

Serra Club of Boulder County

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

March, 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



As we have just opened the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday, many of us begin 40 days of denials or sacrifices as preparation for Jesus's ultimate act of charity for us through his death for OUR salvation. Recall 1 John 4:20 "he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God who he has not seen."

In these times of discord and hate speech in the world around us, let me encourage each of us to look around and take notice of those we see and demonstrate random acts of kindness and love. These acts, along with our traditional practices, can go a long way in inspiring each of us to further imitate Jesus in our everyday lives as well as to fulfill our heart's need and desire to provide generosity!

Bill Fitzgerald

Recent Past Events

February 7 – Club Meeting

The Boulder County Serra Club meeting of February 7, 2020 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

February 21 – Club Meeting

Once again the Boulder County Serra Club was treated to two dynamic speakers who happen to also be Serra members of our very own club.

Stan Peterson was the first to speak, and his difficult subject involved the 2020 SERRA Club Membership Drive. As I'm sure we are all aware, recruiting members for Serra Club is not an easy task!

Stan began by reiterating the Serra Club motto "Always Forward, Never Back". Next, he stated that the 2020 membership goal for each club is to have

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5 full active members by June 1, 2020. Of course, our club must take into account that we have already lost time due to the necessary cancellation of the February 7 meeting. Stan emphasized that the membership strategy must consist of two objectives:

1. We must retain our current members – a job for every member.
2. We all must recruit new members.

This can be done by continuing with informal one-on-one invitations and conducting a formal “Come and See” membership drive.

There are obligations on each member to help in this drive. First off, each current member should invite two new prospective members and ask them to complete the prospect cards, return the cards by a stated date, and then confirm their prospects will be attending the “Come and See”. Be sure to remind your prospects, and if necessary, offer a ride to the event.

The parish liaison will also play a role in contacting each pastor, asking the pastor for member suggestions and to send support letters to those prospects.

Lastly, our club president will issue an invitation letter to each prospect.

The “Come and See” meeting will explain what Serra does, how it benefits vocations and members and how to get prospects to sign up as members.



Our next featured speaker, making her return appearance, was Boulder Serra Club’s parish liaison and web designer, Peggy Morrow.

Being a native of Maryland, Peggy’s subject was “Maryland Vocations Throughout the Ages”. Peggy had a little insider help as her mother, still a Maryland resident, is on the history committee of her church, Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bowie, Maryland.

Peggy separated her subject into distinct periods of time: the Colonial period, The Revolutionary period, the Industrial Revolution, the Civil War and the Sexual Revolution.

During the Colonial period in Maryland, the first mass was celebrated on St. Clement’s Island on the Feast of the Assumption, March 25, in the year 1634. To this day, Mary Land (Maryland) is a legal holiday observed as the anniversary of the landing of the first European settlers in the province of Maryland.

The second Lord Baltimore, Cecil Calvert, who founded the new colony had it given as a gift to his family by British King Charles I providing the

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colony be named after his wife, Queen Henrietta Marie.

The Maryland Toleration Act was passed in 1649 to protect Catholic settlers and other religions from the Anglicism of Britain and her colonies but it was short lived and revoked in 1654 which led to renewed persecution of Catholics.

Finally, religious freedom was established with the Maryland Bill of Rights in 1867.

The Revolutionary period – during the Revolutionary War 32% of the Maryland population was Catholic although 50% of the Catholics served. Maryland had no active battles in the province but, nevertheless, according to General George Washington, their people served with distinction. During this period, John Carroll was elected first bishop, and later, archbishop of Baltimore, also the first diocese in the United States. He is also known as the founder of Georgetown University (the oldest university in the United States).

The Industrial Revolution period started around 1793. The history of slavery which had begun during the Colonial period experienced a decline during the Revolutionary period. In 1800, Georgetown had a population of 5,120 including 1,449 slaves and 277 free blacks. Peggy's mother gives tours of the Sacred Heart cemetery where 450 descendants of slaves are buried.

In 1838, some of the most prominent Jesuit priests who had been using slaves to work their land, ect. sold, along with others, 272 slaves to help secure the future of the premier institution of higher learning, Georgetown university. Also, during that period, the first Roman

Catholic convent was founded in Baltimore by the Discalced (shoeless) Carmelite nuns.

The Civil War in Maryland, a slave owning state, was divided in its sympathies which left residents fighting on opposite sides.

James Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore was the youngest bishop in the United States when he was appointed in 1865. He then became one of the first Cardinals of the United States when he was appointed by Pope Leo XIII in 1886. In an encyclical letter to Cardinal Gibbons, Pope Leo expressed his concern over "Americanism", raising caution about the attitudes and theories some churchmen felt were corrupting the integrity of Catholic faith and weakening Catholic witness in the United States.

And, finally, the Sexual Revolution period, a period of upheaval in the Church, started in the 1960's (first experienced in the 1920's) and continues to this day. The number of priests and nuns fell rapidly. New vocations were few. The sexual abuse scandal began and episcopal negativism.

Msg. Thomas Wells, pastor of Mother Seton Parish in Germantown, Maryland and a priest of 29 years, was murdered in his rectory in 2000 by a homeless man. Msg. had been requested by James Cardinal Hickey to uproot homosexual rings at Mother Seton.

Later, his nephew, who was dying from a brain aneurysm and was asked by the attending priest who had given him the last rites who he might like the priest to pray to, and he answered "Uncle

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Tommy". The next day, there was no sign of the aneurysm.

His nephew has now written a book "The Priests We Need to Save the Church". It lists eight qualities a priest should have:

1. Adore the Eucharist
2. Pray devoutly
3. Assume a victimhood
4. Be a father to his flock
5. Be persistently available
6. Preach the divine truth
7. Dive into souls at a moment's notice



Upcoming Meetings:

March 6 – Club Meeting

Sharon Stetson and Ramon Jesch

Topic: Why Am I A Serran

Chefs: Breakfast Potluck

March 20 – Club Meeting

Induction: Glenn Porzak

Chefs: Vern and Cathy Rogowski

April 3 – Club Meeting

Msg. Robert Amundsen – Immaculate Conception

Topic: 50 Years of Priesthood: Retirement

Chefs: Sue and Ed Husler

PRIEST'S CORNER

Holy Families

St. John Bosco believed that as many as 70% of young men have vocations to the religious life. The reason they are not lived out is that there is not the environment in which the vocation is heard, encouraged and supported. Christian families are extremely important because they are the main place where a vocation can be nurtured and defended. Let us pray for holy families which will bear the fruit of holy vocations.

Peace,
Fr. Mark

GENERAL SERRA NEWS by Sue

On Feb. 14 the Serra Trust members visited SJV Seminary – the Boulder member had lunch with Fr. Dan Leonard (he sends his greetings) and went to Mass with the seminarians. What a treat!

On Feb. 22 Ed and I went to the Transitional Deacons ordination of the six men at the Cathedral Basilica in Denver. One of the

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six was John Paul Almeida from the RM seminary who our club supports. What a beautiful event!

Reasons to attend an SJ Convention which is a global event:

Where else can you look into the eyes of another Serran, laboring for vocations just like you from their home on the other side of the world?

Where else can an you feel a part of the powerful synergy of hundreds of joyful Serrans from all over the globe, their hearts united in one place, praying for vocations? (More reasons next month)

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: 2/7, 5/15, 8/7 and 11/6. If you are unable to attend on that date, say a prayer/rosary for them.

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**

ALERT: We are also in need of a volunteer to take over the Vice President of Membership and more volunteers for breakfast chefs.

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

March Members Birthdays

March 2-Stan Peterson
March 7-Terry Gallagher
March 11-Luan Jesch
March 15-Lillian Price
March 26-Hank Barth

March Members Anniversaries:

March Seminarian Birthdays:

March 2-Daniel Ramierz
Karoro Temate
March 25-Daniel Viana Perira

March Religious Anniversaries:

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 Hibl, Bob

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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

June 5, 2020-Redemptoris Mater “Friends
of the Seminary” Dinner

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)?”**