NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK**

The Serra Club promotes all vocations, not just those of the priesthood, diaconate, the consecrated life, and the single life. We also promote marriage as a vocation.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (a Catholic organization) started **National Marriage Week** in 1981. It runs from February 7 to 14 each year (ending on Valentine's Day). **World Marriage Day** (WMD) is always the second Sunday in February – February 8 this year.

Their theme for WMD is always "Love One Another."

For more information and resources, check out the websites [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#).

### **A World Marriage Day Prayer**

Father, as we prepare for World Marriage Day, we thank you for your tremendous gift of the Sacrament of Marriage. Help us to witness to its glory by a life of growing intimacy. Teach us the beauty of forgiveness so we may become more and more One in Heart, Mind, and Body. Strengthen our dialogue and help us become living signs of your love. Make us grow more in love with the Church so we may renew the Body of Christ. Make us a sign of unity in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Brother. Amen. ~ Fr. Bill Dilgen, S.M.M.

## **PRIESTS CELEBRATING ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES**

Congratulations to our priests celebrating anniversaries of ordination this month. We always include here any priests, from religious orders and other dioceses, who are working in our archdiocese.

- **AKKARA, C.M.I., REV. OUSEPACHAN A. , 1/2/94, 31 yrs**
- **CHATHELY, C.M.I., REVEREND A. BIJU, 1/2/05, 20 yrs**
- **DIETZ, O.C.S.O. RT. REV. ELIAS, 1/25/03, 22 yrs**
- **GEORGE, C.M.I., REV. SHEEJAN P., 1/5/08, 17 yrs**
- **GONZALEZ ROMERO, REVEREND JEANS, 1/2/04, 21 yrs**
- **ILLIKKAL, C.M.I., REV. GEORGE S., 1/2/05, 20 yrs**

- **THEKKUDAN, C.M.I., REV. JOHNSON, 1/5/02, 23 yrs**

A list of all our diocesan priests can be found [here](#). A list of other priests working in our diocese, from other dioceses and various religious orders, can be found [here](#).

## **SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

Happy Birthday to three of our seminarians this month:

- HARRISON FREY, FEB 2**
- AMOS STINSON, FEB 9**
- DEACON EVRARD MUHOZA, FEB 9**

You can get more details on all our seminarians, as well as where they're going to school, hometown, and other information by clicking [here](#). (Click the pictures to get more background.)

## **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.

## **"BELIEF AND SCIENCE: FROM GENESIS TO LIFE ON OTHER WORLDS"**

Men's Night at St. Louis Bertrand, will be in O'Brien Hall on Monday February 9 at 7 pm. Pizza and drinks will be served.

Dr. Christopher Graney, physicist, astronomer and adjunct scholar at the Vatican Observatory will speak on the topic "Belief and Science: From Genesis to Life on Other Worlds."

Dr. Graney, a member of St. Louis Bertrand parish, is the author of three scholarly books and co-author with another: *When Science Goes Wrong: The Desire and Search for Truth* (2023), a book for popular audiences published by Paulist Press.

(Submitted by Serran Jerry Zimmerer, Chair of the Faith Committee for the K of C at St. Louis Bertrand.)

## **VOCATIONS IN THE NEWS**

**January's "What's New in Archlou?"** is about "The Joys of Religious Life," with interviews of Sister Paris

Slapikas, a member of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, and Sister Sarah Yungwirth, a member of the Sisters of St. Benedict in Ferdinand, Indiana. View the video [here](#).

**Bishops praise new Trump rule** ending one-year foreign residency requirement for religious workers. Read the details [here](#).

### **ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC YOUTH**

**National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)** was in Indianapolis in November. Read about it [here](#).

**SEEK26**, primarily college students and young adults, had a record attendance of 26,000 early January. Read about it [here](#).

**Pope Leo to young people:** Prayer and connection with others breaks chains of isolation. – Read the article [here](#).

**High school seniors:** 42 Secular Colleges have strong Catholic life – read the article [here](#).

**QUOTE** - “If any of you feel called to a special vocation, to consecrated life or to the priesthood, I encourage you not to be afraid to respond,” writes Leo XIV. “This call, which you feel vibrating deep within you, comes from God, who speaks to our hearts,” he assures them.

**Cardinal Dolan discusses reasons for uptick in young people practicing Catholicism.** – Read the article [here](#).

### **PARISH VOCATION MINISTRY (PVM) IDEAS**

We now have a number of parishes working on promoting vocations at the parish level. Here are some ideas that can help those PVM committees.

**For a link to the Serra International YouTube Channel,** click [here](#)

**For a “Get to Know Your Priest”** questionnaire, click [here](#).

**Liturgical Year 2025-26 Vocation Bulletin blurbs** can be found [here](#).

**For the 2025-26 Mass Petitions on vocations,** click [here](#).

**For an update to our local PVM Ideas outline,** click [here](#).

**Serra Promotion And Resource Kit** (S.P.A.R.K., started in 2019) – The tools can be found [here](#).

**“The 7 Greats”** - The Seven most popular SPARK tools can be found [here](#).

### **EVANGELIZATION**

All of us Serrans, as well as everyone with a religious vocation, are evangelizers!

For one of the MOST INSPIRING, free, (and brief, at 21 pages) e-books on Evangelization, get Bishop Robert Barron’s “Evangelization Is Priority One” [here](#).

### **VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**Serran and Vocation Office Birthdays this month:**

- Vanessa Haulk (Voc. Ofc. Sec.), Feb 11
- Lynn Haner, Feb 13
- Fr. Jeff Hopper (Club Assistant Chaplain), Feb 13
- Fr. Pat Dolan (Club Chaplain), Feb 23

**Pope’s Prayer Intention for the month of February – For children with incurable diseases** - Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

**The Priest Variety Show** was January 9 and raised \$15,000 for the Seminarian Education Fund. You can view the entire show [here](#).

**Pope Leo XIV proclaims Franciscan Jubilee Year** for the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi. Read the article [here](#).

**LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 18**  
“... give alms, ... pray to your Father ... When you fast, do not look gloomy ... (Matthew 6).”

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

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