



Club chartered May 22, 1955

Saint Serra Club of Louisville VOCATION DIGEST

"Always Forward, Never Back"
- Saint Junipero Serra

August, 2026
Newsletter

MISSION:

To foster and promote
vocations to the priesthood,
diaconate, and consecrated
religious life.

SERRAN MARY MEANS TURNED 100 YEARS OLD IN JULY!



We were all so excited for Mary's special celebration! And we flooded her mail with birthday cards from the members of the St. Serra Club of Louisville! Mary, a retired musician, has played piano and organ since she was a child. We really miss hearing her music. And we are so proud of Mary for all she's accomplished! Mary, we love you!

Fr. Millay will be responsible for discerners who are considering entering the seminary and for promoting vocations to the priesthood in the archdiocese. He will continue to serve as administrator of the Church of the Ascension.

Fr. Reeves will be responsible for the seminarians in formation for the archdiocese. He will continue as pastor of St. Lawrence Church and chaplain of Holy Cross High School.

They will share in promoting vocations to consecrated religious life.

JULY 1 MEETING ON ST. SERRA'S FEAST DAY

We had an 11 am Mass at Holy Family's Chapel and then had a lunch at the Saffin Center at Holy Family Parish. This was to celebrate the U.S. feast day of St. Junipero Serra and to install the newly elected slate of officers: **Chuck Lynch** - President & VP of Communications; **Bob Hublar** - Secretary & VP of Vocations; **Charlie Francesconi** - Treasurer; **Lynn Haner** - VP of Membership; **Melody Denson** - VP of Programs; **Ken Peet** - VP of Cultural Outreach and President Elect. The Trustees - **Debbie Farmer**, **Kevin Thieneman**, **Lincoln Lewis**, and **Sam Willett**. We thank all our volunteers!

At the Mass, Fr. Pat Dolan, our Chaplain had chosen special readings for feast days of missionaries. He also spoke of our club mission and St. Serra's life ministering to the Native Americans in what is now California, and the origins of Serra International in Seattle.

During the lunch that day we gave 10-year pins to those Serrans celebrating this year the 10th anniversary of becoming Serrans: **Debbie Farmer**, **Don Buckler**, and **Paul Koprucki**. We also gave out pins for our Chaplain **Fr. Pat Dolan** and our Assistant Chaplain

FROM THE VOCATION OFFICE



Starting July 1, 2026, there is new leadership in the Vocation Office of the Archdiocese of Louisville. Fr. Matthew Millay is the Vocation Director and Fr. Steven Reeves is the Director of Seminarians.

Fr. Jeff Hopper. People who were not present to receive pins will get them at a later meeting.



Installation Ceremony during the Mass. Officers and Trustees from left to right – Lincoln Lewis, Melody Denson, Bob Hublar, Lynn Haner, Sam Willett, Charlie Francesconi, Ken Peet, Chuck Lynch, Debbie Farmer. Absent was Kevin Thieneman.

Retiring from 16 years in the position of Treasurer, **Jerry Gonsoski** was presented with a book, [“Junipero Serra, Pioneer, Missionary, Saint”](#) by Agnes Repplier.

We also acknowledged Past Presidents who are still members of the club, and the number of years they were president: **Charlie Francesconi** (2 years), **Jim Williams** (2 years), **Ralph Williams** (3 years), **Theresa Fiedler** (3 years), and **Bob Hublar** (11 years).

We noted the members of the Vocation Office in attendance: **Fr. Martin Linebach**, whose last day with that office was June 30; **Todd Popson**, the Associate Director of Vocations; and **Vanessa Haulk**, whose last day with that office was also June 30.

Fr. Martin Linebach spoke for a few minutes about his retirement. He spoke highly of his fellow Vocation Office staff and said he'll be helping out as Chaplain at



Immaculata Classical Academy. He's always enjoyed being at parishes where there was a school. And he'll also be helping out at St. Bernadette Parish.

His home is now in Bull Run Town Homes; and as a kid he spent time on the farm that is

now where this residential area was built. It was at that farm that he watched bulls and fed them grass.

Fr. Martin says he still hopes to be able to influence vocations. He also said that our archdiocese would not be where it is today were it not for the prayers of the St. Serra Club of Louisville.

As a token of our appreciation for Fr. Martin's leading of the vocation office we gave him a lectionary for the chapel in his home. Fr. Martin, we wish you well in the next part of your vocation journey.

CHUCK LYNCH SPOKE ON EDUCATING VOCATION MINISTERS

At the July 1 meeting, Chuck Lynch, President of the club, spoke on training Parish Vocation Ministers.

We had an IGNITE Workshop in 2023. However, when we tried to organize one in 2025, we had to cancel the workshop due to a lack of attendees. But we met with a couple of parishes that had recruited volunteers. These 90-minute workshops led us to conclude that when we don't get enough parishes to justify a full blown IGNITE Workshop, we can still educate Vocation Ministers.

Chuck said that there are two types of handouts for these meetings – things to simply leave behind, and things we go over during our 90-minute session.

Things we go over during the workshop include [“The 7 Greats”](#) on the seven most popular of the [31 SPARK tools](#). We go over the outline of [Parish Vocation Ministry Ideas](#), which is on our [club's website](#).

The items to leave behind with the attendees include the history of St. Serra and Serra International; the history of the St. Serra Club of Louisville; the [article](#) about our club getting the Siempre Adelante Gold Certificate Award; a brochure for the homebound (which includes a prayer for vocations); information on what makes our club unique; and our Friends of Serra flyer.

For the pastors, we leave behind Challenge Coins, the book “Five Conversations About the Priesthood” by author Fr. Michael Pratt; a one-page write-up that can be read in lieu of that book; and pages to answer a pastor's questions about Parish Vocation Ministry.

In these workshops, we emphasize many things, including trying not to be a burden on our pastors; giving them minutes of quarterly meetings; sharing those minutes with the principal, parish council chairperson and others; and not spending parish funds without permission.

Anyone wanting a copy of the handout for this meeting should contact Chuck Lynch at ChuckLynch4782@gmail.com.

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.

AUG 3 (1st Mon) – No meeting due to the 8/10 Seminarian Luncheon.

AUG 10 (Mon) – **Seminarian Lunch** – 11:30 at Pastoral Center Conference Room. Members only.

AUG 10 (2nd Mon) – **Zoom Rosary for Vocations**, 7 pm. See the separate article for details.

AUG 12 (2nd Wed) – **Holy Hour for Vocations** – after the Noon Mass at St. Margaret Mary.

AUG 17 (3rd Mon) -**Mother Mary Richard, lsp**, will speak on her vocation journey.

AUG 17 (3rd Mon) - **“Serra Meets”** by Zoom – 8 pm Louisville time. Click [here](#) for details.

AUG 25 (Tue) - 11:45 - **Serra Board Meeting** - St. Margaret Mary Spirituality Center.

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

THE SERRA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION WAS HELD IN INDIANAPOLIS THIS YEAR.

We had a great convention from July 8 – 12. Here are some highlights.

The theme of the Convention was **“Encountering Christ.”** There were about 200 representatives from around 10 countries. These 10 countries included the U.S., Canada, Scotland, Switzerland, Philippines, Nigeria, India, Italy, and Australia.

Serra International (SI) **President Emanuele Costa**’s term ended during this meeting, with the election of our new **President Margo Geddie**.

"A vocation is not a fixed point, but a dynamic process of maturation sustained by intimacy with our Lord." - Pope Leo XIV

We were blessed to have retired **Cardinal Thomas Collins**, our **SI Episcopal Advisor** from Toronto, speak and celebrate Mass with us.



SI former President Emanuele Costa congratulates the incoming President Margo Geddie.

We also attended a Mass celebrated by the **Indianapolis Archbishop Charles Thompson** (originally from Louisville). He welcomed all of us and provided a great homily!

The Eucharistic Adoration room used a mon-

strance that is over three feet tall and blessed by Pope Benedict XVI!

The Membership Portal (currently called **Club Express**) is to be replaced, probably by the end of August. It is called **Razor’s Edge**.

Our Louisville club was recognized for its members collectively making donations of \$1,000 to \$1,999 to the **Serra International Foundation**



(SIF) in the last year. This is called the **Banner Award**.

In addition to promoting and affirming vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated religious life, we will also add the permanent diaconate to that list. (Serra was started prior to Vatican II, which brought back the permanent diaconate.)

You can watch videos of most all the speakers [here](#). (Breakout Sessions were not recorded.)

President Chuck Lynch will be sharing an outline of more highlights for the Louisville Club members very soon.

SEMINARIAN AMOS STINSON SPOKE AT OUR JULY 20 MEETING.

About our speaker

Seminarian Amos Stinson spoke on his vocation journey at our July 20 meeting. He has lived in Louisville his whole life. Age 31, he's the oldest of three boys, and a parishioner from St. Louis Bertrand Parish. He graduated from Trinity High School in 2013 and from the University of Louisville in 2017 with a degree in finance. Prior to entering seminary (January 2024), he worked in the roofing industry as an Estimator and Sales Manager for nine years. This fall, he will be entering his fourth year of seminary at the Theological College at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

His Presentation

Amos grew up attending St. Patrick Parish and St. Martin of Tours Parish, where he learned how to be an altar server. Amos was around age 19 or 20 before he first considered the priesthood. After Trinity High School he spent a year and a half at Centre College. He wasn't deep into his faith at that time and even drifted away from it. He moved back to Louisville and worked in the roofing business while going to U of L.

His girlfriend, who was not a Catholic, asked questions about Catholicism; so, he started studying it more, with the help of CDs, online materials, and books; and he began to grow more in his faith. He experienced small promptings to consider priesthood but did not take the promptings very seriously.

Amos said that at that time he could not see himself ever giving a homily in front of a large crowd. However, while at Mass one day, when he was around 23, he saw a visiting priest, newly ordained, from another diocese. The priest was very nervous, but persevered. And Amos said the Mass was a beautiful liturgy. That experience had a profound impact on Amos.

In 2021, when Amos was 26, his father died suddenly and unexpectedly. This changed the life of him, his mother, and his two younger brothers, who were no longer living at home. Amos moved back in with his mother to help her out.

A year and a half later, Amos met a young woman and proposed to her. During their engagement, he felt a strong call that he could be a priest. He had many thoughts and questions running through his mind – should he proceed with the wedding or discern the priesthood? Why was God hitting him with these thoughts now? He even asked, “God, let me know if this is your will.” He talked with his fiancé about it all and spoke with a few priests about it. Finally, he de-

cided to break off the engagement. He spoke with the vocations director, Fr. Martin Linebach, all about seminary life and even spent the summer with him, discerning whether to go to seminary.

When Amos decided to make this leap to go to the seminary, his mother and brothers were very supportive. In January of 2024, he entered seminary at Theological College at Catholic University of America in Washington D.C.



Answering some questions, Amos told us that this fall, our archdiocese will have 11 young men in D.C. at Catholic University. He also said that when the archbishop decides where to send a seminarian, he considers many factors in choosing what seems to be the best fit. Our archdiocese currently uses about five seminaries.

Amos also said that his biggest adjustment to seminary life, after nine years in the secular world, has been allowing people to pay for his meals, clothes, etc., since he had always been self-sufficient after finishing U of L in 2017. He also spoke of liking the freedom he has at Theological College - taking classes at CUA; and interacting with other non-diocesan seminarians at TC (e.g., Franciscans and Carmelites).

In response to other comments, Amos said, “God will use all your experience for the good.” And since he made the decision to go into the seminary, he said he’s “had no doubts.”

Asked about the coming semester, Amos said he’s looking forward to studying the four pillars of formation – intellectual, pastoral, spiritual, and human. He will probably be teaching OCIA at CUA and expects that next summer he may be doing hospital ministry in Louisville. He’s looking forward to getting on with his classes, especially studying Scriptures.

We want to thank Amos Stinson for his time telling us about his vocation journey!

(Thanks, too, to Ken Peet for the pictures with this article.)

THE MONTHLY “SERRA MEETS” WAS HELD BY ZOOM ON JULY 20

About Our Speaker

When Parents of Vocations founder, **Deacon Thomas Kissel**, first became aware of his daughter's decision to pursue religious life, he had no idea how her decision and vocation would ultimately become his vocation as well – primarily because of how her new life would forever change how often and for how long he would be able to see his only daughter. (He also has one son.) As excited as Tom was for his daughter, the reality of letting go to such an extent was heart-wrenching.



The mission of **Parents of Vocations** is to bring together parents with a child who is pursuing (or has already entered) a religious vocation (male or female, diocesan priests or religious orders). The group allows these parents to ad-

dress some of the initial questions that pertain to ALL such parents and offers a way to engage other parents in similar circumstances.

Deacon Tom and his wife Patty (married for 36 years) are members of St. Pius X Parish in Edgewood, KY – part of the Diocese of Covington, KY. He has been a member of the Serra Club of Covington since 2023 and was ordained to the permanent diaconate on 5/3/25.

He also volunteers with **The Labouré Society**, which assists young adults whose college debt is keeping them from pursuing a religious vocation.

His Presentation

Deacon Tom Kissel's topic was entitled **“Uniquely Blessed: The Journey of Walking with One's Child in Religious Vocation.”**

When Deacon Tom, and his wife Patty, first learned that their daughter Lauren was going to enter an order of religious sisters in Alton, IL, he was proud of his daughter's courage. At the same time, he learned that he and his wife would be very restricted in how long and when they would get to visit their daughter, because she was joining the Sisters of St. Francis the Martyr St. George (FSGM). When she entered the order, she was 20 years old and Deacon Tom was 50.

This order only allows the parents to visit their daughter two weekends per year – spring and fall. And their daughter gets to come home to visit them for 10 days once every two years.

Despite Deacon Tom's anxiety about the restrictions, he could see calm in the face of his daughter. He and his wife were fully supportive of their daughter's decision.

Their daughter joined FSGM in September of 2011. Deacon Tom searched for information on how all of this should impact parents but found very little information; and most of what he found pertained to parents of seminarians and priests.

Eventually Deacon Tom decided to organize his own group of similarly situated parents in an online Facebook group. He also developed a website for this purpose. He felt it was his own calling from God to organize all these parents.

Deacon Tom described the growth of the Facebook group, which now includes parents from across the United States and around the world. He spoke of the group as “by parents, for parents.” They also see their mission as supporting religious communities and helping to build a culture of vocations in the U.S.

The group now includes parents of women in about 50 different religious orders, parents of men in about 30 different religious orders, and parents of men (seminarians and priests) who are with 23 dioceses. Thirty-five percent of the parents in this group have sons or daughters who have chosen cloistered or monastic life.

He explained the different scenarios parents face, including varying levels of support from their children's religious communities and the impact on family dynamics.

He emphasized the importance of parents supporting their children's vocations and the challenges of adjusting to the changes in family life. However, he says that there is a lot of pressure on discerners (from parents

He mentioned the societal pressures on religious vocations and the importance of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration in supporting vocations.

Deacon Tom explained that he eventually became a deacon after his daughter entered religious life and has been involved in vocation ministry now for 15 years.

We want to thank Deacon Tom Kissel for his presentation and for organizing this very unique group of parents. Every vocation director needs to be aware of this supportive group.

You can view the entire presentation, including the business portion of the meeting, at the Serra International YouTube channel [here](#).

**COLLECTION FOR
TANZANIAN SEMINARIANS**

As in the last two years, with the help of Fr. John Judie Ministries, Inc., we have forwarded funds collected from the members of our club to support seminarians in the **Tunduru-Masasi Diocese of Tanzania** headed by **Bishop Filbert Mhasi**.



We are doing so again this year. For more on this project, you can read the articles on page 6 of our September 2024 newsletter [here](#) and page 12 of our August 2025 newsletter [here](#).

**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. The asterisk (*) indicates “Retired.”

- FABRE, ARCHBISHOP SHELTON, 8/5/89, 37 yrs**
- HAMILTON, REV. MARK M., 8/6/94, 32 yrs**
- HERNÁNDEZ, REV. PABLO A., 8/12/06, 20 yrs**
- JOHNSON, REV. JOHN R. *, 8/27/11, 15 yrs**
- JUDIE, REV. JOHN T. *, 8/1/87, 39 yrs**
- MEIMAN, REV. LOUIS J., 8/1/87, 39 yrs**
- MUWONGE, REV. EXPEDITO, 8/20/89, 37 yrs**
- NICOLAS, REV. JEFFREY S., 8/7/93, 33 yrs**
- RANKIN, REV. JOSEPH M. *, 8/4/79, 47 yrs**
- SSAMBA, A.J., REV. DEOGRATIAS, 8/21/10, 16 yrs**

TOBIN, REV. T. MICHAEL, 8/7/93, 33 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](#).

ON THE VOCATION OF MARRIAGE

After losing his wife of 63 years, Catholic professor offers profound response on what true love entails – Read the article [here](#).

Annual Anniversary Mass for married couples will be celebrated August 29. Read the article in The Record [here](#).

**SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAYS THIS
MONTH**

Happy Birthday to one seminarian celebrating a birthday this month:
THANH PHAN – August 5

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.)

**JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY
“ZOOM 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.

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.

Vocation Ministry has some resources for parishes. See the link [here](#).

Our club has Parish Vocation Ministry Ideas on our website [here](#).

SPARK Tools can be found [here](#).

(continued on page 10)

DEACONS CELEBRATING ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST

Congratulations to our Deacons celebrating ordination anniversaries this month.

The asterisk (*) indicates Retired. The names of the wives of deacons are in parentheses.

ABELL, JAMES H.* (MARY JO), 8/28/93, 33 yrs / **AGE, STEPHEN A.** (SHANNON), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **AUFFREY, TODD C.** (ELIZABETH), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **AYERS, TIMOTHY B.***, 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **BABIN, JEREMIAH S.*** (SUSIE), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **BAKER, EARL** (ELLEN), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **BARNES, DERRICK A.** (MISTIANNA), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **BARTLEY, RALPH E.*** (JANE), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **BEAVIN, GREGORY A.** (SHIRLEY), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **BECKMANN, CHARLES B.***, 8/28/99, 27 yrs / **BELL, KENNETH**, 8/28/99, 27 yrs / **BENT, CHARLES "CHUCK"** (CYNDI), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **BERGHAUSEN, IV, EDWARD J. "NED"** (KATHERINE BULINSKI), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **BISIG, SR., DANIEL G.**, 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **BLAND, JOSEPH E.*** (VIRGINIA), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **BOWLING, T. STEPHEN** (SUSAN), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **BROWN, ANTHONY T.** (NAOMI MARIE), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **BROWN, CHARLES K.*** (FRAN), 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **BRYANT, ROBERT C.***, 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **BUEHNER, JEROME L.*** (CONNIE), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **BURCHETT, K. MICHAEL*** (CAROL), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **BUSH, R. BRYAN** (JENNIFER), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **CALVERT, JOSEPH D.** (BERTA), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **CARTER, KENNETH J.** (LINDA), 8/28/99, 27 yrs / **CARUSO, LUCIO A.** (THERESE), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **CARUSO, ROBERT R.*** (KIM), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **CECIL, JAMES A.*** (PEGGY), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **CLARK, GEORGE B.**, 8/22/87, 39 yrs / **CLARK, WILLIAM V.** (NICKI), 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **COOPER, ERNEST A.***, 8/22/87, 39 yrs / **COTTRELL, FRANK E.*** (ELLY), 8/24/02, 24 yrs / **COULTER, W. DONALD**, 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **CREELY III, JOSEPH J. "JIM"** (ELLEN), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **DACHILLE, NICHOLAS G.** (CAROLYN), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **DALTON, DAVID L.*** (KAYE), 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **DANT, JOSEPH R.** (LINDA), 8/18/90, 36 yrs / **DAPONTE, STEPHEN J.** (LYNDA), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **DOWNS, WILLIAM ARNOLD*** (LINDA), 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **DRERUP, KARL A.** (PAT), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **DUGAN, LOUIS B.*** (JOANN), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **EDWARDS, MICHAEL L.**, 8/28/82, 44 yrs / **FAGAN, RICHARD J.** (JULIE), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **FAHRINGER, CARL A.***, 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **FELLONNEAU, JOHN M.** (KELLY), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **FITZMAYER, MICHAEL J.***, 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **FROEHLICH, JOHN G.** (HELEN), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **GITSCHIER, GREGORY M.** (TRACY), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **GIULITTO, DEAN R.** (MAY), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **GRANT, JR., JOHN A.** (KIM), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **HALL, ROBERT C.*** (CHERI), 8/28/99, 27 yrs / **HANER, SCOTT R.** (JOANN), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **HART, ROBERT J.** (KATHY), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **HASSON, ANTHONY P. (TONY)*** (JUDY), 8/20/77, 49 yrs / **HEDGES, SCOTT T.** (BETH), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **HEIL, STEPHEN A. "STEVE"** (SUSAN), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **HEINSOHN, J. ANDREW** (JOAN), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **HERBERT, CHRISTOPHER J. "CHRIS"** (LESLIE), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **HETTICH, PHILIP L.***, 8/28/99, 27 yrs / **JOHNSON, W. TIMOTHY** (TRACY), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **JONES, J. MICHAEL*** (DEBBIE), 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **KELLEY, MARK D.** (JULIE), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** /

KELLY, CHRISTOPHER (LAURIE), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **KING, SAMUEL J.** (SHEILA), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **KINSELLA, BRENDAN E.***, 8/28/99, 27 yrs / **KLINGLESMTIH, GREGORY L.** (PAT), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **KLUMP, WILLIAM R.** (BARBARA), 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **KOENIG, JOHN C.** (DONNA), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **KORFHAGE, DOUGLAS B.** (PATTY), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **KRAMER, JAMES P.** (KELLY), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **LISH, CRAIG T.** (JULIA), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **MAGUIRE, TERRY W.***, 8/24/02, 24 yrs / **MAHER, JOHN P.*** (CAROLYN), 8/17/96, **30 yrs** / **MARKS, EDWARD M.** "TED" (THERESA), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **MASTERSON, DONALD E.***, 8/21/76, **50 yrs** / **MATTINGLY, GERALD J.*** (MARY JO), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **MAXWELL, DAVID S.** (ANGELA), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **MCCARTY, JAMES M.** (EMILY), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **MCDONELL, CHRISTOPHER F.** (MELANI), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **MCGINTY, DAVID L.***, 8/22/87, 39 yrs / **MCGOFF, JAMES I.*** (CAROL), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **MCKENZIE, KEITH L.** (CATHY), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **MCNALLY, THOMAS M.*** (MARYSUE), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **MITCHELL, KENNETH J.**, 8/28/93, 33 yrs / **MOBLEY, III, JOSEPH V.** "TREY" (KAREN SHEETS-MOBLEY), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **MOORE, JOSEPH F.** (SANDY), 8/21/10, 16 yrs / **MURPHY, MICHAEL J.*** (BETH), 8/28/99, 27 yrs / **NASH, DENNIS M.** "DENNY" (TERESA), 8/25/12, 14 yrs / **NIEMEIER, WILLIAM H.*** (BEV), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **NOLTEMEYER, PHILLIP L.*** (ALICE), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **OLRICH, JAMES C.*** (BEV), 8/21/76, **50 yrs** / **PERKINS, RANDALL K.** "RANDY" (COLLEEN), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **PREISCHEL, MARK A.** (HOLLY), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **PUGA, AURELIO A.** (WANDA), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **RAIBERT, JOSEPH A.*** (CISSY), 8/19/78, 48 yrs / **RENDON, PETER** "PETE" (CARMEN), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **RICHERSON, JAMES D.** "JIMMY" (THERESE), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **ROBBINS, DONALD P.**, 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **ROBERTS, CRAIG S.** (THERESA CORRIGAN), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **ROBERTS, JR., KENNETH E.** "KEN" (TERRY), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **ROTH, THOMAS L.** (BECKY), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **ROUGEUX, MARK J., D. MIN.** (KIM), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **RYAN, MICHAEL A.** (GINA), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **SCHMITT, MICHAEL A.** (AUDREY), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **SEARS, DEAN W.** (SUSAN), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **SHIELDS, JAMES F.** "JIM" (LISA), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **SHUMWAY, MICHAEL M.** (CHARLOTTE), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **SMITH, DAVID U.** (THERESA), 8/26/06, **20 yrs** / **SMITH, STEPHEN J.*** (JAN), 8/24/02, 24 yrs / **SOWERS, KHS, MICHAEL S.** (TONI), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **STEWART, TIMOTHY E.** (TOMMIE), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **STRAIN, JOHN P.** (DEVON), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **SULLIVAN, BRUCE A.** (GLORIA), 8/29/20, 6 yrs / **TOLBERT, MICHAEL A.** (BONNIE), 8/29/81, **45 yrs** / **TOMES, DAVID R.*** (DAYNA), 8/25/84, 42 yrs / **TURNER, JAMES R.** (ANNETTE), 8/29/81, **45 yrs** / **TURNER, SCOTT R.** (WANDA), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **VESSELS, MICHAEL J.*** (BETTY), 8/28/82, 44 yrs / **VILLALOBOS, FRANCISCO** "FRANK" (MONIKA), 8/23/08, 18 yrs / **WARREN, BRUCE J.** (LAURIE), 8/20/16, **10 yrs** / **WEBB, MICHAEL K.** "KEVIN" (DONRITA), 8/24/24, 2 yrs / **WRIGHT, JOSEPH P.** (SANDY), 8/18/90, 36 yrs / **ZOLDAK, RICHARD P.** (CHERIE), 8/21/10, 16 yrs

A list of all our permanent deacons can be found [here](#).

Get your questions
answered at the

Discernment Lounge

A new virtual event with
Sister Joni Luna, SP

- Tuesday, July 7
 - Friday, August 7
 - Monday, September 7
- all sessions at 7 p.m. (EDT)

Find encouragement, community and spiritual support for your personal journey.

Sisters of Providence
of SAINT MARY-OF-THE-WOODS
Breaking boundaries, creating hope.®

Free

The Discernment Lounge: A New Virtual Event is a welcoming space for women who are exploring God's call in their lives, particularly the possibility of religious life. In a relaxed and supportive environment, participants gather online to share their questions, experiences, and hopes with sisters and other women who are discerning as well.

Through prayer, conversation and reflection, the lounge offers an opportunity to learn more about discernment, deepen one's relationship with God and connect with a community of faith.

There is no pressure or expectation, just an open space to listen to God's voice, ask honest questions and journey together.

Whether you are just beginning to wonder about religious life or have been discerning for some time, the Discernment Lounge offers companionship, encouragement, and spiritual support along the way.

For more information, contact Sister Joni Luna at 361-500-9505 or jluna@spsmw.org. You can register online [here](#).

Creating a culture of vocations – According to The Pillar Catholic news online, here are some things across the country that really seem to make a difference in vocations:

- Encouraging prayers for vocations.
- Access to Eucharistic Adoration for youth, as well as for people praying for vocations.
- Having a pope from the U.S.
- Encouraging vocations in the parish.
- Reaching out to families.
- The current faith resurgence in Gen Z.
- The Eucharistic Revival has had a big impact.
- "Ask the question a different way: what does God want me to be when I grow up?"
- Making "young priests and seminarians visible to their fellow Catholics is a critical part of promoting vocations."
- Have seminarians "participate in youth groups and young adult ministry, so that seminarians can interact with and encourage young people."
- Assign priests as high school chaplains.
- Ask "priests to personally invite young men to discern."
- "The revival of faith among young adults that we are seeing in almost every diocese in the United States."
- Having a "desire to be part of a community, desire to have communion with the Lord, they have this desire to serve the Lord."

Read the article [here](#).

ABOUT ST. JUNIPERO SERRA

August 28 (the anniversary of St. Junipero Serra's August 28, 1784 death, at age 70) is the celebration of the feast day of St. Serra outside of the U.S. In the U.S., we celebrate it on July 1 - the date he first arrived in what we now call California.

For a great 51-minute EWTN video on the life of St. Serra, click [here](#).

VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST

Serran Birthdays this month:

Ben Smith, Aug 12 Theresa Fiedler, Aug 25
Kevin Thieneman, Aug 27 Ralph Williams, Aug 28

Pope's Prayer Intention for the month of August –

For Evangelization In The City: Let us pray that in large cities, often marked by anonymity and loneliness, we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE

What: Emmaus Discernment and Prayer Group – Is that you, God? How to Know if God is calling you?

For whom: Single women ages 18-45.

Step away from the busyness of daily life and enter into a prayerful conversation with the Dominican Sisters of Peace. This gathering offers a sacred space to listen more deeply for God's invitations and to reflect on how God calls us in different seasons of life.

Through shared stories and honest dialogue, we will explore how to discern God's call to religious life, marriage, or single life. The evening will feature a dynamic panel with a Dominican Sister, a married couple, and a single layperson, sharing wisdom from knowing God's call to their lived experiences.

Guest Panelists: Ceal Amendolia, OPA, Mark Butler, OPA, Susan Buttler, and Sr. Bea Tiboldi, OP

When: Friday, August 21, 2026, from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Where: Zoom (Link will be provided upon registration)

For additional information and to register for the event, please email Sister Ana Gonzalez, OP at ana.gonzalez@opeace.org.

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