



Serra Mensajero

Volume 37, Issue 1

Serra Club of North Central Dallas

January 2022

UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT 2 MONTHS

Tuesday, January 11, 7:00 pm

Monthly Board Meeting (All members welcome)

St. Mark, Smyth Center, 1st Floor **CANCELED**

January 13–16, 2022

Serra USA Annual Rally

Westin Las Colinas, Irving

Monday, January 17, 6:00 pm (Dinner at 6:30)

Monthly Dinner Meeting

Aboca's Italian Grill, Richardson **CANCELED**

February 5–6, 2022

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 pm

Monthly Board Meeting (All members welcome)

St. Mark, Smyth Center, 1st Floor

Monday, February 21, 6:00 pm (Dinner at 6:30)

Monthly Dinner Meeting

Aboca's Italian Grill, Richardson

Sunday, February 27, 12:00 pm

Religious Women's Appreciation Mass & Luncheon

Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church, Irving

Mass at 12:00, Luncheon at 1:00

FUTURE EVENTS

Sunday, March 6, 2022, 9:15 am

N. Central Dallas, Attend Mass at Holy Trinity Seminary

Saturday, March 12, 2022, 9:00 am

VAP Mass & Kickoff Brunch

Holy Trinity Seminary, Irving

May 7–8, 2022

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

VISIT THESE SERRA WEBSITES

Serra Club of N. Central Dallas: ncdserraclub.com

Serra USA Council: serraus.org

Serra International: serrainternational.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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On behalf of the Serra Club of North Central Dallas, president Will Alt presented Christmas gift bags donated by the club to Redemptoris Mater seminarians and clergy following the concert December 23 at St. Mark Catholic Church.

Happening Locally

The Diocese of Dallas has established a Homiletics Institute at the University of Dallas. The purpose of the institute is to provide for continuous improvement in the quality of preaching within the diocese, and eventually throughout the Catholic Church in the United States, and to recognize that participation in the life of the Church at Mass will be enhanced by the improvement of homilies.

The institute is principally focused on improving the preaching of ordained priests, and this focus will in time expand to include deacons and seminarians.

The Diocese of Dallas has also initiated a campaign to provide a dedicated home for the estimated 6,000 Catholic students at the University of Texas at Dallas in Richardson. Bishop Burns has said, "We have to spiritually feed the young people and provide

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Keeping the Joy of Christmas As We Begin the New Year

By Will Alt

While contemplating the coming year during the Octave of Christmas, I wanted to express my hope and prayer that the joy of Christmas can help us all anticipate the new year and all the blessings we long for.

It seems so easy to dwell on the difficulties, struggles, and conflicts of 2021 that have consumed our lives, but as hopeful Christians, we need to remain joyful and hopeful and share those feelings with those around us, thus keeping the joy of Christmas, the blessings of 2021, and the gift of faith and family in our hearts as we answer the call to evangelize and pray for peace, justice, and moral conscience in our country and world. Pape Francis said at the start of a previous year, "We begin a new phase of our earthly pilgrimage; teach us to welcome God made man so that every year, every month, every day may be filled with His eternal love."

As Serrans, we can see from the recently mailed annual Serra Foundation report the far reaching global impact of Serra International that we typically don't see or hear about. Contrast that locally with the gift of our HTS and RM seminarians and the opportunities to support them spiritually, not only through prayer, but also through interactions, greeting cards, and other events. The recent presentation of Christmas gifts by the HTS Auxiliary and the RMS concerts were

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New Beginnings for a New Year

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not only well-funded and supported but very much enjoyed and appreciated by all the clergy and seminarians, including Bishop Burns in attendance at the St. Mark concert.

It is my hope and prayer that 2022 will bring new growth and opportunities to support our seminarians and clergy as we embark on increasing Serra's presence in our parishes with

new membership and participation.

As you can see from the calendar of events in this newsletter, the coming months bring ample opportunities to enrich our Serran ministry. We will also be sending a springtime note of appreciation to our out of town seminarians and preparing a member directory with photos of each member. If you haven't had your picture taken yet, please send one by email to June Cooper.

I wish all our members and families a healthy and blessed New Year. Always forward!

Happening Locally

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for their continued Catholic formation while in a secular school setting. Effective campus ministries are vital for the future of the Church.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and Prince of Peace parishes have construction projects underway. The old church and daily Mass chapel at Seton were demolished in October to make way for a new building facing Spring Creek Parkway.

Prince of Peace is renovating their church interior and adding facilities for the parish and the elementary school.



This architectural rendering shows the new church that will soon emerge on the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church property on Spring Creek Parkway in Plano. Site preparation is nearly complete, and the church is expected to be ready by spring of 2023.

- President**
Will Alt
- President-Elect**
Volunteer Needed
- VP Programs**
Kathi Thompson
- VP Vocations**
Mike Holmes
- VP Membership**
Volunteer Needed
- VP Communications**
Don Simoneaux
- Treasurer**
Dennis Epping
- Secretary**
Meg Haerr
- Trustees**
Peter Lobo
Jim Duffy
- Past President**
Darwin Hutchison
- Chaplain**
Fr. Michael Guadagnoli

Serra Mensajero is the monthly newsletter of the Serra Club of North Central Dallas. It reports activities, provides news to members, and supports Club goals.
Editor: Don Simoneaux
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Save the Date

2022 Religious Women's Appreciation Event

Sunday, February 27

Mass at 12:00 with Bishop Kelly
Catered Cajun Luncheon
and Magic Show, 1:00–3:00 pm

Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church
2323 Cheyenne St, Irving

Watch for your invitation in the mail
RSVP by February 1

Birthdays	
Dan O'Connell	1/11
Greg McCurry	1/14
Barbara Johnson	1/19
Kathi Thompson	1/22
Ralph Armstrong	1/24
Tony Schmidt	1/26
Dennis Epping	2/4
Brandee Nelson	2/4

Anniversaries	
Dawn & Dennis Epping	1/7
Mark & Lisa Venincasa	1/19
Bill & Merle Condon	2/16
Dan & Michele O'Connell	2/25

Pray for the Healing Power of God for

Debbie Hutchison
Mary LaFave
Jean & Lou Neeb

31 Club

The 31 Club is a commitment by Serrans to attend Mass or say the rosary to pray for vocations on a specific day each month. Contact Don Simoneaux (d.simoneaux@computer.org) to participate.

1 st Larry Montz	8 th Sylvia Windham	14 th June Cooper	19 th Barbara Johnson	26 th Dawn Epping
2 nd Barbara Johnson	9 th Peter LaFave	15 th Don Simoneaux	20 th Tony Schmidt	27 th Chris Taylor
3 rd Bill Crowley	Mary LaFave	16 th Darwin Hutchison	21 st Will Alt	28 th Bill Larsen
4 th Meg Haerr	10 th Vicki Dean	17 th Rob Larriviere	22 nd Kathi Thompson	Dan O'Connell
5 th Bob Baillargeon	11 th Jim Duffy	Ann Larriviere	23 rd Kathi Thompson	29 th Kay Hogan
6 th John Fitzpatrick	12 th Dennis Epping	John Fitzpatrick	24 th Ralph Armstrong	30 th
7 th Bill Condon	13 th	18 th Tom Demarest	25 th Mary McGraw	31 st