

Serra Club of Boulder County

District 6, Club #723 Region 13
Chartered September 29, 1990 **Chaplain: Fr. Mark Kovacik**

April/May, 2020

Club Meeting Times: 1st Friday and 3rd Friday of each month following the 7:00 a.m. Mass at SHJ. Selected member chefs bring breakfast for those present. Bring a friend and encourage them to join our club.

President: Bill Fitzgerald

Secretary: Stan Peterson

V.P. Vocations: Nancy Sorenson

V.P. Programs: Lillian Price

V.P. Affirmation: Ed Theiss

Club Trustees: Vern Rogowski, Jerome Higgins

President-Elect: Sue Husler

Treasurer: Ed Husler

V.P. Membership:

V.P. Communications: Nancy Harris

Parish Liaison: Peggy Morrow

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The month of May is one in which we enjoy Spring flowers, celebrate our moms and, for many of us, spend time outdoors. Just 60 days ago none of us in our wildest dreams would have come up with what the world has been through over the past seven weeks. I know that some people react by blaming God and asking how he can do this to us. In a conversation I had last week with Fr. Michael Freihofer at Guardian Angels parish in Mead, he said "God didn't make it happen.....he permitted it.". In stressful times it is easy to place blame on God but we must remember that God works in strange ways

.....and usually not in any way that we as mortals may desire or understand. Now

is the time for all of us to use some of our newly found spare time to pray a rosary or do a novena. As Serrans, a few minutes of our additional time spent praying for our seminarians who are discerning and priests that are helping us get through our sadness and frustrations will bring fulfillment to not only ourselves but to those for whom we pray.
God Bless you all,
BILL

Recent Past Events

March 6 – Club Meeting

Our speakers for the March 6, 2020 Boulder County Serra club meeting were two of our most enduring and admired members, Sharon Stetson (17 yrs.) and Ramon Jesch (31 yrs.). Their dedication to the Serra mission has produced many wonderful benefits to the club as well as the seminarians, priests, religious and deacons whom the club supports.

As Sharon told us, the connection between Ramon and herself reaches back

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to the affirmation dinner (which each year honors our priests, religious and deacons) which her husband, Wayne, as a member of the Knights of Columbus, was invited to attend, accompanied by his wife.

It was here that Wayne was solicited by Ramon to join Serra club but, upon Wayne's firm "no", Sharon, never one to retreat from a chance to help, expressed an interest in, perhaps, joining. {Little did Sharon realize that should you hesitate even slightly before making the final decision, one way or another, Serrans will already be making up your badge and setting up the "new member" ceremony.} End result, Ramon had the application whipped out immediately, and Sharon was quickly on her way to membership. Serrans lucked out that day.

The club nearly lost one of its most productive members when Sharon almost dropped out in those first months from a feeling that she wasn't contributing but Lillian Price convinced her to be the club's V.P. of Communications, and Sharon has selflessly contributed in many different positions ever since.

Ramon began his Serra leadership role back when there were only twelve people interested in starting a Serra club in Boulder County. First of all, the twelve new founding fathers had to find out what the club was all about. They did! "It has to do with your own spiritual life!!" said Ramon. After Terry Gallagher talked to the first president in the district – there are nine clubs in the district – and found

that they needed to get their information for forming a new club from USAC (United States of America Council). USAC, in turn, told them that they first needed to interact with the Diocese in Denver. :



They were told they first must deal with hospitality such as providing food for meetings, then search out and plan activities, and, most of all, get involved. YOU have to be excited in order to recruit other members! Hold different positions in the club so that you understand each role. Meet Serrans from other organizations. And, if at all possible, take every chance to attend in and out of the area meetings. You learn so much, and you are treated to so many deeply spiritual individuals willing to share their enthusiasm and knowledge.

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Ramon has been an outstanding and very dedicated servant to Serra – he has even served as Governor of District 6. He has been responsible for bringing in many new members over the years as well as some outstanding speakers.

Boulder County Serra Club is an outstanding club due to members like Sharon and Ramon.

AS YOU ARE ALL AWARE, THE MARCH 20, 2020 and APRIL 3 and APRIL 17, 2020 BOULDER COUNTY SERRA CLUB MEETINGS WERE CANCELLED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS “STAY AT HOME” ADVISORIES.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 1 – Club Meeting

Due to continuing quarantine, members joined a ZOOM live cast which featured a video presented by Frs. Humberto and Daniel from St. John’s in Longmont.

May 15 – Club Meeting

There will be another ZOOM live cast for all Boulder County Serrans.

PRIEST’S CORNER

I hope this newsletter finds each of you well. This is a difficult time for the Church because we are a body; we were not created to be alone. At the same time,

God is taking good out of this period for each of us in different ways. More than ever we need to pray for the Church; pray that God gives courage and discernment to our leaders and faith to all the faithful. God foresaw these times and is providing us with the grace necessary to not only persevere, but also to grow in holiness.

God Bless,
Fr. Mark

GENERAL SERRA NEWS by Sue

“There are always flowers for those who want to see them.”

Henri Matisse

Even in this pandemic, we have a lot for which we can be thankful. It has managed to slow us down and also has taught us to accomplish things in ways we have never dreamed we could and, hopefully, we are more prayerful.

Serra Trust has voted on grants via email. One big request was \$5000+ from Redemptoris Mater for a whole semester books and health care issues.

One seminarian from RM is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood in May. Have not heard of any changes in the ceremony as of now. The seminarian is Rev. Juan Manual Madrid.

Prayer for Seminarians

Father, thank You for the generosity of our seminarians.

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Safeguard them as they prepare for the priesthood.

Keep all evil far from them, so they may become strong Christian men who are faithful to prayer, diligent in their studies, open to spiritual direction, and docile to all aspects of seminary formation. Above all, enflame their hearts with love so they will be ardent and gentle shepherds for your Church.

We make this prayer through the great High Priest, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Amen -

Remember to pray for vocations, especially an increase to the priesthood; by dedicating a Mass, a rosary or an hour of adoration.

I have set up four Masses at SHJ for the seminarians in 2020. The dates are: 5/15, 8/7 and 11/6. If you are unable to attend on that date, say a prayer/rosary for them.

SEMINARIAN NEWS

Dori Fitzgerald

During the recent District meeting, members asked if the seminarians were still all in residence or if some had returned home.

I called Redemptoris Mater Seminary to ask how they were faring and was told that they were all present and complying with Archbishop rules about distancing and staying at home. All are happy that their exile will be over in another two weeks. The seminarian I spoke with appreciated that we were checking on their welfare.

He said that one of the blessings is that they have more time on their hands and are going to adoration two at a time until 10:00 p.m. each day.

Also they are looking forward to the priestly ordination of Deacon Juan Manuel Madrid Maureira this MAY.

2020 Dues

Thanks to all who have paid their dues. We only have a few left who still owe. For those members, the dues are \$77 per year, and they can give it to me personally or mail it to: Ed Husler, 297 Fourmile Canyon Drive, Boulder, CO 80302.

Thanks!
Ed Husler

Masses for Seminarians

The club will be setting aside monies for masses for our seminarians once a month. If any club member is planning to attend or visit another church and would like to schedule a mass for the seminarians themselves, feel free to go ahead and do so but please notify the other club members.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

April Members Birthdays:

April 5 – Connie Christoff

April 14 – Ramon Jesch

April 18 – Sue Husler

April 20 – Fr. Jose Chicas (SHJ)

April 22 – Bob Serafin

April 24 – Dick Padrnos

April 24 – Mike Taylor

April 29 – Betsy Feauto

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April Members Anniversaries:

April 14 – Keith & Rosemary Ames

April Seminarian Birthdays:

April 16 – Jhan Pierre Sainea (3rd Phil)

April 25 – Felipe Colomba da Silva

April Religious Anniversaries:

April 21 – Very Rev. Michael Carvill
(1990) Nativity

April 24 – Fr. Alan Hartway (1976)

May Members Birthdays:

May 14 – Rosalie Garcia

May 14 – Elaine Middleton (homebound)

May 16 - Ed Husler

May 19 – Keith Ames

May 25 – Rosemary Ames

May Members Anniversaries:

May 27 - Nic and Connie Christoff

May Seminarian Birthdays:

May 3 – Daniel Arienzo

May 29 – Rev. Mr. John Paul Almeida

May 30 – Davide Sortorelli

May Religious Anniversaries:

May 1 – Den. Ronald Darschewski (1979)
St. Louis

May 9 – Den. John Pontillo (1987) IC

May 12 – Fr. Timothy Hjelstrom (2007)
St. Louis

May 13 – Fr. Daniel Ciucci (2017) St.
John's

May 13 – Fr. Peter Mussett (2006) St.
Tom's

May 13 – Fr. Shaun Galvin (2017) St.
Tom's

May 13 – Fr. John Mrozek (2017) St.
Louis

May 14 – Fr. Hernan Florez (2005) St.
Theresa

May 14 – Fr. Humberto Marquez (2005)
St. John's

May 14 – Fr. Terry Ryan (1977) SHJ

May 18 – Fr. Wm. Breslin (1974) RM

May 18 – Fr. Jose Anibal Chicas (2013)
SHJ

May 19 – Fr. Tomislav Tomic (2018) St.
Theresa

May 21 – Fr. Grzegorz Wojcik (2011) St.
William

May 21 – Fr. Jose Saenz (2004) IC

May 26 – Den. Oscar Delvillar (2007) IC

May 26 – Den. John Wehrman (2007) St.
William

Prayer list: Please pray for those in

need of healing: Fr. Greg Ames,

Rosemary Ames, Tiki Theiss, Teresa

Christoff, Chase Curfman, Jeanette

Denfeld, Luan Jesch, Audrey Kenney,

Elaine Middleton, Helga Riedl, George

Morzinski, Marcus Poulin-(Annette &

Chase), Matthew Hibel, Bob Brockish,

Angie McCann, Deacon George

Theirjung

And for all men and women and young

people discerning a vocation to the

priesthood, diaconate or religious life

Future Events

May 3, 2020-World Day of Prayer for
Vocations

May 10, 2020-Mother's Day

May 30, 2020-Serra Global Rosary for
Vocations

June 5, 2020-Redemptoris Mater

"Friends of the Seminary" Dinner

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**June 25-27, 2020-Serra 78th International
Convention, New Orleans, LA**

**THE SIX MOST IMPORTANT WORDS
IN VOCATIONS AWARENESS,
according to the late Bishop David Choby,
Bishop of Nashville:
“HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED
BEING A PRIEST (OR RELIGIOUS
SISTER)?”**