



Club chartered May 22, 1955

# Saint Serra Club of Louisville VOCATION DIGEST

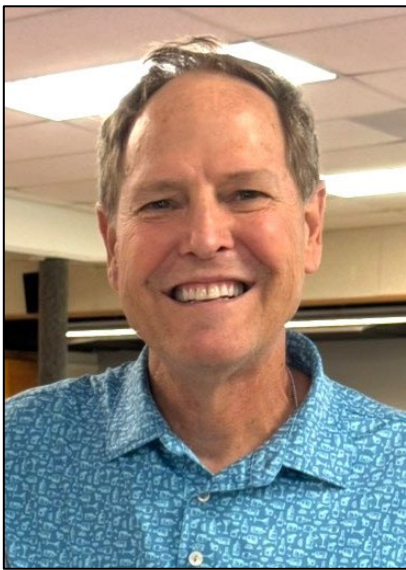
*“Always Forward, Never Back”  
- Saint Junipero Serra*

May, 2026  
Newsletter

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

## NEW SERRAN – BOB SMITH

Dr. Robert (Bob) Henry Smith recently became a Serran, and we asked him to tell us a little about himself.



He has been married to Margaret (Edelen) for 41 years. Together, they have four children and three granddaughters. His oldest child, Benjamin, has been a member of our club and recruited Bob.

Bob was a dentist for 38 years and grew up in Lebanon, Kentucky, in St Augustine parish.

He went to the University of Kentucky for his undergraduate degree in Biology and dental school. He and his twin brother both became dentists and practiced for decades, only ten miles apart.

Bob’s wife wanted warmer weather, and they moved to Orlando, Florida, immediately following dental school and Margaret’s completion of dental hygiene school. They spent eight years in Florida, where Benjamin and his two sisters were born.

Wanting to raise their family in a smaller town, they moved back to Lebanon, Kentucky. It worked out best for Bob because there was a need for another dentist in Lebanon.

His oldest daughter, Laura, has Down Syndrome and has been living in Louisville for over 10 years. After selling his practice, he and his wife could retire and move to Louisville, where they could be with Laura all

the time. They are now members of St. Raphael Parish.

Bob has always supported the cause of promoting vocations and supporting priests. He and his son are keeping up with Seminarian David Hairston, who he said will be a great priest someday.

Bob, welcome to the club!

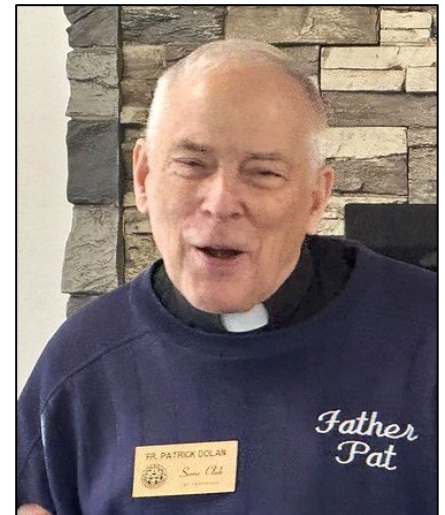
## FR. PAT DOLAN SPOKE ABOUT HOLY WEEK AT OUR APRIL 6 MEETING.

Fr. Pat Dolan, our Senior Chaplain for the club, spoke about Holy Week and gave the background and symbolism of things that we don’t always see.

For Palm Sunday, the big thing is the procession, and the idea is that our whole life is a procession from Baptism eventually into the fullness of the kingdom of God.

With palms, we accompany Jesus as he comes into Jerusalem. That’s what the Jews had been waiting for in the preceding centuries. When Christ finally shows up, the crowd is excited about it.

We also hear the Passion story on Palm Sunday – but from different Gospel writers - one year it’s Matthew; one year it’s Mark; and one year it’s Luke. On Good Friday, the Passion is always based on the Gospel of John.



“You've got that idea of pilgrimage, and you've got the whole sense of Jesus being looked at and watched and reported on from several different perspectives, going through the struggle of Holy Week.”

Monday and Tuesday of Holy Week, you have a couple of little interesting tidbits - how Judas was upset at Mary using costly perfume that costs 300 days' wages, anointing Jesus' feet. Then you have the raising of Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary.

Christ also goes into the temple, cleansing it. Of course, all the authorities are upset about that, because they had connections with the things that were going on in the temple.

On Wednesday, also known as Spy Wednesday, the Gospels recount Judas approaching the authorities to negotiate his betrayal.

On Holy Thursday Judas leaves the Last Supper early to, as Jesus said, “do what you have to do.” And he betrays Jesus.

Also on Holy Thursday, the foot washing and the institution of the Eucharist took place.

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and even St. Paul, describe the institution of the Eucharist very clearly. Yet, John describes the washing of the feet without finding room for the Eucharist in his Gospel! That's because “John's Gospel was written about 20 to 30 years later, answering questions that kind of occurred at that time,” as Fr. Pat explained.

At the end of Holy Thursday, the priest processes out with the Eucharist – “taking Christ to the garden of Gethsemane.” A lot of parishes have a special place where they take the Eucharist, maybe another room or another building. Some even decorate it like gardens, so that people can watch with Jesus for a long time there.

In Good Friday services, the priest, and maybe a deacon, come in and lie on the floor.

The whole flavor from Vatican Council II is that they want Good Friday to be barren, with little emphasis on the Eucharist, and more on the cross.

“The church is empty, bare, and stripped to remind us of what it's like without Jesus. You know the church is empty, because our lives without Christ are empty, wonderful as everything else is,” Fr. Pat said.

Since the Second Vatican Council, we've been allowed to distribute communion on Good Friday. Before that, only the priest received communion on Good Friday. So, now extra hosts are always consecrated on Holy Thursday.

With the Passion reading finished, we have special intercessory prayers for all different groups in the world. There are ten of them. They added one extra prayer this year - for peace in the world - at the suggestion of Pope Leo. After the prayers, you have veneration of the cross.

Fr. Pat spoke of the Shroud of Turin. He read books by several chemists who tried to disprove the Shroud's authenticity; but they came to believe that it's real. Fr. Pat said, “It's just intuitively obvious, as you examine that cloth, that the body that was in it, was removed from it without the cloth being taken away. The energy of the Resurrection went through the cloth. There's no other conclusion. It went through the cloth; and it left scorch marks on it. It's almost like the matter was transformed into energy.” Fr. Pat said, “I see it as a hologram of the Resurrection taking place - convincing and strong and true.”

Speaking about Holy Saturday, Fr. Pat said that Pope Pius XII reformed the liturgy. The idea is that you light the Paschal candle after having put five nails in it, each nail having incense grains in them, which represent the five wounds of Christ. You also consecrate the candle with that year's name and date. Then you light people's candles from the Paschal candle and you process into the darkened church, afterwards chanting the Exultet.

The light of those candles says something about how we've been waiting for Christ, and he's the light of our world. There are Old Testament readings, ending with the Gloria, then the Collect, then the Epistle for Easter, and then the Gospel that he was risen from the dead.

Fr. Pat told a touching story of how, as a very young boy, he was tremendously moved during one Easter Vigil Mass. He said, “They opened those doors to the sanctuary (which I had never seen closed before), turned on all the lights, and there was the altar in all its Easter beauty, with the candles lit and the flowers on it. My heart skipped a beat.”

Easter Sunday is parallel to that. They would relight our individual candles from the Paschal candle. We renew our baptismal promises, and we are blessed with that Easter water. “There's something really powerful taking place there,” Fr. Pat said.

Easter Sunday evening, Jesus appears to the Apostles in the upper room. They're hiding from the Jews

because they killed Jesus two days before; and the Apostles are still afraid. Christ breathes on them and says, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you forgive are forgiven."

In John's gospel, you have Christ creating Holy Orders - commissioning the Apostles to be able to do what he has done. First, he washes their feet to show a depth of connection. Then he says, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you out into the world." He gives them the power to do that. "Do this in memory of me."

He's empowering the Apostles to likewise change bread and wine into his body and blood.

So, by this time, Christ has instituted the Sacraments of Eucharist, Holy Orders, and Confession, having ordained the Apostles to be able to carry on what he had been doing.

Before His Ascension, Jesus challenges His Apostles to go out into the whole world and teach people what he's taught them, and to Baptize them "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

From Holy Week through the Ascension, we have the institution of most of the seven Sacraments. Confirmation came at Pentecost.

However, Matrimony and Anointing of the Sick were instituted by Christ much earlier. The Apostles looked back at the marriage feast of Cana and understood the sanctification of matrimony to be made at that point. And St James (in Chapter 5:14-15) describes the Anointing of the Sick. (At other times in the Gospels, Jesus was not anointing the sick but curing them, instead.)

"Jesus did all this as the ability for those of us who are ordained to be tools in His hands, so that He can make these good things happen through us," Fr. Pat said.

We want to thank Fr. Pat for his presentation.

*(Thanks, too, to Serran Jerry Zimmerer for the picture 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 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.

**May 4 (1<sup>st</sup> Mon)** – Fr. John Baptist Hoang, OP, will

speak about the U of L student ministry program.

**May 11 (2<sup>nd</sup> Mon)** – **Zoom Rosary for Vocations**, 7 pm. See the separate article for details.

**May 13 (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed)** - **Holy Hour for Vocations** – After the noon Mass in St. Margaret Mary Chapel.

**May 18 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon)** – **Fr. John Pozhathuparambil**, Franciscan, and Director of Campus Ministry for Belarmine University, will be our speaker.

**May 18 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon)** – **"Serra Meets"** by Zoom – **8 pm** Louisville time. Click [here](#) for details.

**May 24 (Sun)** – **Mass of Right of Candidacy** – 9:30 am at the Cathedral of the Assumption. See related "Save These Dates" article.

**May 26 (Tue)** - 11:45 - **Serra Board Meeting** - St. Margaret Mary Spirituality Center.

**May 30 (Sat)** – **Ordination of Transitional Deacon Evrard Muhoza to the Priesthood**. 11 am at the Cathedral of the Assumption.

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

## **TWO SEMINARIANS ORDAINED TO THE TRANSITIONAL DIACONATE**

On Saturday, April 11, Seminarians **Cuong Le** and **David Vest**

were ordained as transitional deacons at an 11 am Mass at the Cathedral of the Assumption.

As with



every ordination of deacons, Archbishop Shelton Fabre said to these young men, "Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you have become. Believe

what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.”



Deacon Cuong Le, the youngest of five children, grew up in Ha Tinh in Vietnam and now treats St. Michael Parish here in Louisville as his home parish. He has been studying at the Theological College in Washington, D.C.

His hobbies include pool, ping pong, and photography.

Deacon David Vest, the youngest of three children, says his home parish is St. Athanasius. He graduated from Atherton High School, attended college at Marian University & Bishop Simon Brute College Seminary,



A video of the whole ordination liturgy can be found [here](#).

More articles (and videos) from *The Record* about these two young men can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Congratulations to Cuong Le and David Vest for this special step toward the priesthood.



## **SISTER NANCY REYNOLDS SPOKE AT OUR APRIL 20 MEETING.**

### **About Our Speaker**

Sister Nancy Reynolds, SP, MA, JCL, is a member of the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana having entered in 1960. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Math from St. Mary-of-the-Woods College (1965); a Master’s Degree in Math from the University of Nebraska (1972); and a Licentiate in Canon Law from The Catholic University of America (1984). She was a high school and college teacher of Mathematics from 1964 to 1978.

She served in the Tribunals of the Diocese of Evansville, Indiana, and the Archdiocese of San Francisco, California while at the same time teaching canon law part time as Adjunct Professor at institutes of higher learning. She also served for five years on the Board of Governors of the Canon Law Society of America, two years as Consultor and three years as Treasurer. She has edited and contributed to several canonical publications.

Sr. Nancy was a member of the leadership council of her congregation from 2001-2011 and served as Treasurer of the congregation from 2001 to 2013. While in leadership she also served for six years as a member of the Board of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious and for two of those years on the Executive Committee.

She has been a canonical consultant to numerous leadership teams of religious institutes and a presenter of canonical topics at various conventions. She is



and attended seminary at Mount St. Mary’s of the West (in Cincinnati). His hobbies include smoking meat, golf, watching sports, practicing the saxophone, and touring bourbon distilleries.

presently a canonical consultant to individual religious, religious institutes (mainly cloistered communities) and bishops on religious law topics.

Sr. Nancy joined us to tell us her vocation story and talk about the founder of their order – Saint Mother Theodore Guerin.

### Her Vocation Journey

Sr. Nancy was born in 1942, the first of two daughters, to a non-Catholic family in Indianapolis. Her father insisted on a Catholic education because he felt the Catholic schools were better than the public schools. In grade school, one of the sisters convinced her family to have her baptized as a Catholic. Sr. Nancy was taught by the Sisters of Providence throughout all of grade school, high school, and college.

Since the family was not Catholic, they had a cab take her to a Catholic Church every Sunday for years.



She came to know the Serrans in Indianapolis when she was in the eighth grade, completing the Vocation Essay Contest. Although she didn't win anything, she's the only student in her class who took on a religious vocation.

After her father died around age 40, the family struggled financially; and Sr.

Nancy planned on going to work. She was a soda jerk in a Hooks Drug Store at age 14. However, a manager decided they needed someone not limited to the hours of a student; so, she was fired but rehired the next day when the replacement did not show up. She worked there until age 18.

As a child, Sr. Nancy said, "I loved the nuns," and how they lived in community. Immediately prior to going off to pharmacy school, she had a change of heart and entered the Sisters of Providence community on 9/12/60. She was a postulant for 11 months and a novice for two years, taking final vows in 1968. She's been with the order for 65 years.

In 1970, while teaching, she even went back to Hooks Drug Store hoping to study for pharmacy, earn an income for her order, and eventually be a

pharmacist for the order's nursing home. But those plans did not last.

The order once owned 11 high schools, including Providence High School in Clarksville; but the order eventually sold off the schools.

Sr. Nancy says the order has about one to three new entrants each year. When she joined the order, there were about 1,600 members. It's now around 165 members, of which 37 are at or above 90.

### St. Mother Theodore Guerin

Mother Theodore Guerin, born in 1798, was a member of the sisters of Providence in France when the Bishop of Vincennes, Indiana, requested help of the French in getting teachers. Six sisters were sent to Indiana, traveling by ship and stagecoach. The sisters moved in with a family that already had 10 children. And Mother Theodore Guerin led this group of sisters as they oversaw the building of convents and schools.

Mother Theodore became the founder of a new order of Sisters of Providence in the U.S.

Mother Theodore requested money from the King and Queen of France, who did provide needed funds. Many schools were built by the order in Indiana.

A feud broke out between the local bishop and Mother Theodore. He asked her to resign although he was the one at fault in the argument. Her order kept choosing her as their leader. Finally, the bishop was moved to Rome; and Mother Theodore carried on in her leadership role.

St. Mary of the Woods College, run by the Sisters of Providence, was the first liberal arts college in the U.S. Mother Theodore died in 1856 and is buried on the college grounds.

The process toward sainthood for Mother Theodore began in 1909. The order kept sending checks to the people doing the research, even though the postulator died. In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Pope St. John Paul II was seeking more saints. Mother Theodore was beatified in 1998 and canonized in 2006.

She always told her sisters, "Have confidence in providence that, so far, has never failed us."

The miracle for her beatification came about when one of the sisters was very ill with stomach cancer. She prayed one night to Mother Theodore and was found the next morning to no longer have cancer.

The second miracle, for sainthood, involved a non-Catholic worker for the sisters. He stopped and prayed

at her casket, in a building where he worked regularly, simply asking for courage to deal with surgery for an eye in which he was going blind. The next morning, he could see with that eye.

Having become a naturalized citizen, St. Mother Theodore Guerin is the eighth Saint from the U.S.

Also, Sr. Nancy was allowed to be a lector at the Mass of canonization for St. Mother Theodore Guerin.

For a more detailed summary of the life of St. Mother Theodore Guerin, click [here](#).

We want to thank Sr. Nancy Reynolds for her presentation.

*(Thanks, too, to Serran Jerry Zimmerer for the picture with this article.)*

### **MSGR. WILLIAM FAY, PH.D. SPOKE AT THE NATIONAL “SERRA MEETS” ON APRIL 20.**

**Monsignor William Fay**, PhD., is a Professor of Philosophy and Theology at [Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary](#) (which we’ll call PSJNS for purposes of this article) in Weston, MA, near Boston. He received the following credentials in his own education: Ph.D. from Catholic University of America; Ph.L. from Catholic University of America; M.A. in Theology and S.T.B. from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome; and a B.A. from PSJNS.

Ordained in 1974, Msgr. Fay has leveraged over five decades of excellence as a Catholic priest, serving as a professor and formator of older men for the priesthood

You can read more about Msgr. Fay [here](#).

#### **“The Genius and Necessity of Older Vocations to the Priesthood”**

This was the title Msgr. Fay chose for his presentation. He started by telling us that the PSJNS was founded in 1964, as the vision of Cardinal James Cushing of the Boston Archdiocese. The cardinal had suggested the idea, of a seminary for older seminarians, to Pope John XXIII, who gave permission for its development. The pope died in 1963 and when the seminary was finished it was named after that pope.

PSJNS has about 750 alumni. And it’s the only seminary in the U.S. devoted solely to the priesthood formation of older seminarians. It currently has about 40 seminarians; but Msgr. Fay says, ideally, they’d like to have 60.

Msgr. Fay reminded us that, except for St. John, Jesus chose seasoned men to be His Apostles. And that

was the norm for centuries. St. Augustine was not ordained until he was 36. With the development of universities around 1000 to 1200 AD, things began to change. With the Council of Trent in the 1500s, seminaries became the institutions we know today – with younger seminarians, mostly in their 20s. Today, seminarians in their 20s make up 65% to 70% of our seminarians. Those over 30 make up 25% to 35%.

Next, we were told of the advantages of older seminarians.

First, the obvious one - is that they are seasoned and settled.

Second, they have a wealth of life experience and understanding. They are practical, intellectual, and include a broad range of backgrounds – from blue collar to professionals like doctors, teachers, lawyers, businessmen, and Wall Street executives. They are supportive of each other.

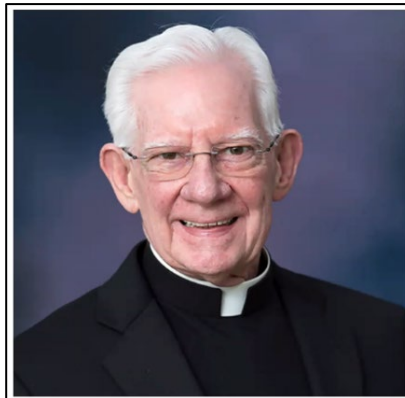
Third, they are more readily accepted by parishioners.

Fourth, they find that from PSJNS, 93% of the seminarians go on to be ordained; and of those, 94% remain priests until death. For younger seminarians, only about 50% become ordained.

Fifth, Msgr. Fay spoke of the permanent diaconate. When a permanent deacon loses a wife, he cannot remarry. Some, after raising children and becoming single, decide to go on to priesthood. They’ve had about a dozen go to PSJNS for that formation.

Of course, there are always challenges for older seminarians. They’re typically uprooting themselves from other careers. And if they’ve raised children, but are now divorced or widowed, they must be sure their children are ready to take care of themselves.

Msgr. Fay also spoke of the “imposter syndrome” – whereby people going into the priesthood later in life worry that “I really do not belong” or “Am I worthy?” or “Am I an imposter?” They do eventually get over this obstacle.



He suggests that if we know of a man over 30 who may be interested in the priesthood, we should encourage him. He needs to know that he's not alone; and there is a seminary just for men in his situation. Sometimes, that's all they need to hear to be encouraged. As Msgr. Fay puts it, "These men need to be in their own seminary."

For PSJNS, the minimum age is generally thought of as 30; but it really depends on the situation and the decision of the local bishop.

We wish to thank Msgr. William Fay for his time and his insights.

A video of the entire meeting, including the business portion of the meeting, can be found [here](#).

### **CHUCK LYNCH SPOKE ABOUT OUR OWN CLUB THE EVENING OF APRIL 20.**

The St. Serra Club of Louisville was one of only four clubs (out of 191 in the U.S.) given a **Siempre Adelante Award** (Spanish for "Always Forward") **Gold Certificate** early in 2026. It was presented at the annual U.S. Serra Rally in St. Louis in January. Those four clubs are each being asked to make a brief presentation at a monthly "Serra Meets" Zoom meeting to explain what makes their clubs unique.

Chuck, the President of our club, was asked to make the presentation.

A video of the entire meeting, including the business portion of the meeting, can be found [here](#). An outline of Chuck's presentation can be found [here](#).

### **UPDATE ON OUR SEMINARIANS**

**Evrard Muhoza** – In December of last year, Evrard completed his Master of Divinity from St. Meinrad (IN).

**Samuel Mattingly** -- In May of this year, Samuel will complete his Bachelor's in Philosophy from Sacred Heart Major Seminary (Detroit, MI)

**Trenton Thieneman** -- In May of last year, Trenton completed his Bachelor's in Philosophy (PhB) at The Catholic University of America (DC). And in May of this year, he completes his Licentiate in Philosophy (PhL), also at CUA.

Congratulations to our seminarians for their progress!

### **SAVE THESE DATES FOR SEMINARIAN ACTIVITIES**

#### **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 Thieneman, 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.

#### **Ordination to the Priesthood**

**Deacon Evrard Muhoza** is expected to be ordained a priest on Saturday, May 30. The Mass will be at the Cathedral of The Assumption, at 11 am, followed by a reception open to the public.

### **DEACONS CELEBRATING ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES**

Congratulations to our Deacons celebrating ordination anniversaries for May. The asterisk (\*) indicates "Retired."

**HARRIS, PATRICK D. "Pat", 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](#).

### **SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**

Happy Birthday to one of our seminarians this month:

**JONATHAN HEITKEMPER – May 5**  
**EMERSON WELLS – May 6**  
**DEACON DAVIS VEST – May 8**  
**PETER BIFONE – May 8**

(continued on page 9)

## **PRIESTS CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES**

Congratulations to our priests celebrating anniversaries of ordination in May. We include here any priests, from religious orders and other dioceses, who are working in our archdiocese. Asterisk (\*) indicates "Retired."

**BARNELL, ROBERT D.**, 5/26/18, 8 yrs / **BATCHELDOR, REV. C. JOSEPH\***, 5/25/57, 69 yrs / **BEACH, VERY REV. R. PAUL**, 5/19/01, **25 yrs** / **BOWLING, REV. WILLIAM M.**, 5/24/97, 29 yrs / **BRADSHAW, REV. TERRY L.\***, 5/31/80, 46 yrs / **BREEN, REV. BERNARD J.\***, 5/27/72, 54 yrs / **BROWN, REV. BEN J.**, 5/25/74, 52 yrs / **BROWN, REV. NICHOLAS J.**, 5/25/13, 13 yrs / **BRYAN, REV. KEVIN J.\***, 5/29/76, **50 yrs** / **BUCALO, REV. PETER**, 5/30/15, 11 yrs / **BURKE, REV. JOHN R.\***, 5/27/72, 54 yrs / **BURKS, REV. WILLIAM P.**, 5/24/86, **40 yrs** / **CALVANO, O.P., REV. BARTHOLOMEW**, 5/21/22, 4 yrs / **CARR, REV. DAVID J.**, 5/26/12, 14 yrs / **CECIL, REV. ANTHONY L., JR.**, 5/25/19, 7 yrs / **CHANDLER, VERY REV. ANTHONY L.**, 5/27/89, 37 yrs / **CIESLIK, REV. ROBERT DALE\***, 5/22/82, 44 yrs / **CLARK, REV. THOMAS R.\***, 5/26/62, 64 yrs / **COCKSON, REV. DAVID A.\***, 5/31/14, 12 yrs / **COUSENS, REV. DENNIS L.\***, 5/28/77, 49 yrs / **CZAJA, C.P., REV. BLAISE**, 5/23/64, 62 yrs / **CREWS, REV. CLYDE F.\***, 5/26/73, 53 yrs / **DAVIS, REV. GARY G.\***, 5/24/75, 51 yrs / **DELAHANTY, REV. PATRICK D.\***, 5/17/69, 57 yrs / **DENGLER, REV. PIER GIORGIO, O.P.**, 5/19/18, 8 yrs / **DETOMA, REV. BRANDON T.**, 5/26/18, 8 yrs / **DITMEIER, REV. CHARLES R.\***, 5/16/70, 56 yrs / **DO, REV. TUNG M. "TOAN"**, 5/22/04, 22 yrs / **DOLAN, REV. PATRICK J.\***, 5/27/78, 48 yrs / **DOMHOFF, REV. RONALD J.\***, 5/27/72, 54 yrs / **DUVALL, REV. SHAYNE R.**, 5/30/15, 11 yrs / **EIFLER, REV. JOHN G.\***, 5/27/61, **65 yrs** / **ELLIOTT, REV. TRUMIE C.\***, 5/28/88, 38 yrs / **ERICKSON, VERY REV. PHILIP L.**, 5/27/95, 31 yrs / **EVE, REV. PAUL W.\***, 5/22/82, 44 yrs / **FARRELL, REV. DAVID JOSEPH**, 5/26/18, 8 yrs / **FERNANDEZ, REV. L. WILFREDO**, 5/28/16, **10 yrs** / **FORTENER, REV. KENNETH R.\***, 5/17/69, 57 yrs / **GELTHAUS, REV. HARRY J.\***, 5/25/85, 41 yrs / **GENTILE, REV. THOMAS E.\***, 5/26/73, 53 yrs / **GRAF, REV. JAMES W.\***, 5/27/72, 54 yrs / **GRAFFIS, REV. JOSEPH T.\***, 5/29/71, **55 yrs** / **HACKETT, REV. JAMES F.\***, 5/18/68, 58 yrs / **HAMMER, REV. WILLIAM D.**, 5/24/80, 46 yrs / **HARDESTY, REV. MATTHEW T.**, 5/28/11, **15 yrs** / **HARRIS, REV. J. JASON**, 5/30/15, 11 yrs / **HARTMAN, O.P., REV. NICHOLAS J.**, 5/20/23, 3 yrs / **HEMMERLE, REVEREND R. JOSEPH\***, 5/20/67, 59 yrs / **HOANG, O.P., REV. JOHN BAPTIST**, 5/21/16, **10 yrs** / **HOPPER, REV. JEFFREY G.**, 5/27/06, **20 yrs** / **HUNGERFORD, REV. JUSTIN**, 5/21/22, 4 yrs / **JENKINS, REV. J. WAYNE\***, 5/27/72, 54 yrs / **JUDD, O.P., REV. AUGUSTINE**, 5/24/96, **30 yrs** / **KENNEY, O.P., REV. JOACHIM**, 5/20/17, 9 yrs / **KILCOURSE, REV. GEORGE A.\***, 5/29/76, **50 yrs** / **KLOTTER, VERY REV. FREDERICK W.**, 5/25/96, **30 yrs** / **KNOTT, REV. J. RONALD\***, 5/16/70, 56 yrs / **LANGFORD, REV. TERRY L.\***, 5/25/96, **30 yrs** / **LEGER, REV. JEFFREY P.**, 5/24/97, 29 yrs / **LINCOLN, REV. DANIEL L.\***, 5/19/84, 42 yrs / **LINEBACH, VERY REV. MARTIN A.**, 5/30/87, 39 yrs / **LUBECKE, VERY REV. CHRISTOPHER B.**, 5/25/13, 13 yrs / **MARTIN, REV. MICHAEL C.**, 5/27/17, 9 yrs / **MARTINY, O.P., REV. L. MARTIN**, 5/22/98, 28 yrs / **MCDOWELL, REV. COLE**, 5/31/25, 1 yr / **MOUSER, REV. JOSEPH IRVIN\***, 5/8/65, 61 yrs / **MUDD, REV. JAMES T.\***, 5/23/64, 62 yrs / **NELSON, C.P., REV. JUSTIN**, 5/7/00, 26 yrs / **NGO, REV. ANTHONY C.**, 5/17/94, 32 yrs / **NGUYEN, REV. QUAN**, 5/29/21, **5 yrs** / **PETRI, O.P. REV. THOMAS**, 5/29/09, 17 yrs / **PHAM, REV. LOI**, 5/29/21, **5 yrs** / **RAY, REV. ROBERT E.\***, 5/17/69, 57 yrs / **REEVES, REV. STEVEN**, 5/25/19, 7 yrs / **REINHART, REV. JAMES M.\***, 5/29/10, 16 yrs / **RHODES, REV. CHRISTOPHER S.**, 5/26/12, 14 yrs / **RUST, REV. KIRBY B.**, 5/25/19, 7 yrs / **SANDERS, REV. M. CASEY**, 5/27/17, 9 yrs / **SCAGLIONE, REV. PAUL A.\***, 5/26/73, 53 yrs / **SEXTON, O.P., REV. ZACHARY**, 5/20/23, 3 yrs / **SMITH, REV. T. ANTHONY\***, 5/28/83, 43 yrs / **SPALDING, REV. LEON C.\***, 5/23/59, 67 yrs / **STUEMPEL, REV. ROBERT L.\***, 5/24/75, 51 yrs / **SULLIVAN, REV. J. RICHARD\***, 5/28/77, 49 yrs / **THOMSON, O.P., REV. RICHARD**, 5/24/69, 57 yrs / **TIMOTHY, O.P., VERY REV. BERNARD**, 5/24/13, 13 yrs / **VU, REV. MINH D.**, 5/26/18, 8 yrs / **WALKER, REV. CHARLES D.**, 5/30/81, **45 yrs** / **WALLING, C.P.M., REV. JAMES**, 5/31/01, **25 yrs** / **WEISS, C.P., REV. ROBERT**, 5/8/65, 61 yrs / **WHELAN, REV. DANIEL**, 5/22/04, 22 yrs / **WIMSATT, VERY REV. MICHAEL T.**, 5/29/10, 16 yrs / **WIMSETT, VERY REV. SCOTT J.**, 5/28/88, 38 yrs / **YOUNG, C.R., REV. GARY**, 5/22/76, **50 yrs** / **ZETTEL, REV. DAVID H.\***, 5/14/66, **60 yrs**

(A list of all our diocesan priests can be found [here](#). A list of our other priests can be found [here](#).)

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.)

**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.

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.**

## **ANNOUNCING THE NEW SLATE OF CLUB OFFICERS**

There will be an election of officers at the June 1 meeting. We need a quorum to elect officers. So, please attend if possible.

The slate of officers: **Chuck Lynch** - President & VP of Communications; **Bob Hublar** – Secretary and VP of Vocations; **Charlie Francesconi** -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:

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!

## **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.

## **CHAPLAIN FR. PAT DOLAN'S BOOKS**

The Chaplain of our club is Fr. Pat Dolan, who has written several books. His four-part series, "*Traces of Magic*" is being marketed again through the following links.

Book I – [Magic in the Valley](#)

Book II – [The Curse of the Spell Book](#)

Book III – [Completing the Circle](#)

Book IV - [Healing Down to the Roots](#)

## **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.



**Twenty-one parishes and schools** chose to participate this year; and Altar Server Awards were given to **131 graduating**

**eighth grade servers.**

Please check them out and ask others to look at these descriptions. They've been used with a lot of young people and are likened to the Harry Potter series of books.

**"Four things we should pray for regarding our seminarians - that they learn discipline, sacrifice, humility, and a willingness to suffer."  
- Fr. Martin A. Linebach,  
Vocation Director**

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

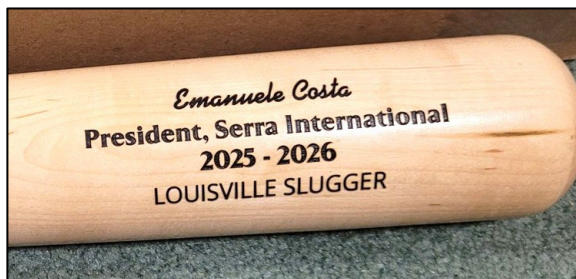
"The Crossroads of America" event will be Serra's 83rd International Convention, to be held July 9-12, 2026. To learn more about the convention, how to register, the schedule of sessions, and how to reserve a hotel room, check out the details [here](#).

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

The Pope's message for the April 26 WDPV was released too late to be in our last newsletter. It can be found [here](#). An article summarizing that message can be read [here](#).

**LOUISVILLE SLUGGER BAT FOR SERRA INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT EMANUELE COSTA**

When Mr. Emanuele Costa, President of Serra International, visited our club on March 13, we



promised him a Louisville Slugger bat. Here are pictures of the bat we delivered to him.

**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 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](#)

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

"She is clothed with strength and dignity, and laughs at the days to come. She opens her mouth in wisdom; kindly instruction is on her tongue."  
(Proverbs 31:25-26)

**VOCATIONS IN THE NEWS**

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**Record numbers of prospective US military chaplains attend discernment retreat.** Read the article [here](#).

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(continued on page 12)



# Help your new college students CONNECT to their Catholic campus faith communities



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!***

College or university campus ministries often do not have data to know which new students are Catholic, so they often have no way to individually reach out to new students to invite them to their Masses and campus ministry activities.

## 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 info 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 info passed onto 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 info and resources to help your graduating high school seniors at <https://www.newmanministry.com/highschool#CTA-Forms>.

This initiative is  
sponsored by:

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

Archdiocese of Louisville's Office of  
Youth & Young Adults  
Jonna O'Bryan 502-636-0296 ext 1204  
[JObryan@archlou.org](mailto:JObryan@archlou.org)

**Priest Ordination Class of 2026** – USCCB survey by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate – Read the April report [here](#). Executive summary is only 2.5 pages long. A summary of the report can be found in [this article](#).

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**Why grooms need strong portraits too** – Read the article [here](#).

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**Co-founder who united Franciscans, Dominicans dies on Easter**. Read the article [here](#).

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**Is a priest removed from life’s realities? Here’s my answer. Read the article here.** Read the article [here](#).

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**Meet the Viral Catholic Nuns Lifting the Veil on Life and Faith.** Read the article [here](#).

### **ON HOLINESS AND SPIRITUALITY**

The third part of the Serran mission statement is to further the holiness of our members. Here is some good reading to help us all:

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**The Call to Lay Ministry: Insights From Dr. F. DeKarlos Blackmon** – Watch the 5-minute video [here](#).

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**Five Spiritual Lessons from Severe Pain** – Read the article [here](#).

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**Stations of the Cross for the slothful** – read them [here](#).

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**"God does not define himself as "justice"; he defines himself as love.** ... And Saint Teresa of Lisieux, Doctor of the Church, raises our expectations by teaching us to love the love that is mercy." - from the book "First Steps of the Little Way of Saint Therese of Lisieux." Read the free, brief e-book [here](#).

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**The small wins that fuel lasting motivation** – Read the article [here](#).

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**Loves Abound** – Read the article [here](#).

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**QUOTE** – “We must sacrifice everything for everything: our ambitions, indeed our entire selves, for the

cause of the Faith.” – St. Pier Giorgio Frassati (canonized 9/7/25)

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**Holy Spirit, rekindle in our priests the joy of the Gospel. Grant them healthy friendships, networks of fraternal support, a sense of humor when things don’t go as expected, and the grace to always rediscover the beauty of their vocation.**

Pope Leo XIV’s prayer for priests in crisis

### **VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST**

#### **Serran Birthdays this month:**

Chaplain Fr. Martin Linebach, May 9

Tom Kennedy, May 10      Thom Barnell, May 13

Deacon Craig Roberts - May 17

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**Pope’s Prayer Intention for the month of **May**** – **That Everyone Might Have Food** - Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

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**The St. Serra Club of Louisville was chartered May 22 of 1955 – 71 years ago this month!**

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## **OUR CHARISM IS TO PRAY FOR VOCATIONS.**

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

Newsletter comments, questions, or submissions?  
Contact Chuck Lynch writer/editor at  
(502) 442-9302 or [ChuckLynch4782@gmail.com](mailto:ChuckLynch4782@gmail.com)