



# Saint Serra Club of Louisville VOCATION DIGEST

April, 2026  
Newsletter

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

Club chartered May 22, 1955

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

## WE PRESENTED CERTIFICATES AND CHECKS TO VOCATION CON- TEST WINNERS

The winners of the Vocation Poster Contest are:

**Tessa Mora** – First Place, St. Albert The Great Parish

**Will Heitkamper** – First Place, St. Edward School and Parish, grade 8.

**Zuri Anderson** – Second Place, Holy Trinity School and Parish, grade 7.

**John David Kopecheck** – Third Place, Immaculata Classical Academy, and Immaculate Conception Par-



and School, grade 6.

**Anastasia Carrico** - Second Place, Immaculata Classical Academy, and Our Lady and St. John Church, grade 6.

**Sofia Murgos Cruz** – Third Place, St. Edward Parish and School, grade 6.

The winners of the Vocation Essay Contest are:

ish, grade 8.

First Place prize was \$250. Second Place was \$150, and Third Place was \$100.

Teachers of the First Place winners also received \$100 each:

**Ms. Christiana Singler**, who teaches at St. Albert The Great School; and **Ms. Beth Oliges**, who teaches at St. Edward School.



Thanks also to all the judges for these contests – **Deacon Stephen Bowling, Laurel Wyatt, Morgann Lucas, Lynn McDaniel, Fr. Tony Cecil, Vanessa Haulk, Todd Popson, Bob Hublar, and Chuck Lynch.**

All the winning posters and essays can be found [here](#).

To see all the pictures taken that day, click [here](#).

(Thanks to Serran Sam Willett for the pictures with this article.)

## **FR. TONY CECIL SPOKE AT OUR MARCH 2 MEETING**

### **About Our Speaker**

Fr. Tony Cecil grew up just outside of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and graduated from Bethlehem High School in Bardstown. After high school, he entered



seminary for the Archdiocese of Louisville. He is a graduate of Bishop Simon Bruté College Seminary at Marian University in Indianapolis; Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology; and the Pontifical Aethnæum of St. Anselm in Rome.

Fr. Tony was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Louisville on May 25,

2019. After ordination, he served as Associate Pastor of Epiphany and St. Martin de Porres parishes (2019-2022), and as Chaplain of Sacred Heart Academy (2019-2025). He has also previously served as a Spiritual Director for Saint Meinrad Seminary.

Currently, Fr. Tony serves as the Pastor of Saint Raphael the Archangel Parish, the Director of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Archdiocese (effective 7/1/25), the Chaplain of Queen's Daughters, and as a member of the Priest Council.

He is a member of the Board of Overseers for Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology, the Advisory Board of [EQSaints](#), and the Leadership Team for the [Encounter School of Ministry Louisville Campus](#).

### **His Presentation on His Vocation Journey**

As a child, Fr. Tony thought about the priesthood; and his uncle said he'd be the priest in the family. So, Fr. Tony's heart was set on proving his uncle wrong; and he wanted to go to WKU and learn to teach history.

His father encouraged him to seek God's will, leading him to explore his faith more deeply and eventually consider the priesthood.

Father Tony describes his high school experience at Bethlehem, where he was encouraged to explore his faith and prepare for college.

He shared a pivotal moment when his father challenged him to ask God what He wanted, which led him to reconsider the priesthood.

Father Tony spent time on YouTube watching videos about priests' lives, which influenced his decision to visit the seminary.

He was encouraged by Father Michael Wimsatt, his high school chaplain, to explore seminary life. He was told, "Young men go to the seminary not to become priests but to find out if that's what God wants." He went and he stayed.

Fr. Tony was ordained to the transitional diaconate in 2018 (on his dad's birthday) at St. Joseph Proto-Cathedral in Bardstown; and he was ordained a priest in 2019.

### **His presentation on the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry**

Thinking of this office of the archdiocese, people often think of trips to Kings Island, lock-ins for high schoolers, and Theology on Tap for youth in their twenties. But there's much more.

Thinking on why he was asked to take on this job, he realized that he was, a couple of years ago, one of the youngest priests in the archdiocese and now its youngest pastor.

**Jonna O'Bryan** is Associate Director (and formerly the Director of Youth Ministry at St. Patrick Parish), with almost 30 years' experience in youth ministry. Her efforts to visit parishes and provide support were highlighted, emphasizing the office's commitment to reaching all parts of the archdiocese.

**Morgann Lucas**, the secretary in the office, is in her early 20s and fits right in with youth and young adult ministry.

Father Tony rewrote the mission statement of his office - focusing on "forming, equipping, supporting, and collaborating with ministers in the Archdiocese of Louisville, to lead young people to an encounter with Jesus Christ." He emphasized the importance of providing theologically solid and engaging formation

for youth ministers, high school and college campus ministers, and volunteers.

The office aims to equip ministers with practical tools and resources, referring them to national organizations for effective ministry. Father Tony highlighted the need for ministers to attend to their own spiritual needs and the importance of collaboration with parishes and schools.

The office provides support to ministers, offering a listening ear and spiritual refreshment.

Father Tony stresses the importance of collaboration with parishes and schools to improve ministry to young people. He shares an example of the 'I Am' Encounter event (March 15), which required significant collaboration with youth ministers and volunteers.

The emphasis is on helping youth have "transformative encounters with Christ." Afterwards, the focus can be on catechesis.

The USCCB defines 'youth' as middle school and high school students; and it defines 'young adult' as those from age 18 to 39.

Father Tony addresses the challenge of ministering to young adults, who are a diverse group with varying needs. He discussed the importance of building community and funneling young adults to parishes without replacing parish ministries.

The office operates from the framework of "[Listen, Teach, Send](#)" - adopted by the US bishops in 2024. The framework emphasizes creating spaces for young people to feel heard, teaching them about Jesus, accompanying them, and inviting them to join the mission.

Father Tony believes this framework aligns well with the office's mission of forming, equipping, supporting, and collaborating with ministers. He expresses excitement about the future of youth and young adult ministry.

He spoke highly of the [Young Catholic Professionals](#) (YCP) in Louisville with whom he has interacted.

Addressing one question, he said strong, compelling high school and college campus ministries are very important in reducing the number of fallen away Catholics. Additionally, he spoke of the reality of community, using YCPs example of always suggesting that attendees bring people with them to the meetings. This is "how faith spreads."

We want to thank Fr. Tony Cecil for telling us his vocation story and giving us an update on the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

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

## **SERRA INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT, EMANUELE COSTA, SPOKE AT OUR MARCH 13 MEETING.**

### **About Our Speaker**

Mr. Costa is the sixth of nine children and grew up in Genoa, Italy.

He graduated from the University of Genoa with a degree in economy and commerce.



After spending twenty years between Genoa, New York, and Miami managing the family-owned shipping business, he started his own private equity company, now based in Milan, Italy.

He and his wife Beatrice now reside in Lugano, Switzerland.

Joining the Serra club of Lugano in 1997, he has been Club President, District Governor, and President of the Italian National Council.

Mr. Costa and his wife have three children and five grandchildren living in the United States. His wife was also able to join us at this meeting.

Mr. Costa is a humble man in his 80s; and yet he travels all over the world promoting Serra Clubs and vocations.

### **His Presentation**

Mr. Costa says he's not a real public speaker, and yet he has spoken on several continents in his term as Serra International President – a one-year term which ends this June 30. He says it's best when he simply speaks from his heart.

**THANK YOU, MR. COSTA, FOR  
COMING TO MEET THE ST. SERRA  
CLUB OF LOUISVILLE!**

He congratulated our club on being one of the four in the US which earned the “Siempre Adelante” (Spanish for Always Forward) Gold Certificate Award; and he congratulated Ken Peet for recently winning the first “Heart of Serra” award, given to him in St. Louis in January as a retiring Regional Director. Mr. Costa also said he likes that we put “Saint” in the name of our club.



Mr. Costa said he was honored to visit with us as he’s also visiting clubs in

Columbus, Cincinnati, Nashville, and then up to Toronto.

He said that clubs around the world all have different ways of doing things; and yet he feels they all have a great sense of unity. And we’re the only lay organization in the Church which is aggregated to the Vatican, through the [Dicastery of the Clergy](#).

“We are a combination of spirit, action, and heart,” he said. On spirit, he spoke of us living out our Baptismal vow - becoming priest, prophet, and king in our call to holiness.

Our actions, he says, are services aimed at priests, deacons, and the religious, as well as people discerning those vocations.

On the use of our hearts, he spoke of our friendship with each other, our sense of community, and especially our friendship with those who have chosen to be priests, deacons, or religious. He reminded us of the Serran audience with Pope Francis in 2017, and the [Pope’s address to us Serrans](#), about our mission to be lay friends, especially to priests.

Just like all of us, priests are human; and they need friends. Mr. Costa spoke especially of how difficult it can be for priests ministering in countries that are not their home countries – dealing with everything from language barriers to loneliness. There are even seminaries that do not want foreign seminarians, he says! “Our foreign seminarians and priests need us.” He explained that priests should be joyful, and having friends is essential to achieving that.

On unity, Mr. Costa spoke of how important it is that clubs around the world share their ideas and best practices. Being an international organization, he said we do get special attention from cardinals, bishops and



others in Church leadership. He especially saw this in his visit to Rome last year to meet with the Dicastery of the Clergy.

He suggests we should all seriously consider attending the Serra International Convention when we all gather in Rome in 2027, hopefully resulting in a private audience with the pope.

Mr. Costa reminded us that the need for priests differs dramatically around the world. For some countries, especially in Europe, the seminarian count is down. Yet, in Africa, there are many new vocations. In Brazil, Serra clubs are strong; but 70% of the people live in extreme poverty. And yet, they have so much joy.



In Thailand, only five percent of the population are Catholic; and yet they have strong Catholic schools and good Serra clubs – one club in each of the 12 dioceses. The schools are so good that many Buddhists send their children to Catholic schools!

In Africa’s Nigeria, there are 25 Serra clubs, doing very well.

In Dubai, of the United Arab Emirates, there is only one Catholic parish, run by Franciscans; but it has 300,000 Catholics of 24 nationalities! They are considering a Serra club.

In his own diocese of Lugano, Switzerland, there are 200 parishes with 150 priests, but 70% of their priests are from foreign countries, especially India and Africa. He knows firsthand how important it is to be friends with these priests. Some of their priests call him and his wife “Mom and Dad.”

As President of Serra International, he carries around the world a relic (a part of a bone) from St. Junipero Serra. We all got to see the relic; and our chaplain, Fr. Pat Dolan, blessed us with the relic at the end of our meeting.

We want to thank Mr. Emanuele Costa for visiting us, sharing his knowledge of Serra from around the world, inspiring us, and bringing to our meeting a relic of our patron saint! This was, indeed, a very special meeting!

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

### **ST. SERRA RELIC CARRIED AROUND THE WORLD BY SERRA INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT EMANUELE COSTA**

When Mr. Costa visited our club on March 13, he brought along the reliquary holding a small piece of a bone from St. Junipero Serra.

The wording on the reliquary says, “Vidi Sanctos Congregatos Sicut Rosae Germinant Sub Umbra Montis et Sicut Lilia Odorem Suavitatis Habentes.” The translation is “I saw the saints gathered together like roses blooming under the shadow of the mountain, and like lilies having a sweet fragrance.”



### **FR. JIM DIVASTO SPOKE AT OUR MARCH 16 “SERRA MEETS” ZOOM MEETING.**

#### **About our Speaker**

Our speaker was Fr. James DiVasto, of the Holy Name of Jesus Parish in Stratford, CT, of the diocese of Bridgeport.

Fr. Jim was born in Stamford CT, and graduated from St. Anselm College in Manchester, N.H. Even though he was involved in parish life as a child, it was in Stratford where he began to develop a much deeper relationship with Christ.

“Until my years at St. Anselm College, where I began to study our Catholic faith, my thoughts of priesthood were nurtured and matured by the witness and companionship of many of the Benedictine monks who taught at the college and prayed in the abbey on the college campus,”

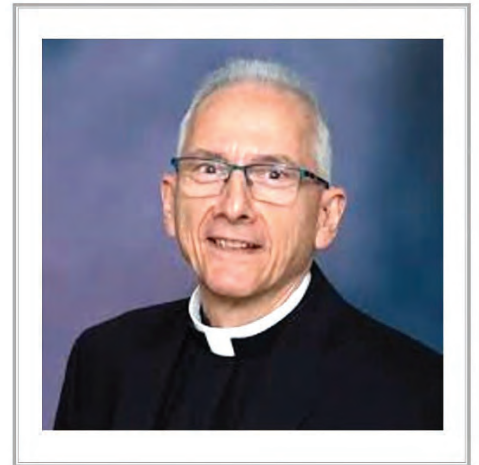
Fr. Jim said. “During my four years at St. Anselm’s, I found myself more and more drawn to time with Christ.”

Fr. Jim entered priestly formation but withdrew in May 1981. He then

worked as a compliance administrator for the Knights of Columbus Supreme Office for 37 years, married and had three children - and four grandchildren. And it was much later in his life that the call to enter the priesthood began anew.

“When I shared my desire to actually apply to become a seminarian for priestly formation with our Diocese of Bridgeport in 2018, I found much support among my family, friends, and colleagues at the Knights of Columbus Supreme Office,” he said. “One friend put it this way: ‘When you first became a seminarian for the Diocese of Bridgeport out of college, that was in your time. But now, it’s in God’s time.’”

Fr. Jim served his transitional diaconate at St. James Parish in Stratford. Since Ordination in 2022, Fr. Jim had been the Parochial Vicar at Our Lady of Fatima in Wilton, CT. He was made pastor of Holy Name of Jesus Parish in September 2025.



## His Presentation

Fr. Jim's topic was entitled "The Marks and Obstacles of the Priesthood."

Having three children and then going through a divorce and an annulment, Fr. Jim has a lot of practical and spiritual experience. He entered the seminary at age 59. At 64, he was the oldest of the six priests ordained in his diocese in 2022 – with ages ranging from 24 to 64. He's now 67.

In addition to all of that, he had the support of the Bridgeport Serra Club when he was a seminarian; and is now the chaplain for that club.

Fr. Jim spoke about the priesthood being instituted by Christ; and he quoted from a number of New Testament verses on that topic, especially using verses from the Last Supper. He said the priesthood is rooted in what Christ did at that Last Supper. Also, Christ didn't want his earthly ministry to end with his Resurrection and Ascension. So, He instituted bishops and priests to keep the Church going.

He reminded us that priests are not 'free agents' as some pros are in the major league sports. All priests answer to a bishop or their superior in various orders of priests. And he said this is emphasized in the promises that priests make at their ordinations.

In the first promise, he agrees to discharge, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, his duties as a priest, in serving the Lord's flock.

In the second promise, he agrees to carry out the ministry of the word worthily and wisely in the preaching of the gospel and the teaching of the Catholic faith.

With his third promise, he resolves "to celebrate the mysteries of Christ reverently and faithfully, according to the tradition of the Church, especially in the sacred sacrifice of the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, for the praise of God and the sanctification of the Christian people." Here Fr. Jim spoke of the two-fold duties to proclaim the Word and to minister to the faithful in the Sacraments.

With the fourth promise, he is asked, "Are you resolved to implore with us the mercy of God for the people entrusted to you with the zeal for the commandment to pray without ceasing?" This, he says, pertains to saying the Divine Office every day. The priest is not on his own but must "pray without ceasing" with the whole Church.

Fr. Jim said, "Many priests refer to their Breviary (Liturgy of the Hour) as 'The Mrs.' as their spouse, and I think that's a very good thing to remember, because in a real way, this is our spouse."

Under the fifth promise, he is asked to unite himself

closely each day with Christ, consecrating himself to God. And, again, he says this can't be done alone. A priest needs the Holy Spirit, and he was reminded of a book by Bishop Fulton Sheen – "The Priest Is Not His Own" – still in print today. And Fr. Jim says that if a seminarian is not willing to sacrifice like Christ, the priesthood is not for him.

Another promise of the priest is to respect and obey his superior - the bishop for diocesan priests.

All of these promises became his foundation, especially as he was later made a pastor.

Fr. Jim also spoke of the challenges a priest faces. He remembered his father, who shouldered his own crosses to raise and support a family. His father told him and his two older brothers he'd do everything in his power "to make them responsible, caring, and loving men in this world."

Speaking of the four pillars of priestly formation - the spiritual, the intellectual, the pastoral, and the human – he talked of these as helping to support the priest in facing all his challenges.

He attended St. John XXXIII Seminary for part of his formation, one of only two seminaries in the country that specialize in formation of seminarians who are age 30 or above.

Fr. Jim spoke of the biggest challenge being that of balancing all the responsibilities – including the people entrusted to him, dealing with his parish, being chaplain to a Serra club, and much more. And he says he can only do it with prayer and the help of others. "In other words," he said, "don't try to figure this all out, all on your own, in your own head, in your own heart. Right dialogue with people, because often God wants to help you to understand how best to do this as best you can through their help."

Asked if anything he experienced after ordination has confirmed his choice to become a priest at age 64, he responded "yes" – it was while administering the Sacrament of Confession. He said, "There are people that the Lord has already foreseen that He desires you to be the particular confessor at a particular time in their life to hear their confession, for Christ to give them His forgiveness and His healing, because you are precisely the gaze, the face, the voice, the ears, etc., that this particular individual needs; and I have experienced that in particular three times already in my priestly ministry."

You can view all of Fr. Jim DiVasto's presentation, as well as the business portion of the meeting [here](#).

## UPDATE ON THE NEWMAN CONNECTION PROGRAM

Keeping Catholic college students in touch with their faith is the goal of the Newman Connection. The Archdiocese of Louisville and the St. Serra Club of Louisville work to put Catholic freshman in college in touch with college campus ministries and nearby parishes as they first go away to college.

In the fall of 2025, the Newman Connection reached 145 campuses in 96 dioceses. And 7,468 freshmen who participated in Newman Connection's Faith Forward movement were personally contacted by their college campus ministry. Of those, 1,429 students are now active in campus ministry.

More than 2,000 students stepped into OCIA or sacramental preparation. And 618 students are actively discerning priesthood or consecrated life.

Read more details [here](#) and [here](#).

## 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 in Louisville, 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.

**April 6 (1<sup>st</sup> Mon)** – **Fr. Pat Dolan** will be giving a review of Holy week and Easter and how to make that spirit last.

**April 8 (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed)** - **Holy Hour for Vocations** – After the noon Mass in St. Margaret Mary Chapel.

**April 13 (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon)** – **Zoom Rosary for Vocations**, 7 pm. See the separate article for details.

**April 20 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon)** – **Sister Nancy Reynolds** (with the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods) will give her vocation journey and talk about Saint Mother Theodore Guerin.

**April 20 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon)** - “**Serra Meets**” by Zoom – **8 pm** Louisville time. The speaker will be **Msgr. William Fay, PhD**, who will speak on “**Older Vocations.**” Click [here](#) for details.

**April 28 (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).

Before Lent is over, consider a donation to the [Serra International Foundation](#).

## SAVE THESE DATES

### Ordinations of Seminarians

**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 to the priesthood on Saturday, May 30.

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

### Rite of Candidacy

A Mass of Right of Candidacy for Holy Orders will be at 9:30 am on Sunday, May 24, 2026, at the Cathedral of the Assumption. This used to take place in the seminaries, but our archdiocese is trying to bring them home so more of our archdiocese can be present when seminarians formally declare their intention to serve as priests during the Rite.

The Rite marks these men entering the Configuration Stage in seminary which focuses on preparing them to act *in persona Christi* as a pastor in the Church. It builds on the previous stages of formation, integrating the four dimensions of formation toward priestly ministry.

There will be four seminarians, **Trenton Thieman, Zachary Moore, Emerson Wells** and **Samuel Mattingly**, formally declaring their intention. They are expected to be ordained to the transitional diaconate probably in 2029, with final ordination to the priesthood in 2030.

## PRIESTS CELEBRATING ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to our priests celebrating anniversaries of ordination in April. We always include here any priests, from religious orders and other dioceses, who are working in our archdiocese. The asterisk (\*) indicates “Retired.”

**REVEREND SEBASTIAN XAVIER KONNULY, C.P., 4/25/92, 34 yrs**

**REVEREND SHAJI JOSEPH, C.P., 4/22/10, 16 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](#).

ALL OF US SERRANS ARE RECRUITERS FOR THE SERRA CLUB. "EACH ONE, BRING ONE."



Dominican  
Sisters of Peace  
Sisters and Associates  
in Mission



# BECOMING WOMEN OF PEACE

*Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow*

trở thành những người  
phụ nữ của hòa bình |

convirtiéndonos en  
mujeres de paz



Sat. April 25, 2026  
2 - 5 PM EST



Zoom

- ✓ FREE event
- ✓ Single,  
Catholic women
- ✓ Ages 18-45



**SCAN TO REGISTER BY 4/20**

Questions? Contact  
Sr. June Fitzgerald, OP, at  
[june.fitzgerald@oppeace.org](mailto:june.fitzgerald@oppeace.org)  
or (570) 336-3991.

## SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Happy Birthday to one of our seminarians this month: **RYAN RASMUSSIN – April 23**

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](#). (Then click the pictures to get more background.)

## SEMINARIANS INSTALLED AS ACOLYTES

Of the St. Meinrad seminarians who recently received the ministry of acolyte, two were from the Archdiocese of Louisville:

**David A. Hairston** and **Conor P. McClure**.

Congratulations to David and Conor! See more details [here](#).

## WHAT'S NEW IN ARCHLOU? – INTERVIEW WITH FR. MICHAEL WIMSATT

Host **Dr. Brian Reynolds**, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Louisville, welcomes **Father Michael Wimsatt**, pastor of St. James Church in Elizabethtown.

In this episode, Dr. Reynolds and Father Wimsatt talk about saints and who they are, the journey to sainthood, and why we feel a connection with saints. Check out the March episode [here](#).

## 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.

### **HE IS RISEN!**

**"The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." (1 Cor 1:18)**

**The Power of the Cross - The Cross of Christ is the central event in the history of time.**

- C** Crowned Jesus with Glory (Gal 6:14)
- R** Reconciled us to God (2 Cor 5:18-19)
- O** Overcame the world (John 6:33)
- S** Shed his blood for our sins (Col 1:20)
- S** Saved us from sins (Eph 2:13; Rev 1:5)

## 63<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS IS APRIL 26 THIS YEAR

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 26 this year**. For more information, suggestions, and resource materials, click [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

Here is a Prayer for this annual occasion:

**God our Father,**  
**You made each of us to use our gifts in**  
**the Body of Christ.**  
**We ask that You inspire young people whom**  
**you call to priesthood and consecrated life**  
**to courageously follow Your will.**  
**Send workers into Your great harvest**  
**so that the Gospel is preached,**  
**the poor are served with love,**  
**the suffering are comforted,**  
**and Your people are strengthened**  
**by the sacraments.**  
**We ask this through**  
**Christ our Lord. Amen**

## SERRA'S INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IS IN INDIANAPOLIS THIS YEAR.

"The Crossroads of America" event will be Serra's 83 International Convention, to be held July 9-12, 2026.

To learn more about the convention, how to register, the schedule of sessions, and how to reserve a hotel room, check out the details [here](#).

## PARISH VOCATION MINISTRY 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.

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**31 Club** – To see how one parish lists their 31 club members in a parish bulletin, go to page 5 of [this link](#).

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**ST. JOHN PAUL II PARISH** - Chuck Lynch is pictured below with 8<sup>th</sup> graders at John Paul II Academy, and teacher Ms. Maureen Miller, after he spoke on vocations, the Eucharist, and leadership. This was part of that parish's Vocation Ministry activities.



**ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE**  
*Quo Vadis Day 2026*

Quo Vadis is Latin for "Where are you going?"

Quo Vadis Day is a 1-day event for high school young men (incoming Freshman Fall 2026 to outgoing Seniors). It is led by the seminarians of the Archdiocese of Louisville. Coupled with the theme "Follow Me", they will explore what it means to discern their vocation and what it means to lead a Christian life.

There will be talks, discussion, prayer experiences, and plenty of fun!

**When:** Wednesday, June 24, 2026  
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**Where:** St. Athanasius Catholic Parish  
5915 Outer Loop  
Louisville, KY 40219

*Dress casual; food and snacks will be provided.*

Scan to register before May 30, 2026

There is no charge for this event

Direct questions to Todd Popson [tpopson@archlou.org](mailto:tpopson@archlou.org) or call/text (502) 727-7774.

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**QUOTE** - "Your vocation in life is where your greatest joy meets the world's greatest need." - Frederick Buechner (1926-2022, author and theologian)

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**Parish Vocation Ministry Ideas** (updated at least annually) is an outline by the St. Serra Club of Louisville, full of many ideas for Vocation Ministry in parishes and schools. Check it out [here](#).

**THE EXACT DATE CHRIST DIED**

Based on Scriptural references, facts from Roman historians, and astronomical records which relate to when Jews celebrated certain Jewish feast days, many theologians and historians now believe Christ actually died on April 3 of the year 33. Read more details [here](#).

In fact, the Catholic Church now plans to celebrate 2033 as the 2,000<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Christ's death and resurrection. Read Pope Leo's proclamation of this fact [here](#).

**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 and the world today. 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](#)

**If you really love God, you will greatly desire to see Him loved by all the world.- St. John Vianney**

**HAPPY EASTER!**  
**APRIL 5**

**VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**Serran Birthdays this month:**

- Charlie Francesconi, Apr 3
- Joan Barnell, Apr 19
- Peggy Spalding, Apr 23

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**Pope's Prayer Intention for the month of April – For Priests In Crisis** - Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

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**To see the 2025-2026 Archdiocesan Directory**, click [here](#).

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