



780 W. Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804

SERRA CLUB OF DAVENPORT

APRIL 2016

MISSION STATEMENT: *To foster and affirm vocations to the Ministerial Priesthood and vowed religious life in the USA and through this ministry, further our members' common Catholic faith.*

LEADERSHIP

Ex Officio
Bishop Martin Amos

Chaplain
Fr. Thomas Hennen

President
Bill Barrett

V.P. Programs
Jim Tiedje

V.P. Membership
Dr. Larry Huber
John Neuberger

V.P. Vocations
Charles Missel

V.P. Communications
Peg Beaudry

Secretary
Peg Beaudry

Treasurer
John Stratman

Trustees
Charles Missel
John Miller
Sandra Frericks
John Stratman

Letter from Bill Barrett, President

Happy Easter to all. The Lord is Alive and Well. We pray you had a great Lenten Season and are now enjoying the Easter Season.

Please keep our retired Priests, deacons and religious in your prayers. They have dedicated their lives of service to God. Msgr. Robert Walter, Fr. Tom Stratman and others.

Saturday, June 4th is the ordination to Priesthood for Ross Epping, please join us and support his new Vocation. Sacred Heart Cathedral, 10:00 A. M. We also have two being ordained Deacons, Chris Weber and Dan Dorau.

Congratulations to our newest members Vince Motto Jr. We look forward to his input and prayers. Please introduce yourself to Vince at your first opportunity.

Please share the message of Serra to good Catholics. God's works certainly need more shepherds.

We need your Support right now, this First Friday, our District Governor for Regions 9C and 9E is coming from Des Moines for an informative meeting about the keys to a successful Serra Club and what is happening in Serra regionally. A lot of good things are happening in the Midwest Spiritually. Record number of seminarians and a lot of excitement in our Churches.

Remember Friday 6:40 Rosary, 7:00 Mass, then breakfast with a meeting. Bring a friend. Be Supportive! God Bless you for your works.

Bill Barrett
President, Serra Club of Davenport

FIRST FRIDAY MASS - APRIL 1, 2016

Rosary for our Bishop's intentions & Serra Club's prayers: 6:40 a.m.

Leader of the Rosary:
John Stratman

Mass: 7:00 a.m.
Celebrant: Bishop Martin Amos
Reader: Peg Beaudry

Letter from Fr. Thom Hennen, Director of Vocations

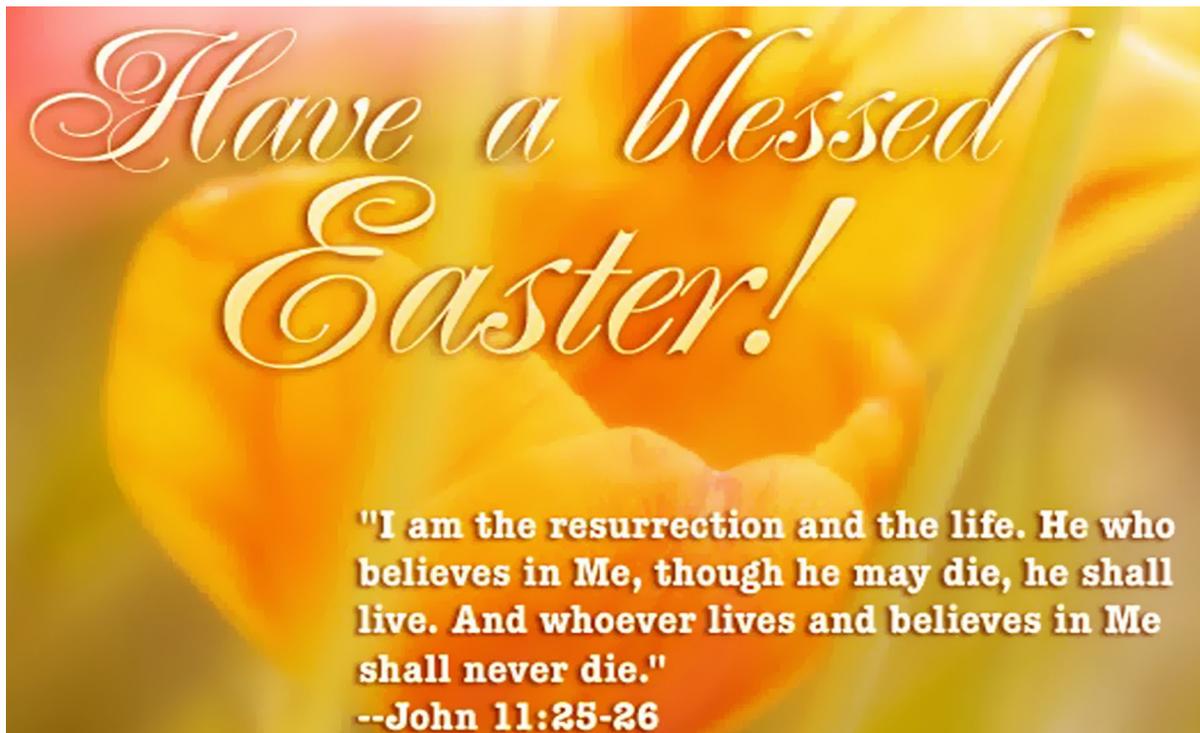
Dear Serrans,

He is risen! Alleluia! I hope you all had a wonderful Holy Week and Easter. I was at my usual post in Colfax playing parish priest for the week. It was a wonderful week filled with many blessings. Aside from that, I have been managing to keep myself busy lining up summer placements for our seminarians, following up on seminarian applications for next year and working with Colleen on the annual budget. God willing, we will be looking at closer to 20 seminarians for the fall. Keep up the prayers and positive encouragement.

God bless and Happy Easter!
Fr. Thom

CATHOLIC MESSENGER NEWS

- Homecoming of sorts: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/visiting-the-north-american-college-a-homecoming-of-sorts/>
- Chrism Mass, impact on lay and clergy: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/chrism-mass-makes-profound-impact-on-lay-clergy/>
- Diocesan Pastoral Council Summary: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/refugees-mercy-seminarian-education-discussed-at-diocesan-pastoral-council/>
- An Easter Story: Led to the Church: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/an-easter-story-womans-work-with-larche-community-leads-her-to-the-church/>
- Clinton Franciscans and Social Work: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/clinton-franciscans-lauded-for-social-justice-work/>
- Pacem in Terris: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/local-pacem-in-terris-celebration-april-2/>
- Retirements and Assignments: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/02/4-priests-to-retire-10-receive-new-assignments/>
- “Pope Francis” House: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/bless-this-home-habitat-for-humanitys-pope-francis-house-completed/>
- Diocesan CFO retires: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/dioceses-first-female-ceo-retires/>
- “Here I Am Lord” composer to perform in Davenport: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2016/03/here-i-am-lord-composer-to-perform-in-davenport/>



SAVE THE DATE
Board Meeting
April 19, St. Vincent's, 7PM

Ordination Anniversaries– April
George Ssebadduka, 4/23/78

NEWS FROM MIKE DOWNEY (SERRA GOVERNOR REGION 9)

1. Upcoming Serra International Convention. Please encourage your members to attend.

Serra International Convention to be Hosted by Region 9 this year in St. Louis, June 30-July 3. In lieu of its annual regional convention, Region 9 is helping to host the Serra International Convention this year in St. Louis. The St. Louis Serra clubs are organizing the event with the help of Serra International. It's rare that we get the opportunity to attend a Serra International Convention so close to us. Please consider coming. The event will be held in downtown St. Louis at the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch. The Archbishop of St. Louis, Robert Carlson (formerly of Sioux Falls SD) will be celebrating the opening Mass. Father Brett Brannen, author of To Save A Thousand Souls, will speak, as will Patty Schneir on her personal faith journey. Archbishop George Lucas of Omaha will celebrate Friday Mass, and Bishop Andrew Cozzens, our episcopal advisor to Serra US will celebrate the Mass on July 1 (first anniversary of Junipero Serra as a Saint). For baseball fans, The KC Royals are playing the St. Louis Cardinals at the nearby stadium on Wednesday, June 29th, at 7:30 pm, and Thursday, June 30th at 6:15 pm.

2. Serra International Rosary for Vocations Conference Call Last Saturday of every month.

*Serra International has started a new prayer initiative for vocations—a worldwide rosary prayed together with hundreds of Serrans from around the world on a conference call or, if you use your computer, online. The last Saturday of every month, Serrans from all over the world are invited to join together in a recitation of the Rosary for vocations. Please join us for our fourth monthly international prayer of the Rosary for vocations. We will begin our prayer on **Saturday, Feb. 27, at 8:00 AM CST** with Serrans from around the world.*

To join our rosary from your computer, tablet or smartphone, go to: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/314315981> **Or dial in using your phone.** Dial [1-321-757-3119](tel:1-321-757-3119) and enter the access code: [314 315 981](https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/314315981)

ROSARY CONFERENCE CALL ETIQUETTE

Quiet Please

The Phone: If possible, use a regular telephone. Good quality cell phones with a clear signal also work. Avoid using the speaker function.

Call from somewhere quiet - away from pets, children, your spouse or coworkers - where you won't be disturbed. Put a "Do not Disturb" sign on your doorbell or office door. Turn off the TV and any music.

Mute: When necessary, use the "mute" button on your phone to keep out background noises, breathing, coughing, sneezing, etc.

Don't use the "hold" button FOR ANY REASON. It might make a buzzing in the line that can be heard by other callers. If you are calling in from work and have "music on hold," the music will be heard by the other participants and interrupt the call.

Dialing In

Be on time! Have the conference call phone number and participant access code (if any) ready so you don't have to search for it at the last minute. Try to call in just a minute or two before the official start time.

Note long distance: Please note that in most cases you'll be calling a long-distance number, and that cost will show up on your telephone phone bill. (Unless you've got an unlimited long distance plan.)

No answer: If the phone rings but you get no answer - or if the participant access code will not work - you might have misdialed or you are calling at the wrong time. Check the number and the time (and the code) and redial.

If you arrive late, do not interrupt the prayer. Remain silent and catch up as best you can.

Call Courtesy

Focus on the call: Be courteous to your conference call leader and your fellow participants by giving your full attention to the prayer of the Rosary.

When the call is over, feel free to say goodbye to everyone and hang up.

If you must leave early, do not interrupt the prayer by announcing your departure. Just hang up

3. Contributions to Serra Foundation now encouraged. Below is what I asked the DSM Club to include in their NL: ***Serra Foundation—consider giving this year!***

The Serra Foundation was established in 1951 and had over \$1 million in requests for help last year from seminaries and convents worldwide. It gave out about \$225,000 to many worthy vocations projects, including the Archdiocese of the US Military in the US. Clubs and individual members are asked to consider giving any amount this year to the Foundation to help with worldwide vocations work. For more information, go to serrainternational.org and click on the Serra Foundation tab.

NEWS FROM MIKE DOWNEY (SERRA GOVERNOR REGION 9) CONT.

4. Update on Financial status of Serra Intl and Serra US. At the Houston meeting, it was reported that both organizations are in reasonably good financial shape. Serra US was helped especially by an anonymous \$90,000 gift which covered all the back dues from prior years. I heard this second hand but from someone who attended the board meetings there. Apparently, the audited financials for both organizations are on the websites, but I couldn't find those for 2015 when I looked. I'll try to keep on top of this with both organizations.

5. Questions/Comments/Ideas from The Club Presidents on the Call.

A. Can Serra Club dues be deducted as charitable contributions? Pat O'Neill from Dubuque asked this question. Both John Liston and the DSM treasurer, Bill Cook, feel that the IRS would not allow this in an audit of an individual's taxes. Because the dues are required for membership and membership and its benefits follow from the payment of the dues, it would not be a contribution made without receiving any value. Both indicated they are not tax experts so their opinion is thus qualified. Your own tax accountant is probably the best to answer the question. However, it is not being done by anyone John Liston knows in Serra and he feels if it were possible, it would be more widely promoted.

B. Des Moines Club is changing its "doing business as" name to the Saint Serra Club of Des Moines. No legal papers are being filed or amended to do this, so the Club is just adopting the new name in all its marketing and communications. The thought is that this will help diminish the confusion between the Serra Club and the Sierra Club, which happens very often.

C. Davenport Activities. The Davenport Club has done some great things recently. First they created and distributed Seminarian Prayer Boards entitled *Adopt a Seminarian* with pics and short bios on all their seminarians to all 79 parishes in their diocese! Second they had terrific results from a letter sent over the Bishops signature asking key folks to be a "friend of Serra" by contributing \$100 to the Serra Club of Davenport. If I remember correctly, they have received over \$6000 from this. (It helped to pay for all the Seminarian Prayer boards.) Third they have drafted a full page bulletin insert to place in all the parishes some upcoming weekend regarding the need for people to work on vocations activities in their parish. It is extremely well worded and a copy is attached for you to review and borrow from if you wish. Fourth, they have prepared a simple brochure to leave in the back of churches once the bulletin insert has been handed out that contains information about Serra and is designed as a mail back piece for anyone interested in learning more. Again, Bill Barrett has been good enough to share and copies of the front and back of the brochure are also included with this email. Thanks to Bill for sharing so much with us!!!

6. District Governor replacement. I am slated to do two more years as District Governor. I would like each club to prayerfully reflect on and submit to me at least one name of one of their members who might be a good candidate to replace me. I'd like to have this person identified before I start my final year so they can shadow me and won't have to go through the same steep learning curve I did. This is important. I will tell you that I did not enthusiastically volunteer for this job, but it has been one of the most rewarding and joy filled experiences ever in my life and I feel such joy from doing what I think Christ (and our Bishop) called me to do.