



# Serra Mensajero

Volume 33 Issue 3

Richardson, TX

March 2018

## Upcoming Events

### Friday, March 2

First Friday Mass & Breakfast  
12:30 pm – St. Elizabeth Ann  
Seton

### Saturday, March 17

VAP Kick-off Brunch; 9:30 am  
Holy Trinity Seminary

### Monday, March 19

Dinner meeting; 6:30 pm  
Bill Keffler, Diocese of Dallas  
Canyon Creek Country Club

### Friday, April 6

First Friday Mass & Breakfast  
12:30 pm – St. Elizabeth Ann  
Seton

### Monday, April 16

Dinner meeting; 6:30 pm  
Greg Schwietz  
Canyon Creek Country Club

### Friday, May 4

First Friday Mass & Breakfast  
12:30 pm – St. Elizabeth Ann  
Seton

### Monday, May 21

Dinner meeting; 6:30 pm  
Board Installation  
Canyon Creek Country Club

### Friday, June 1

First Friday Mass & Breakfast  
12:30 pm – St. Elizabeth Ann  
Seton

### June 8-10

VAP Weekend



## Perspectives on Christian Unity

Father Joshua Whitfield spoke at the February dinner meeting about his perspectives on the Catholic Church's movement toward Christian unity that led to the allowance for him to transfer his religious vocation from being an Episcopal priest to a Catholic priest.

He also shared the personal journey of his growing family during their tenure at St Rita's parish and the loving outreach of that community. He related that the care of the clergy (and their family, in his case) is a differentiator for the Catholic Church and a key to the Catholic faith. He feels that the heart of the diocese is the parish and the sense of community is the growth of the Church.

During the follow-up questions, he spoke of the challenges that the Christian faith will face due to the unwillingness of most Millennials to join anything organized.

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

Editor: Dawn Epping  
dawn.epping@yahoo.com

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 Message March, 2018

If you were unable to attend our February dinner Meeting at Canyon Creek, than you missed one of the better meetings we have had and easily the most well attended. Father Joshua Whitfield was outstanding and held us all captive with his wisdom and wit. Thank you Chris Taylor for arranging to have you friend Father Josh speak to our members last month.

Our March Dinner Meeting also promises to be an excellent meeting with Bill Keffler, Chief Operating Officer, Diocese of Dallas as our speaker. Many of you will remember Bill as the long time Richardson City Manager. I am really looking forward to meeting Bill and listening to what he has to say. If you are able to attend the March Meeting I am sure you will not leave disappointed.

March 17<sup>th</sup> a.k.a. St Patrick's Day our club is hosting the Annual VAP Kick-off Brunch at Holy Trinity Seminary. Since it is our turn to host this event, I trust that we will be very well represented at this event. You all received an Evite in the last several days inviting you and your guest(s) to this very important annual event. If you have not already done so please respond to the Evite so we may get an accurate count. The Morning begins with 9:00 AM Mass, celebrated by Fr Edwin Leonard, Diocesan Vocation Director and followed by brunch. Please come!

Catholic Radio 9:10 AM...Our District Governor, Jo-Ann Bresowar is looking for serrans to work as a committee to put together a Saturday morning program, i.e. Name of the Program, the format , etc. She met with Dave Palmer at the station and he is very interested in the possibility of having a monthly program about Serra. What we do, why we do it, etc. **If you are interested in working on this project let me know.**

Also, the Serra Clubs in the Diocese of Dallas are considering sponsoring a booth at the Annual Dallas Ministry Conference, Oct 11 - 13<sup>th</sup>. Having a booth at this very well attended event will give our Serra Clubs excellent exposure and opportunity for increasing membership. **If you are interested in working on this project let me know.**

St Junipero Serra, pray for us!

Jim Duffy  
Cell 214-578-0721 Res 469-777-3911  
jpduffy320@gmail.com

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- Newsletter Editor  
Dawn Epping
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<p><b>PRAY FOR THE HEALING POWER OF GOD FOR:</b></p> <p>Ed &amp; Bernadette Johnson Tom Demarest Kathy Himmelberg Jerry Hurster Leo Heiting</p>	<b>March Anniversaries</b>	<b>March Birthdays</b>																	
	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Rick and Vicki Dean</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">10</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Jim O'Malley</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">8</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Jim Duffy</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">20</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Chris and Kelly Taylor</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">10</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Greg Mechler</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">16</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Bill Larsen</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">28</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Bill Crowley</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">17</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Rick and Vicki Dean	10	Jim O'Malley	8	Jim Duffy	20	Chris and Kelly Taylor	10	Greg Mechler	16	Bill Larsen	28			Bill Crowley	17		
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# 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 twelve rungs on the ladder to humility. Over the last several 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,
- the second rung, to follow God's will,
- the third rung, to submit to spiritual authority through obedience,
- the fourth rung, to quietly endure our burdens,
- the fifth rung, to confess our sins to our spiritual authority,
- the sixth rung, to be content without glory or attention,
- the seventh rung, to be self-effacing and recognize our inferiority to others,
- the eighth rung, to comply with the example of our Church leaders, and
- the ninth rung, to remain silent.

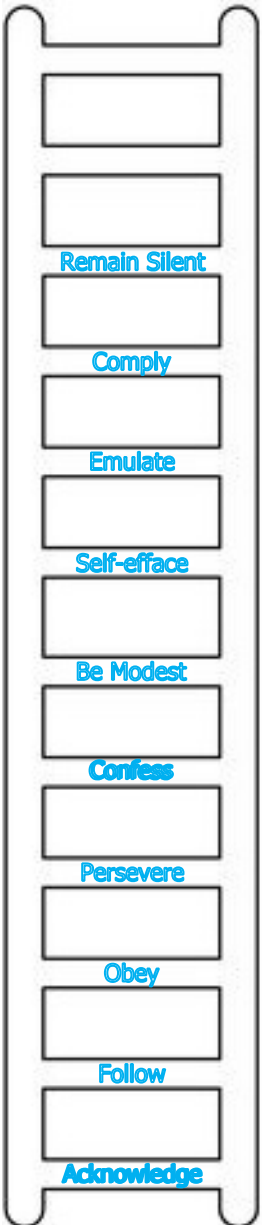
The Rule of Benedict continues:

"The tenth step of humility is that we are not given to ready laughter, for it is written: "Only fools raise their voices in laughter" (Sirach 21:23)." <sup>1</sup>

This step seemed inconsistent with other scriptural references that encourage a light heart, but Sister Joan Chittister provides the following explanation:

"...In the tenth degree of humility, Benedict does not forbid humor. On the contrary, Benedict is insisting that we take our humor very seriously. Everything we laugh at is not funny. Some things we laugh at are, in fact, tragic and need to be confronted. Ethnic jokes are not funny. Sexist jokes are not funny. The handicaps of suffering people are not funny. Pornography and pomposity and shrieking, mindless noise is not funny. Derision is not funny, sneers and sarcasm and snide remarks, no matter how witty, how pointed, how clever, how cutting, are not funny. They are cruel. The humble person cultivates a soul in which everyone is safe. A humble person handles the presence of the other with soft hands, a velvet heart, and an unveiled mind."

Next time you are tempted to laugh, consider whether you would find the joke as funny if you were the subject of the joke. May we maintain a light heart while considering the feelings of others.



*Dawn*

31 Club						
<i>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</i>						
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>	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		

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