



# Serra Mensajero

Volume 32 Issue 8

Richardson, TX

August 2017

## Upcoming Events

Friday, August 4

First Friday Mass & Breakfast  
6:30 am  
St. Mark's Catholic Church  
Norma's Cafe

Monday, August 21

Dinner meeting  
Bryon McKnight, DDS  
6:30 pm  
Canyon Creek Country Club

Friday, September 1

First Friday Mass & Breakfast  
6:30 am  
St. Mark's Catholic Church  
Norma's Cafe

Monday, September 18

Dinner meeting  
Andy Zihlman  
6:30 pm  
Canyon Creek Country Club

Friday, October 6

First Friday Mass & Breakfast  
6:30 am  
St. Mark's Catholic Church  
Norma's Cafe

Monday, October 16

Dinner meeting  
Matt Zerrusen  
6:30 pm  
Canyon Creek Country Club

Friday, October 20

Seminarian Dinner  
6 pm Reception/ 7 pm Dinner  
Hilton Anatole

**Remember the seminarians and staff at  
Redemptorist Mater Diocesan Missionary Seminary  
pictured below in your prayers.**



## Words of Wisdom from Father Bruce Bradley

During the July dinner meeting, Father Bradley currently of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton related two stories that reminded us that you never know the impact that you can have on another person's life. He told us of conversations when he was in his first assignment in 1978 with an older priest who knew the bishop of Krakow. At the time this seemed of little importance, but within a few short months, this friend of the Dallas priest was Pope John Paul II.

In his second story Father Bradley told of his recent conversation with a young parishioner who asked how you knew if you had the call to the priesthood. After a quick prayer for guidance, Father Bradley told the young boy that you needed to have a passion for serving God and the Church. Let us pray that these words of wisdom impact this young man and that he answers the call should it come. Who knows how he may impact our church and our lives.

*Serra Mensajero* is the monthly newsletter for North Central Dallas which reports activities, provides news to members, and supports Club goals.

Editor: Dawn Epping  
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Visit these  
Serra web sites

North Central Dallas Serra Club  
[www.ncdserraclub.com](http://www.ncdserraclub.com)

Serra USA Council  
[www.serraus.org](http://www.serraus.org)

**President's Monthly Message**

Jim Duffy

**“Walk with Saint Junipero Serra as he traces our Lord’s footsteps in search of workers for the vineyard.”**

I. A Franciscan missionary Saint Junipero Serra is well known as the 18th century founder of a string of California missions. Like Saint Serra, the Serrans of today put faith into action. Whether through meetings, vocational programs, or personal involvement in school, parish and diocesan activities, Serrans accept the challenge of fostering vocations and encouraging spiritual growth.

Let St. Serra inspire us to nurture vocations and become missionaries ourselves as we work for vocations. The USA Council Program Committee invites you to carry out this program of renewal by which all Serrans recommit themselves to furthering Serra International’s principles and objectives

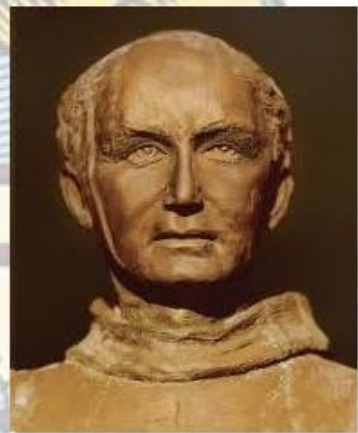
The above was taken from the USA Council of Serra International Website.

Just a reminder to all of our members. You are always welcome to attend our monthly NCD Board Meetings which are held on the second Wednesday of each month at St Mark’s, Smith Center, Conference Room 202 at 7:00 PM. Jo-Ann Bresowar, District Governor will be in attendance at the August 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Do not forget our First Friday Mass at 6:30 AM at St Mark’s with breakfast at Norma’s Café.

If you missed the July Dinner Meeting, you missed a rare treat. We had two priests in attendance. Our speaker Father Bruce Bradley, Pastor of St Elizabeth Ann Seton parish, as well as our new chaplain Father Chris Schroeder, S.J., Retreat Director at Montserrat Jesuit Retreat House.

Speaking of Montserrat, thank you to all who attended the Serran Day of Reflection. This was very prayerful, thought provoking and peace filled day. Thank you Father John Payne, S.J. for guiding us through Ignatian Contemplation. God can speak to us through our imaginations, through our thoughts and memories.



**St. Junipero Serra**  
Apostle of California  
Patron of Serra International

- President  
Jim Duffy
- V.P. Programs  
Chris Taylor
- V.P. Vocations  
Kathi Thompson
- V.P. Membership  
Marie Baert
- V.P. Communications  
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Larry Montz (2 Yr)  
Dennis Epping (1Yr)
- Past President  
Bill Crowley
- Newsletter Editor  
Dawn Epping
- Chaplain  
Rev. Chris Schroeder, SJ

| <b>August Anniversaries</b>                   |                              | <b>August Birthdays</b> |                 |    |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----|
| <b>PRAY FOR THE HEALING POWER OF GOD FOR:</b> | Hank and Kathy Himmelberg    | 5                       | Mary LaFave     | 4  |
|   | Ralph and Rosemary Armstrong | 15                      | Bob Baillargeon | 8  |
|   | John and Felicia Fitzpatrick | 17                      | Don Simoneaux   | 21 |
|   | Paul and Jo Ficalora         | 19                      | Agnes Denvir    | 24 |
|   | Tony and Annette Schmidt     | 24                      | Larry Montz     | 25 |
|   |                              |                         | Ann Larriviere  | 29 |
|   |                              | Jack Tromba             | 31              |    |

Bernadette Johnson  
Leo Heiting

Dear Kathi:

Enclosed please find a \$500 donation to the Serra Club in support of your efforts to promote and support vocations. This donation was buy made by the Knights of Columbus of St. Mark's parish - Santa Maria Council 6065. Supporting the Serra Club is but one of the many adventures our Council does to support seminarians and our clergy. We recognize the importance of these efforts in securing the future of our faith and our Church.

Thanks for all that you and the entire Serra Club do, and please give me a call if you have any questions.

Regards,

John Fleischer  
Knights of Columbus Council 6065

### 31 Club

The 31 Club is a commitment by Serrans to attend Mass and pray for vocations on a specific day each month. If you wish to participate in this important ministry please e-mail Hank Himmelberg at [hankhimmelberg@verizon.net](mailto:hankhimmelberg@verizon.net)

|                               |                                  |                                   |                                  |                                   |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Jerry Hurster | 4 <sup>th</sup> Mike Holmes      | 12 <sup>th</sup> Mark Venincasa   | 19 <sup>th</sup>                 | 26 <sup>th</sup>                  |
| Joan Heiting                  | 5 <sup>th</sup> Bob Baillargeon  | 13 <sup>th</sup> Bruce Baumann    | 20 <sup>th</sup> Tony Schmidt    | 27 <sup>th</sup> Warren Schneider |
| Ed Johnson                    | 6 <sup>th</sup> John Fitzpatrick | 14 <sup>th</sup> Jack Tromba      | 21 <sup>st</sup> Doug Biglen     | Chris Taylor                      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dick Park     | 7 <sup>th</sup> Bill Condon      | 15 <sup>th</sup> Don Simoneaux    | Veronica Biglen                  | Leo Heiting                       |
| Katie Park                    | 8 <sup>th</sup> Lou Need         | Warren Schneider                  | 22 <sup>nd</sup>                 | 28 <sup>th</sup> Bill Larsen      |
| Mike Maxwell                  | 9 <sup>th</sup> Peter LaFave     | 16 <sup>th</sup> Hank Himmelberg  | 23 <sup>rd</sup>                 | Bonnie Larsen                     |
| Dolores Maxwell               | Mary LaFave                      | 17 <sup>th</sup> John Fitzpatrick | 24 <sup>th</sup> Ralph Armstrong | 29 <sup>th</sup>                  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Bill Crowley  | 10 <sup>th</sup> Vicki Dean      | 18 <sup>th</sup> Rob Larriviere   | Kay Hogan                        | 30 <sup>th</sup> Katy Warrern     |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Ida Keptner   | 11 <sup>th</sup> Jim Duffy       | Ann Larriviere                    | 25 <sup>th</sup> Kathi Thompson  | 31 <sup>st</sup> Ron Keptner      |

## Editor's Page

### Humility

The Rule of Benedict, written in the 6<sup>th</sup> century, a direct and clear guide for a spiritual life, defines the path to humility as:

"... if we want to reach the highest summit of humility, if we desire to attain speedily that heavenly exaltation to which we climb by the humility of this present life, then by our ascending actions we set up that ladder on which Jacob in a dream saw "angels descending and ascending" (Genesis 28:12)."<sup>1</sup>

St. Benedict outlines twelve rungs on the ladder to humility. Over the last two months, we have covered the first rung, to acknowledge God's presence in our lives and to remember that our actions and thoughts are always in his view, and the second rung, to follow God's will. The Rule of Benedict continues with:

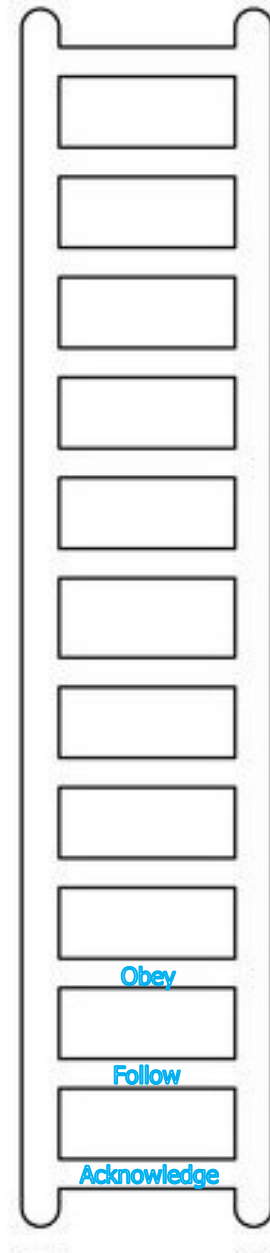
"The third step of humility is that we submit to the prioress or abbot in all obedience for the love of God, imitating Jesus Christ, of whom the apostle says: "Christ became obedient even to death." (Philippians 2:8)"

Now we could easily say that this step does not relate to us because we do not report to an abbot or prioress in our lives. However, Sister Joan Chittister in her reflection of the Rule of Benedict explains that:

"... The third rung on the ladder of humility is the ability to submit ourselves to the wisdom of another.... Humility lies in learning to listen to the words, directions, and insights of the one who is a voice of Christ for me now. To stubbornly resist the challenges of people who have a right to lay claim to us and an obligation to do good by us – parents, spouses, teachers, supervisors – is a dangerous excursion into arrogance and a denial of the very relationships that are the stuff of which our sanctity is made. ...

Rule three brings us face to face with our struggle for power. It makes us face an authority outside of ourselves."

As we move through our daily lives over the next month, let us consider who the authorities are that God has placed in our lives and whether we are submitting to their wisdom or continuing to stubbornly exert our own will in a bid for power and control.



*Dawn*

<sup>1</sup> *The Rule of Benedict: A Spirituality for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* by Joan Chittister, OSB, Crossroad Publishing Company, 2010