



SERRA CLUB OF DAVENPORT

780 W. Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804

Pray for vocations

Volume 42

March Newsletter 2014

Number 14

EX OFFICIO: Bishop Martin Amos **CHAPLAIN:** Fr. Thom Hennen **PRESIDENT:** Bill Barrett

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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.*

Mass and Breakfast: 1st Friday, March 7, 2014

Rosary Rosary for our Bishop's intentions & Serra's prayers
6:40 a.m. Leader of the Rosary: John Stratman
Mass: 7:00 a.m.; Celebrant: Bishop Amos; Reader: Peg Beaudry

Monthly Newsletter	If you have any information or suggestions you would like to have in the newsletter, please email me at pajbeaudry@hotmail.com . Thank you!
Bill Barrett President	May all of you have a prayerful and valuable Lent.
Fr. Thom Hennen Director of Vocations	Dear Serrans, I hope and pray that you are surviving our long winter. It may seem like a long winter, but the last three months seem to have been filled with activity for me. I've been doing a little bit of everything I suppose. In February we had a great Project Andrew Dinner at St. Ambrose University and a great Thinking of Priesthood Day in Ames. Later this month we will have a Project Andrew Dinner at the Newman Center in Iowa City. Last week, I mailed out applications for two of our seminarians, Scott Foley and John Lamansky, to attend the North American College in Rome. So, hopefully we will know in the coming weeks if they have been accepted. As far as new seminarians, I have one application in hand right now, and there are still a few who are "on the fence." So keep the prayers coming. Hopefully we will soon see signs of a new springtime, both in terms of the weather and for vocations in the Diocese of Davenport. Thank you for your prayerful support and be assured of my prayers for you. God Bless, Fr. Thom
Serra	Each Serra member is asked to submit names of five perspective new members.
Articles from The Catholic Messenger	2/6/14: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Msgr. Burnett retires from VA Hospital". Msgr. James Burnett, a priest of the Diocese of Davenport, has retired from his position as chaplain at Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital. Msgr. Burnett, a U.S. Air Force veteran, served 16 years in his VA hospital position. His last day on the job was Jan.31. During his tenure, Msgr. Burnett served eight years as chief, Chaplain Service, and six years in hospice ministry. For six years, Msgr. Burnett served as president of the National Conference of VA Catholic Chaplains (NCVAC). He also served the past six years on the Presbyteral Council of the Archdiocese for the Military Services (AMS). He was named a Prelate of Honor by Pope Benedict XVI on Feb. 11, 2012. "Retirement is a continuation of my journey in life. I am truly humbled and blessed with the wonderful people the Lord has brought into my life! I look forward to what HE has in store for me as I continue on this journey called life," Msgr. Burnett said. Archbishop Timothy

Broglia of the U.S. Archdiocese for Military Services expressed appreciation for Msgr. Burnett's service: "Msgr. Burnett has made a tremendous difference in the archdiocesan appreciation for and service to the Veterans. His leadership in the NCVACC and on the Presbyteral Council has been of great service to me. I will miss his presence." Msgr. Burnett, who plans to travel this month, will begin a new chapter in his ministry in March, serving the people at Our Lady of Peace Parish in Darien, Ill., and assisting in various parishes in the Diocese of Joliet, Illinois.

- "Sr. Marilyn Reyes CHM dies". Sister Marilyn Reyes, CHM, 94, died Jan. 28th at Bishop Drumm Retirement Center in Johnston. She entered the Congregation of the Humility of Mary, Ottumwa in 1936 and professed vows in 1939. For more than 25 years she taught primary grades in the Diocese of Davenport at St. Mary and St. Patrick in Ottumwa, St. Mary in Centerville and St. Alphonsus in Davenport, as well as outside the diocese in Des Moines and cities in Illinois and Montana. Following completion of her M.A. in intercultural education from the University of the Americas, Cholula, Puebla, Mexico in 1978, she began a ministry in bilingual religious education with emphasis on Spanish-speaking persons. This ministry continued formally and informally for the rest of her life. In addition, course work in religious studies at Mundelein Collage near Chicago prepared her for pastoral ministry in California, Arizona, Illinois, Kansas and Texas. She retired to the Humility of Mary Center, Davenport, in 1992 where she remained a volunteer or participant in many activities in the Quad Cities. Among these were Gilda's Club, Friendly House, Center for Active Seniors, Inc., and the Iowa Democratic Party. She enjoyed her associations with Spanish-speaking seminarians. Several months ago she moved to Bishop Drumm Care Center.
- "Use stamps to support Haiti rosary factory." by Fr. Bill Kneemiller. Recently I read that the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp of the "Inverted Jenny" biplane stamp a few months ago. This stamp is a commemoration of the famous error in which the U.S. Postal Service printed images of the biplane flying upside down. The misprint occurred in 1918 in a rush to celebrate the first airmail flight with the issuance of a 24-cent Curtiss Jenny stamp, according to the U.S. Postal Service website. The two-color printing process at that time was prone to human error, a fact known to stamp collectors. "A Washington, D.C., Post Office clerk – who had never seen an airplane – sold a sheet of 100 stamps mistakenly showing the biplane upside down. For nearly a century, stamp collectors have chased the inverted Jennys and have accounted for nearly all 100 of them". Several months ago, the Postal Service issued the Inverted Jenny stamp, but shortly afterwards issued six pages of these stamps that depict the biplane flying right-side up to generate interest in stamp collecting. The stamps come in a sealed envelope so the buyer doesn't know until opening the envelope whether the stamps are upside down or right-side up. Anyone who buys one of these pages of six, \$2 stamps picturing the upright Jenny will have an instantly rare stamp, with an estimated value of at least \$25,000 for the page. That figure is based on stamp collector and author Peter Rexford's estimate. The reason I'm mentioning this is that I'm inviting anyone around the state of Iowa to buy a page of these stamps. If by a 100,000 to 1 chance you get a page of stamps of the inverted Jenny flying right-side up, please consider donating part of your good fortune to our Rosary Factory in Haiti. Also, anyone who has extra \$2 stamps and would like to help me mail hundreds of rosaries to people in the military, please send stamps to Fr. Kneemiller, c/o SS Philip & James Church, PO Box 7, Grand Mound, IA 52751.

2/13/14:

- Future Priest will make history in diocese – Vatican approves Chris Young's ordination to the priesthood. Chris Young, a married, former Episcopalian priest, will become a pioneer in the Diocese of Davenport this summer when he is ordained to the Catholic priesthood by Bishop Marin Amos. Pope Francis granted permission for Bishop Amos to ordain Young, 53, to the Catholic ministry of former Episcopal priests. Under the provision, more than 100 men have been ordained to the Catholic priesthood in U.S. dioceses since 1983 (www.pastoral-provision.org).

2/20/14:

- Sister Rose Pacatte to receive award – Sister Rose Pacatte, a member of the Daughters of St. Paul who writes and speaks about film, has been named the recipient of the Daniel J.

Kane Religious Communications Award, given by the Institute for Pastoral Initiatives at the University of Dayton. The award is given for the use of mass media to communicate Gospel values. "Sr. Rose is a prolific writer, lecturer and movie critic, whose approach to film truly exemplifies the spirit of the Kane award," said a Feb. 11 statement by Sister Angela Ann Zukowski, a Mission Helper of the Sacred Heart who is director of the institute. Sister Pacatte is a regular columnist and film reviewer in the Catholic press, including the *National Catholic Reporter* newspaper and the *U.S. Catholic* and *St. Anthony Messenger* magazines. She is a film critic and host for the online programs "The INNdustry with Sr. Rose" and "Sister Rose Goes to the Movies." She also is director of the Pauline Center for Media Studies in Culver City, Calif.

- Father Thom Hennen, vocations director for the Diocese of Davenport, spoke to confirmation candidates at St. Mary's In Iowa City Feb. 9. The candidates from St. Peter's in Cosgrove and St. Patrick's in Iowa City – along with two candidates from St. Wenceslaus in Iowa City – joined St. Mary parishioners for Fr. Hennen's presentation. He discussed why Catholics believe what they believe. Youth Minister Patti McTaggart said his annual talks help candidates understand the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and offer an example of the gift of wisdom.
- Fr. Spring earns scouting's Silver Beaver Award –Father Mark Spring has received the Silver Beaver Award from the Mississippi Valley Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The Silver Beaver is the highest award given at the council level for distinguished service in Boy Scouts. Father Spring is the parochial vicar at Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison. He received the award for his service to the council's executive board as chaplain and for service to the Boy Scouts of America in its efforts to provide the scouting program to young men. Father Spring is the chartered organization representative of Cub Scout Pack 7 and Boy Scout Troop 7 through Holy Family Parish. He also has served as chaplain at seven national jamborees. Jamborees are national scouting events held every four years that attract around 410,000 scouts. Fr. Spring received the Eagle Scout Award, the highest award of the Boy Scouts of American, in September 1965. He was a member of Troop 7, at that time chartered at Sacred Heart Parish in Fort Madison. He also earned the Catholic Church's Ad Altare Dei award for Boy Scouts. He is a member of the honor camping organization, Tribe of the Silver Tomahawk, and Keeper of the Wampum. In the fall of 2013 Fr. Spring completed the Wood Badge Training Course, which provides the highest level of training for adult scouts. A graduate of Fort Madison High School, Fr. Spring served in the U.S. Air Force from 1969-73, and then graduated from St. Ambrose University in Davenport in 1976. He was ordained to the priesthood on Aug. 29, 1980. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a chaplain from 1984-97. After retiring from the military in 1997, he returned to the Diocese of Davenport to serve as a priest of the diocese.

2/27/14

- Carmelite Sister Loebig dies. Sister Mary Jo Loebig of the Carmelite Monastery in Eldridge died Feb. 11 at the Kahl Home in Davenport. She was 81. She was born in Wesley, Iowa on March 30, 1932, to Victor and Viola (Doughan) Loebig. In 1949, she entered the Sisters of St. Francis, Milwaukee, Wis., where she made her final profession Aug. 12, 1955. Also in 1955, she received her B.A. in chemistry from Cardinal Stritch College in Milwaukee. In 1964, Sr. Loebig received her M.S. in chemistry, physics and math at the secondary level. From 1970-73, she was a core member of the Humility House of Prayer in Davenport, during which time she taught math at Assumption High School. In 1975, Sr. Loebig received a master's degree in religion and psychology from the University of Iowa, following which she did a year of pastoral work in St. Patrick Parish, in Fremont, Neb. In 1976, Sister entered the Carmelite Monastery and made her solemn profession with the contemplative community in 1981. She served many years in leadership in the religious community and also contributed her gifts and talents to formation of new members and to art, writing and music. She also served as a spiritual director for a number of people in the larger community. Her desire to be of service, her compassion toward others and her upbeat approach to life were gifts to her community. She was also an avid gardener for many years.
- Stories From training at Fort Dix. First Army Reserve holds its first winter annual training. The glamour of the significance of this training lost its appeal the first two nights at Fort Dix,

N.J., when he (Fr. Bill Kneemiller) was experiencing a zero-degree wind chill whip through their tent. A kerosene heater wasn't enough to keep a nearby water bottle from turning into ice. However, the Army's three-part component sleeping bag with its double goose-down bags and outer Gortex shell is rated down to zero and works really well. Once he made a little tent out of his poncho liner he was able to sleep, none the worse for wear after this winter trial. Following this weather challenge, he found himself, as brigade chaplain, privileged to supervise three other chaplains and their assistants. Their denominations included Missouri Synod Lutheran, Church of God, Southern Baptist and "Salvationist," or member of the Salvation Army.

- First meetings with a Salvationist. The second week of training, I asked the Salvationist about his denomination's baptism. I've read in Catholic literature that we do not accept their baptism. The E-4 (specialist rank) told me that baptism for a Salvation Army member was different from other Christians. His answer seemed vague so I asked what the baptismal formula entailed. Finally, he said, "We don't baptize." and explained that the Salvation Army believes in a "spiritual" baptism. Dumbfounded, I exclaimed: "Holy cow – you don't baptize?" I realized this is why the Catholic Church doesn't recognize their baptism.
- Praying with the Baptist senior NCOs. I've had a couple of really cool experiences praying morning or evening prayer (Liturgy of the Hours) with Southern Baptist soldiers. In both cases, the soldiers have been senior NCOs (non-commissioned officers of staff sergeant rank or higher). African-Americans from the Deep South, they are steeped in Bible learning, which they call "The Word." One afternoon, I came up the chow line with about 200 soldiers ahead of me, about a 45-minute wait. Right in front of me were three female senior sergeants from Texas. After exchanging a few pleasantries, I showed them the travel book, "Shorter Christian Prayer," and asked them if they wanted to "hear God's word." Instantly, all three stepped closer. Wow! They didn't want to miss one word. My experience is that the Baptists have such a respect for God's word that it manifests as reverence and attentiveness to biblical study that is a joy to behold.
- Private Kneemiller reporting for duty. One of the battalion chaplains knows the head cook and offers to help serve supper chow, along with the chaplain assistant. A couple of days later, I offer to help serve the meal, go to the head cook, a staff sergeant, and announce: "Private Kneemiller reporting for duty." I am reminded of my dad's rank in the Army in WWII, and his trials in being in the Battle of the Bulge. Every time I show up for duty, the staff sergeant assigns me to serve vegetables. Upon plopping the veggies on a plate, I sometimes comment to the soldiers that they are now "vegucated." The chow hall is where I get to see the diversity of the U.S. Army. Two are junior enlisted who were born in Laos and Bangladesh. There's also wide latitude in the social-economic backgrounds. The officer in charge is a chemist in civilian life who works as a consultant to the food industry. Next to me on the chow line are a couple of Hispanic junior enlisted who work at fast-food restaurants in downtown and inner-city Chicago.
- Why is the chapel tent so close to the smoke point? I usually comment that it represents "Holy Smoke". But what really disarms the smokers is when I ask: "What do you call a group of smokers?" Usually they will think of something negative like, "Future cancer patients." I encourage them to think about it, and then say: "A group of smokers would be called a 'pack of smokers'". The younger enlisted soldiers laugh uproariously, but as they do so, I recall the old axiom, "the higher the rank, the funnier the joke."
- I will close with an image from the smoking area that I believe helps Army tradition. Every night at 1700 hours (5 p.m.), the National Anthem is played at main post and we can still hear it out in the field. As the anthem begins, the dozen of smokers lounging around the sandbag fortifications are transformed from a loose gaggle just "smokin'" and jokin' to standing at attention and saluting the post flag. This little episode every night reinforces me that the best the military can offer is a sense of discipline and innate patriotism. It is also a comfort to recall that because of the great power and potential for the misuse of the military, there's a long tradition that civilians have oversight and ultimate control over the military. I am proud of these younger soldiers for their observance of the long-standing disciplines of the military and their patriotic salutes on a blustery day here at historic Fort Dix, N.J.

March Priest Ordination: Maynard Brothersen, 3/19/48