



780 W. Central Park Ave.  
Davenport, IA 52804

# SERRA CLUB OF DAVENPORT

DECEMBER 2017

**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 Thomas Zinkula
- Chaplain**  
Fr. Thomas Hennen
- President**  
Bill Barrett
- V.P. Programs**  
Jim Tiedje  
Thom Hart
- V.P. Membership**  
Dr. Larry Huber  
Bill McAfoos
- V.P. Vocations**  
Charles Missel  
Donna Golden
- V.P. Communications**  
Peg Beaudry
- Secretary**  
Peg Beaudry
- Treasurer**  
John Stratman
- Trustees**  
Charles Missel  
John Miller  
Sandra Frericks  
John Stratman

## FIRST FRIDAY MASS – DEC. 1ST SACRED HEART

First Friday Masses will be moving parish to parish.

December 1st will be at  
8:00 AM Mass at

Sacred Heart Cathedral  
Chapel  
422 E. 10th Street  
Davenport, IA 52803

### *Letter from Bill Barrett, President*

Merry Christmas to all and thank you for your vocations!

We hope you were able to join us for your Thanksgiving Gala. We had Bishop Zinkula celebrate the Mass and over 30 priests and religious with over a 100 people in attendance. We'd like to thank Colleen Darland, Deb McAfoos and her daughter Meredith Dreasler for putting the gala together. Also thanks to The Catholic Messenger and Barb for the great article covering the event. We also want to thank all the benefactors and attendees for their support. Next year we are planning on having it Nov 16th at the new diocesan center at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Mark your calendars!

You had a great year with 2 priestly (Fr Dan Dorau and Fr Chris Weber) ordinations as well as 9 new permanent deacons and Deacon John Lamansky ordained in Rome.

Thanks also are well deserved for Fr Thom Hennen got his great job as vocations director and a great welcome to Fr Jeff Belger associate vocations director. The Serra Club looks forward to working with them in our drive to support, encourage and promote vocations.

Have a Blessed Christmas and a great New Year. May God bless you all!

Bill Barrett, President, Serra Club of Davenport

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

Dear Serrans,

I suppose Thanksgiving is on my mind, so I want to sincerely thank all of you for your prayers and support of vocations in our diocese. Our Serra Club President, Bill Barrett, is always so good about thanking me for my vocation. I have heard him say the same to many of my brother priests, as well as to our deacons and religious sisters. It does not go unnoticed. Bill is also always quick to ask me, "Is there anything we can do to help you, Father?" Unfortunately, a lot of the things I have on my docket are not things I can easily "outsource," but I always appreciate prayers.!

As you know, more and more is being asked of fewer and fewer priests. And I'm afraid to say that we will likely "feel the pinch" even more in the next 5-10 years (even with a slight increase in the number of seminarians in recent years), as there is a large cohort of priests that will be reaching retirement age soon. Maybe the biggest way that we can all help our priests right now is simply not to expect of them everything that we expected in the past, when our parishes had multiple priests and we had many more priests in special ministries, such as university work, teaching in Catholic schools, hospital chaplaincy, etc. Just as your lives have gotten busier, priests' schedules have as well. And just as you desire quiet time and time with family, priests and all who minister in the Church need to eat, sleep, pray, relax and attend to their own families from time to time (I think here especially of aging parents). And in the end, being attentive to these things will make them better servants. Your patience, prayers, and support of our priests, deacons, and religious are always appreciated!

As we enter into the Advent and look to the Christmas season to follow, let us hold each other in prayer as we wait with joyful expectation for the coming of the Lord.

In Christ,  
Fr. Thom

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## **CATHOLIC MESSENGER NEWS**

- Serra Club affirms vocations to clergy and vowed religious life: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/29001/>
- Sisters' no hate campaign makes a difference: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/sisters-no-hate-campaign-makes-a-difference/>
- Confirming Gen Z: Seeing the sacrament as a beginning, not an end: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/confirming-gen-z-seeing-the-sacrament-as-a-beginning-not-an-end/>
- Diocesan center at Sacred Heart Cathedral will be dedicated Nov. 19: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/diocesan-center-at-sacred-heart-cathedral-will-be-dedicated-nov-19/>
- Catholic school students honor veterans: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/catholic-school-students-honor-veterans-2/>
- Rapped in faith: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/rapped-in-faith/>
- Knights devoted to diversity: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/knights-devoted-to-diversity/>
- Mottet Leadership Institute spurs students onward: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/building-power-for-social-justice-mottet-leadership-institute-spurs-students-onward/>
- Homemade items help NCYC-bound youths 'feel the love': <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/homemade-items-help-nyc-bound-youths-feel-the-love/>
- Iowa bishops discuss legislative priorities: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2017/11/iowas-bishops-discuss-legislative-priorities/>



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## **ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES - DECEMBER**

Steve Witt, 12/15/12; Ed Fitzpatrick, 12/18/70; Robert Shortall, 12/27/74  
Please take this time to pray for all vocations!

### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **Business Meeting**

December 20th, St. Vincent's, 7PM.

#### **Upcoming First Fridays**

December 1st, 8am, Sacred Heart Cathedral  
January 5th, 8am, St. Alphonsus, Davenport  
February 2nd, 8am, St. Mary, Davenport