Greetings!

Thank you all for your vocations and what you do to help keep our faith in the forefront. May is Mary’s month, please pray the rosary often and keep vocations in your prayers.

Many changes are occurring, including the announcement of our newly appointed bishop. Changes in Fr. Hennen’s “graduating” from Assumption to St. Ambrose ministry and additional vocation help with Fr. Belger in Iowa City. This gives us greater opportunities for promoting, encouraging and supporting religious vocations.

Several ordinations are coming for the priesthood and diaconate, things are looking positive. Keep your eyes open and ASK if you see potential candidates.

May God Bless you for all your work.

Bill Barrett, President
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Letter from Bill Barrett, President

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Letter from Fr. Thom Hennen, Director of Vocations

Dear Serrans,

There seems to be no shortage of exciting news lately! Of course, we are all excited about Bishop-Elect Zinkula’s ordination and installation as the ninth Bishop of Davenport in June. Given his work in seminary formation, I am sure he will be a great promoter of vocations and will want to get to know our seminarians well. We are also extremely grateful for the nearly 11 years of service to our diocese of Bishop Amos. It has truly been a pleasure to get to know Bishop Amos more personally and to work closely with him these past 6 years as vocation director. I sincerely believe that God always sends us the shepherd we need.

My own assignment is changing somewhat this July. While remaining Director of Vocations, I will begin as Chaplain and Director of Campus Ministry at St. Ambrose University. Sadly, I will no long be able to teach at Assumption High School as I have done (and so loved) these past 3 years, but I look forward to this new adventure. Also, the Office of Vocations will welcome Fr. Jeff Belger as Associate Director of Vocations, while continuing in his present assignment at St. Mary’s and the Newman Catholic Student Center in Iowa City. This way we will have a vocation director both at our own Diocesan university and at the largest state university in Iowa, which happens to be in our diocese. I am hopeful for the fruit this will undoubtedly bear in the future. Keep up the prayers and may God bless you all in this Easter season!

In Christ,

Fr. Thom
**Catholic Messenger News**

- From A to Z, introduction of future bishop: [https://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/04/from-a-to-z-davenport-diocese-introduces-future-bishop/](https://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/04/from-a-to-z-davenport-diocese-introduces-future-bishop/)

**Ordination Anniversaries—May**

- Mark Yates, 5/5/12; Ken Kuntz, 5/28/77;
- Tom Stratman, 5/6/50; Jim Vrba, 5/28/77;
- Hai Duc Dinh, 5/10/08; Ed O’Melia, 5/28/77;
- Joseph Sia, 5/10/08; Bob McAleer, 5/29/71;
- John Stack, 5/13/88; Nick Adam, 5/29/76;
- Patrick Hilgendorf, 5/17/97; Marty Goetz, 5/29/92;
- Joseph Nguyen, 5/22/10; Tim Regan, 5/30/91;
- Bishop Martin Amos, 5/25/68; Walter Helms, 5/31/69;
- David Brownfield, 5/25/90; Bill Kaska, 5/31/69;
- Jacob Greiner, 5/25/13; Mike Phillips, 5/31/69;
- Bill Meyer, 5/26/49; Mike Spiekermeier, 5/31/69;
- Bishop-elect Thomas Zinkula, 5/26/90 Brian Miclot, 5/31/74

**Region 9 Meeting—October 2017, Omaha Nebraska**

Let me invite our Region 9 Serrans to Omaha Nebraska for the next regional convention. On Friday, October 20 through Sunday, October 22, 2017, we will be gathering at the Marriott Regency ($99 rate). Friday will begin at the famous Boys Town campus which is celebrating their 100th year. Just know that this will be an inspiring and prayerful top-of-the line convention. Please add it to your save-the-date calendar and make plans to attend. You won’t be disappointed. More information to follow.

Bob Campney, Chairman, Serra Region 9W District Governor

**Save the Date**

**Business Meeting**
April 19th, St. Vincent’s, 7PM. Please note the change to Wednesdays!

**Priestly Ordinations**
May 27th, Dc. Dan Dorau, Prince of Peace, Clinton, IA. 10AM
June 3rd, Dc. Chris Weber, SS. Mary & Mathias, Muscatine, IA. 10AM

**Episcopal Ordination**
June 22nd, Bishop-elect Zinkula. Attendance by invitation only. Vespers with the bishop-elect will be June 21st at St. John Vianney, Bettendorf, IA, 7PM. This event is ticketed but open to the public.

**Diaconal Ordination**
July 8th, Deacon Class VII. Attendance by invitation only.

*Please keep all the ordinands in your prayers!*