



780 W. Central Park Ave.  
Davenport, IA 52804

**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

**FIRST FRIDAY  
MASS -  
OCT. 2, 2015**

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

**SERRA CLUB OF DAVENPORT**

**OCTOBER 2015**

**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.*



**Letter from Bill Barrett, President**

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! Your prayers and efforts were answered last week with the Canonization of St. Junípero Serra. "Always look forward, never look back".

Another mission accomplished: All 80 "Adopt a Seminarian" displays are delivered throughout the parishes in our diocese. Congratulations on a job well done for the many helpers putting the displays together and especially Chuck and Bill M. for all their long distance deliveries. We have had tremendously positive response from the pastors. Many thanks to Our Lady of Victory Vocation Committee for developing such a fine display, which we copied for everyone's benefit.

We need to work with the enthusiasm of Pope Francis's visit to the U.S.A., and the canonization of St. Junípero Serra to further our Lord's mission of gathering more shepherds for his flock. Ask those who are inspired to help channel their energy by joining us in encouraging, supporting and affirming those in the religious life.

We also had a great Region 9 Serra Convention in Des Moines last week. The President of Serra International, the President of U. S. Council and the Executive Director were all present and excited about what's happening in Serra. Almost all our seminaries are at record numbers since 1995. Keep up the great work!

May God bless you for your works.

Bill Barrett,  
President, Serra Club of Davenport

---

## ***Letter from Fr. Thom Hennen, Director of Vocations***

Dear Serrans,

Well, it's official. We can now call our patron Saint Junípero Serra. As you know there was some controversy about his canonization, but I think the wisdom of the Church prevailed. The Saints are not people who were absolutely flawless by the standards of their time, let alone our time, but men and women who "bloomed where they were planted" and lived heroic lives of service to God and to His Church. I did find a good defense of Saint Junípero in an Op-Ed of the L.A. Times, of all places. The article is entitled: "Sainthood and Serra: His Virtues Outdistance His Sins." I'm sure there are others, but I think this one would be worth a quick internet search. Saint Junípero Serra, pray for us!

In other news, Colleen (my administrative assistant) and I attended the annual convention of the National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors in St. Louis in mid-September. We were part of the hosting region (Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas), so it was a little more work for both us, but it went very well and we came away with some helpful insights and resources for vocation ministry in the Diocese of Davenport.

Lastly, we will soon be rolling out our new seminarian poster for this academic year 2015-2016. Our theme is "Imitate what you celebrate," which is a line taken from the Rite of Ordination of Priests. In reality, by our baptism we are all called to imitate what we celebrate in the Eucharist, namely, the self-sacrificial love of Christ. The poster really looks sharp thanks to the great design work of Devin Schadt, who has designed our poster every year except last year since I came on board in 2011.

Please keep up the prayers and encouragement and be assured of my prayers for you.

In Christ,  
Fr. Thom

---

## ***Takeaway from Regional Serra Meeting, Bill McAfoos***

Dear Serrans:

As a new member of the Serra Club, I had the opportunity to attend the annual regional meeting held in Des Moines, Iowa last weekend. I wasn't sure what to expect, but once I participated in the opening Mass, I could tell by the attendance that this was a well-organized event. Friday evening was kicked off by a dinner at the Marriott with Bishop Pates of Des Moines speaking to the group. The following morning we began with a 7am Mass held on location, which was followed by a very full day of speakers on various topics centered on the mission of the Serra International organization. I was very impressed by the Midwest Serrans as they represent the top leadership in the organization. I was amazed at the tenure of many of the Serrans I met, how passionate they are about vocations and the overall support they give to our Catholic Church and the priests, sisters, deacons and seminarians. The Davenport Club's initiative with the Adopt a Seminarian display looked very nice amongst other clubs' similar displays. My final takeaway from my first meeting is that we need to continually support our religious vocations and spread the word any way we can to help awareness to all Catholics.

Sincerely,  
Bill McAfoos

---

### **CATHOLIC MESSENGER NEWS**

- Precious Blood Community celebrates anniversaries: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/09/precious-blood-community-celebrates-anniversaries/>
- Clinton Franciscan participates in WMOF: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/09/clinton-franciscan-participates-in-world-meeting-of-families/>
- Catholics excited to see the Pope: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/09/catholics-excited-to-see-pope/>
- Papal Address to Congress: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/09/full-text-of-pope-francis-speech-to-congress/>

### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **Board Meeting**

October 20, St. Vincent's

#### **Thanksgiving Gathering**

Friday, Nov. 13th at St.  
Ambrose Rogalski Center