



780 W. Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804

SERRA CLUB OF DAVENPORT

NOVEMBER 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.*

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 - NOV. 6, 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

Letter from Bill Barrett, President

November is the month of "Thanksgiving", let us be thankful. We have been blessed with many great religious people throughout our lives. Be sure to thank them for their vocation the next time you see them. Better yet, give them a call, send a note or an email, I'm sure they'd appreciate it.

I am thankful for the great crew we had last Tuesday working on our 100 Club mailing. It is because of all our supporters that we accomplished what we did this year with the "Adopt a Seminarian" program, Thank you Our Lady of Victory vocation committee for putting your great idea into action. Thank you all.

Remember our Appreciation and Thanksgiving Mass and dinner for the Religious on Nov. 13th, bring a friend.

May God Bless you all.
Bill Barrett,
President, Serra Club of Davenport

Letter from Fr. Thom Hennen, Director of Vocations

Dear Serrans,

It hardly seems possible, but we're already a quarter through the school year! There's something about school starting that always feels like getting in a time machine. Thankfully, so far, so good. The new seminarians are happy and adjusting to seminary life and their older brothers in formation are settling in for another year. Some of them are beginning to see a little light at the end of the tunnel. As far as possible applicants for next year, this is the time of year when it is most difficult to say. I have been in regular contact with a handful of good prospects, but there is still a lot that can happen between now and when they might decide to apply. So, please continue to pray for those who are discerning.

I want to thank the Serra Club for the "Adopt a Seminarian" displays that are popping up in parishes across the Diocese. I'm hearing great feedback from the parishioners and the seminarians. This was completely the initiative of the Serra Club. Thank you!

Our First Friday Mass (Nov. 6) is right around the corner as well as our annual Thanksgiving gathering (Nov. 13). I'm guessing there is more information on that in this newsletter and you should have already received an invitation in the mail. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

God bless,
Fr. Thom

National Vocation Awareness Week Calls Catholics To Foster Culture Of Vocations– USCCB, Oct. 14, 2015

The Catholic Church in the United States will celebrate National Vocation Awareness Week, November 1-7, 2015. This observance, sponsored by the U.S. bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, is a special time for parishes in the U.S. to foster a culture of vocations for the priesthood, diaconate and consecrated life.

Pope Francis, in his message of April 26, 2015 on the 52nd Day of World Prayer for Vocations states; "Responding to God's call means allowing Him to help us leave ourselves and our false security behind, and to strike out on the path which leads to Jesus Christ, the origin and destiny of our life and our happiness." The Holy Father stresses, "The Christian vocation, rooted in the contemplation of the Father's heart, thus inspires us to solidarity in bringing liberation to our brothers and sisters, especially the poorest."

National Vocations Awareness Week is designed to help promote vocation awareness and to encourage young people to ask the question: "To what vocation in life is God calling me?" Parish and school communities across the nation are asked to include, during the first week in November, prayer and special activities that focus on vocation awareness.

"Encouraging others to recognize the promptings of the Holy Spirit and to follow Christ without reservations are key elements in supporting a culture of vocations," said Bishop Michael F. Burbidge of Raleigh, North Carolina, chairman of the U.S. bishops' Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. "With God's grace, we can have a positive impact on others who may be open to considering a vocation to priesthood or religious life, by simply inviting them to think and pray about it. Our enthusiasm and willingness to speak directly to others about vocations just might be the conversation someone need to respond to God's call."

"Over and over again when asked, newly ordained priests and newly professed men and women religious, credit the encouragement of family members, coworkers, friends and clergy, as being a significant factor in their pursuing a vocation." said Fr. Ralph O'Donnell, USCCB's executive director of Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations.

Ordination Anniversaries– November

Joe Roost, 11/25/89

SAVE THE DATE

Thanksgiving Gathering

Friday, Nov. 13th at St. Ambrose

Mass at 5:30, Dinner to follow

RSVP by November 6th to

vocations@davenportdiocese.org

Board Meeting

November 17, St. Vincent's, 7PM

CATHOLIC MESSENGER NEWS

- Papal Address to Congress: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/09/full-text-of-pope-francis-speech-to-congress/>
- Strong Catholic Families presentations launch initiative in Knoxville: <https://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/10/23031/>
- Local Catholic Medical Guild growing: <https://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/10/local-catholic-medical-guild-growing/>
- Thich Nhat Hanh named Pacem in Terris winner: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/10/thich-nhat-hanh-named-pacem-in-terris-winner/>
- Couples coping with long-distance: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/10/separated-by-distance-united-by-love/>
- Krueger begins novitiate journey: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/10/krueger-begins-novitiate-journey/>
- Liturgy of the Hours, Approachable Prayer: <http://www.catholicmessenger.net/2015/10/now-is-the-time-to-pray-liturgy-of-the-hours/>