

September 2025

Monthly Newsletter



Saint Serra Apostolate
of Boulder County, Colorado



District 6, Club #723
Region 13 Chartered

Initiated September 29, 1990

President: Stan Peterson
Secretary: **Open Position**
V.P. Vocations: Rita Roberts
V.P. Programs: Jan Landers
V.P. Affirmation: Bill Fitzgerald
Club Trustee: Peggy Morrow, Jerome Higgins

Chaplain: Fr. Mark Kovacik
Treasurer: Mary Ellen Thorne
V.P. Membership: Kathy Kaler
V.P. Communications: Steve Sparough
Parish Liaisons Manager: Rita Roberts



PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Dear Serrans,



Do people come to you and ask you to please pray for them or for a loved one or a need?

Quite often that happens to me, and I often respond by writing the request on a post-a-note and handing it on to St. Joseph in his grotto, which is an integral part of the landscape in my front yard.

Recently I was delivering such a request when I noticed it was the infant Jesus that was illuminated. St Joseph has been a strong intercessor, but seeing Jesus illuminated so specifically, by a tiny ray from the morning sun, was an added warm boost to my spirituality!

With many ideas swirling around as to how we might cover the costs of our lofty, ambitious goals: income from the Appreciation dinner, the sale of Burritos, a positive return on the Bingo experiment, and a generous donation, I remain positive knowing that Love unites us and God's will sustains us!

Stan Peterson

President

St. Serra Apostolate of Boulder County

CHAPLAIN'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Dear Serrans,

<Youth Pilgrimage>

Life itself is a pilgrimage. We are just passing through this world; our home is in heaven with God.

When on the pilgrimage with the youth, we were encouraging them to hand in their phones and abandon themselves to God. We invited them to listen to what God was saying; we started each day with morning prayer.

It is so easy to get distracted and being on pilgrimage is a privileged time in which one is helped to live in the present. By putting God first, the youth were happy.

For me personally, it was a confirmation that what the world has to offer is nothing compared to what God can give. The youth did not have any of the comforts of home and yet they were happy. We were constantly on the move and yet we experienced that God was always with us.

Thanks to all those who supported the youth pilgrimage with your prayers or otherwise.

I'm delighted to report that while at the pilgrimage approximately 5000 from the US alone stood up to commit to seminary. Praise God!

Peace,

Father Mark Kovacik

Pastor of SHJ, Serra Apostolate Chaplain.

Recap of August 15, Meeting

Father Francis Mayinja spoke to the Club on August 15 regarding the Ugandan villages his charitable organization supports to provide basic needs like education, clean water, agriculture, sanitation, and medical clinic facilities. Below are a number of photos from his talk.

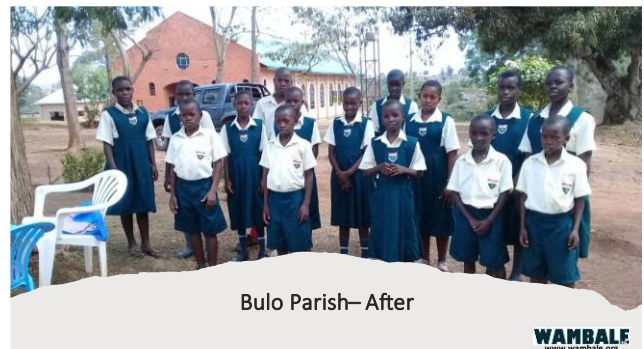
For FY 2025 they are behind budget.

Appreciated donations can be made to the Serra Boulder Apostolate earmarked for Wambale.



Bulo Parish— Before

WAMBALE
www.wambale.org



Bulo Parish— After

WAMBALE
www.wambale.org



Kamuli Parish— Before

WAMBALE
www.wambale.org



Kamuli Parish—
After

WAMBALE
www.wambale.org



Kamuli Parish— Before

WAMBALE
www.wambale.org



Kamuli Parish—
After

WAMBALE
www.wambale.org



In addition, Sister Chris spoke to us about the official opening of St. Gerhard Private School, a project made possible by the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Namibia.

St Gerhard will offer a safe and nurturing environment where children can learn, grow, and develop essential skills for the future. It will help reduce barriers to education, support families, and encourage a culture of learning.

Appreciated donations can be made to the Serra Boulder Apostolate earmarked for the St Gerhard Private School.

Upcoming Events



District 6 Conference

Friday September. 12, 2025

5:30 – 8:00pm Social Gathering and Hospitality –
 Noonan's Event Center, 13521 E Iliff
 Ave, Aurora, CO
 The event is included in registration fee.

Saturday September 13, 2025

7:15-7:45am Early check-in, Ascension Hall
 8:00am Mass at Queen of Peace Parish
 8:45am Continental breakfast
 9:15am Program includes:
 Fr Jason Wallace
 Fr Dan Cuicci
 Col John Halloran, Serra USA
 President-elect
 Rev Mr. Daniel Rivas from St
 John Vianney Seminary
 Rev Mr. Manuel Alarcon from
 Redemptoris Mater Seminary
 Club best practices
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 Silent Auction, Prizes &
 Officer Awards
 3:45pm Closing Prayer
 4:00pm Anticipatory Mass at Queen of Peace

Fee: \$70 + hotel
 If interested in attending, please contact Jan Landers
 for registration and hotel information.

Brats and Bingo



Food • Drinks • Prizes • Silent Auction • Fun
 October date and venue to be announced

90 Day Programs Schedule

Sept 5 – SHJ 8AM, General Mtg,
 Speaker: Steve Sparough's Medjugorje
 pilgrimage recap and insights from apparitions.

Sept 12-13 Serra District 6 Conference
 Sep 12: Social: [Noonans Events Center](#)
 Sep 13: Conference: [Queen of Peace](#)

Sept 19 – SHJ 8AM General Mtg, Board Mtg
 Speaker Fr Dan Barron, Lanteri Ctr

Sept. 28 – Priesthood Sunday

Oct 3 – St Tom's (travel mtg) 5:10PM Mass, Gen'l Mtg
 Speaker Fr. Chris Considine

Oct 16 – Denver Archdiocese Ctr – Serra Salute
 Speaker Fr Jim and Fr Felix

Oct. 24 – SHJ 7:45 AM, Registration for Serra Retreat
 Retreat Master: Rev. Mark Yavarone, OMV
 Ignatian Discernment Institute
 Pls see article and ref to Serra:

https://www.denvercatholic.org/serra_boulder_ref

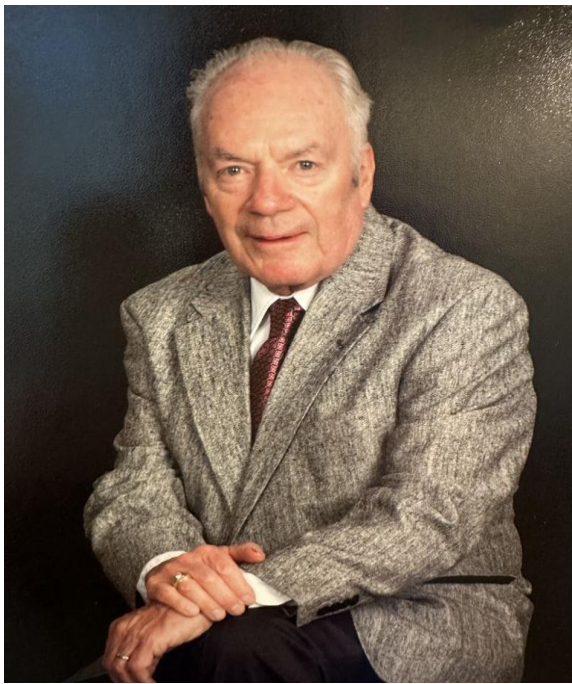
Nov 8 - St Scholastica, 7:30AM Mass, Gen'l Mtg
 Speaker Fr Wedow

Nov 21 – SHJ 7AM Mass General Mtg, Board Mtg
 Speaker to Be Announced

SAVE THE DATE

January 22-25, 2026: Serra US Leadership Rally
 St Louis, MO
 All are welcome for training,
 workshops, spiritual direction
 ~ More information to come~

In Memory of Our Serra Friend Bill Eck

**William Eck****February 18, 1932 — August 6, 2025**

Our friend and former Serra Board Officer, Bill Eck, has completed his pilgrimage of this earth. He now joins his wife Lil of 62.5 years in the afterlife with Jesus.

Bill was born in 1932 in Richmond, Virginia. His family moved to Ohio when Bill was very young. Bill attended Kent State University and graduated in Geology.

He met his wife, Lillian, at Kent State at the Newman Club. They married in 1956 and moved to Boulder.

Bill worked in Geology until 1966 when he earned his MBA at University of Colorado. He then worked as a Financial Planner at EF Hutton, known today as Morgan Stanley.

Bill & Lil had 5 children and 11 grandchildren. Bill said his greatest accomplishment is his family.

Bill won many awards and accolades at work and in his volunteering. Bill was very involved with Sacred Heart of Jesus Church & School, Optimist of Boulder Club, and Serra Trust. Bill was a runner in the *Bolder Boulder* for 38 years and he was very proud to run the race with family members.

His family would like to thank all his dear, devoted friends that have given him friendship especially during Lillian's illness and Bill's time at Frasier Meadows. Also a huge thank you to the Staff at Frasier Summit Care and to TRU Hospice.

Bill will be missed!

~

Pease Remember in Your Prayers:**Our Denver Seminarians at St John Vianney**

Rev. Blaise Buches	Michael Irlbeck
Rev. Jose Delgado	Will Ives
Rev. Jason DiRito	James Joseph
Rev. Jonathan Francois	Joseph Machado
Rev. Mr. Daniel Rivas	Ashton Mendoza
	Luke Metzger
James Berg	Thomas Myers, Jr.
Cody Bliss	David Napierkowski
Dominic Borchers	Jeremiah Obiano
Jack Brustkern	Daniel Olivas-Rey
Thaddeus Conder	Francisco Perez
Enrique Cruz-Bautista	Michael Randolph
Isaac Cunnings	Joseph Tynan
Cooper Eitel	Steven Zarian
James Finders	
Manuel Hinojosa	
Daniel Igoe	

Our Redemptoris Mater Seminarians

Mr. William Clemence	Antonio Barba
Mr. Giovanni Capucci	Gianluca Gomez
Mr. Emilio Franchomme	Jorge Payano
	Leonardo Pineda
Michael Pitio	Paul Sanchez
Joshua Rodriguez	Marcus Chua
David Frazier	Matthew Zumiga
Daniel Rivas	Noah Alo
Gabriela Pineda	Matheo Cuartas
Andres Losada	Joan Carlos Guevara
Eric Eccleston	Lucas Cruz
Octavio Alexis Hernandez	Rafael Lerma
Giovanni Tolentino	Raphael de Jos Reyes
Andres Zepeda	Timothy Rodriguez
Javier Arambula	
Isaias Vargas	
Jeremiah Hernadez	
John Nunez	

For Our Ailing Serra Members, Spouses & Family Members**For our Recently Departed Members**

Audrey Kenney	Lorna Christoff	Mary Safranek	Adrian Leyva	Mary Ann Hibl
Audrey Kenney	Marcus Poulin	Bob Serafin	Bill Eck	Omar Salazar
Betsy Feauto	Mary Quilici	Dick Stadler	Betty Jancosek	Patricia Warner
Bill Bowe	Matthew Hibl	Nancy Sorenson	Bob Farrell	Ramon Jesch
Bob Brockish	Pauline Higgins	Pamela Sparough	Bridget Price	Rosemary Ames
Corky Jaster	(Annette & Chase)	Wayne Stetson	Carol Brockish	Warren S. Peterson
Chase Curfman	Sr. Roseann Barman	Dcn. George Thierjung	Dcn. Dave Arling	
Ed Husler	Teresa Christoff		Dcn. Chris Byrne	
Fr. Bill Breslin	Terry Gallagher		Gilbert J. Garcia	
Fr. Greg Ames	Woody Roberts		George Morzinski	
Jane Kryska			Helga Riedl	
David Florsek			Jeanette Denfeld	
Lisa Hodges			John Bernard Price	

SERRA APOSTOLATE PRINCIPLES

Spiritual growth in Christ	Encouragement of church vocations	Religious vocations	Responsive lay leadership	Association in Christian fellowship
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United States of America Council of Serra Strategic Plan 2024-2027**Vision 2035**

Become recognized as the worldwide resource for supporting religious vocations.

Overarching Goal 2024-2027

Foster a culture of vocations to the ministerial priesthood among parishes, schools, and families.

Goal 1: Increase Awareness of the Work of Serra at all Levels:

<abridged>

- i. Expand presence in parish, diocesan and national catholic media to increase awareness of Serra's mission and work.
- ii. Inform clubs about activities and best practices to be shared via media and other means of communication.
- iii. Create an annual marketing plan in order to effectively and routinely communicate what Serra is and what it does to support and foster vocations worldwide.
- iv. Collaborate with other religious vocations organizations to promote the work and mission of Serra to its constituents.

Goal 2: Improve Local Club Engagement at the Parish Level:

<abridged>

- i. Increase Local Club involvement in parishes by encouraging Serrans to join or start vocation committees at parishes in their area by June of 2026.
- ii. Evaluate existing local vocation activities, add one additional program per year, and include all age groups and Catholic youth organizations.
- iii. Create programs and resources in parishes that are focused on the family to equip parents to welcome and foster vocations by June of 2026.
- iv. Develop a stronger awareness of vocations in parish communities to highlight the critical need for vocations to the priesthood and vowed religious life by December of 2025.
- v. Offer a monthly Holy Hour at different parishes to promote vocations.
- vi. Promote an annual Mass at the parish as a way to inform parishioners about vocation promotion committees (or to start one) and to learn of the need for more vocations.
- vii. Provide frequent notices about seminarians from the diocese to the parishes.
- viii. Promote "Adopt a Seminarian" program to parishes to encourage vocations through prayer.
- ix. Use the Traveling Chalice or Crucifix as a means to support and pray for vocations.
- x. Participate in diocesan ordinations in support of the diocese and seminarians.

Goal 3: Expand Support for Serra Clubs:

<abridged>

- i. Develop different possible structures and formats for Serra clubs to allow flexibility for local cultures and traditions.
- ii. Adopt "Sister Clubs" to share best practices, programs, vocation ideas and materials, and assist with club dues, when needed.

St. Mother Teresa Life's Guidance

A list of ways to cultivate humility:

- ❖ Speak as little as possible about yourself
- ❖ Keep busy with your own affairs and not those of others
- ❖ Avoid curiosity about things that do not concern you
- ❖ Do not interfere in the affairs of others
- ❖ Accept small irritations with good humor
- ❖ Do not dwell on the faults of others
- ❖ Accept censures even if unmerited
- ❖ Give in to the will of others
- ❖ Accept censures even if unmerited
- ❖ Give in to the will of others
- ❖ Accept insults and injuries
- ❖ Accept contempt, being forgotten and disregarded
- ❖ Be courteous and delicate even when provoked by someone
- ❖ Do not seek to be admired and loved
- ❖ Do not protect yourself behind your own dignity
- ❖ Give in, in discussions, even when you are right
- ❖ Choose always the more difficult task

"It is pride that changed angels into devils; it is humility that makes men as angels."

St Augustine

