

# SERRA CLUB OF ST. LOUIS

## Serra Club of St. Louis

Chaplain

Father Brian Fallon

Director of Vocations(314)768.1888

### Officers for 2020-2021

President - Paul Kohl

President Elect - Paul Goldak

V.P. Programs - Angie Doerr

V.P. Vocations - Adina Tracy

V.P. Membership - Jeanne Fluri

V.P. Communications - Philip Blaxton

Secretary - Joe Racher Jr.

Treasurer - Suzanne Smith

Club Historian - Robert E. Ahrens

Trustees

Maureen Ahrens

Thomas Heeger

Gracemarie Miller

Past President Trustees

Bruce G. Bange

Jo Ann Muenks

Thomas Fasl

Newsletter Editor- Elise Rich

314-605-5293

Luncheon Reservations:

Maureen Ahrens

Ph. 314-353-8444

e-mail reahrens40@att.net

Newsletter E-mail -

stlserran@icloud.com

Serra Club of St. Louis Website

www.serrastl.org

District Governor - Bob Helmsing

Serra International

70 East Lake St. Ste 1210

Chicago IL 60601

1-800-488-4008

## A Message From our President Paul Kohl...

**The date for our annual Serra Club Golf Tournament at Tapawingo National Golf Club is May 17<sup>th</sup>. You should have received a mailing announcing the Tournament. All members are strongly encouraged to**

**participate in some way. This**

**event provides our Serra Club with the resources to support the seminarians and all vocations in the St. Louis Area. Please look for additional information in the Newsletter.**



Two luncheons in April are being planned at Sunset 44. Both will be live streamed to our Facebook page. This will be the first time since January 2020 that we have been able to meet two times in a month. With the Golf Tournament in May and the New Member and Board Officer Installation Dinner in June, there will only be one luncheon in each of these months.

The election of the new Serra Club Officers, to serve from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, will be held at the Luncheon on April 28. A list of candidates is being put together by the Nominating Committee, chaired by Bob Ahrens.

I highly recommend Serra Meets offered by Serra USA. This is a monthly ZOOM meeting for all Serrans. The most recent one was held on April 10, 2021. It was a presentation by Most Reverend Bernard Hebda, Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. He presented a wonderful description of the painting of The Calling of Matthew by Caravaggio. You can view the video on Youtube at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jhbrNfn\\_sE4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jhbrNfn_sE4). The next Serra Meets will be on May 8, 2021. For more information go to the website: <https://serraus.org/serra-meets/>.

Please continue to reach out to invite new members. They can attend our luncheons in person or by live stream to get a feel for what we do as Serrans. Things are beginning to open up with widespread vaccination opportunities. We need to continue to build our membership. Do not hesitate to invite people you know who might benefit from being a member of the St. Louis Serra Club.

St. Junipero Serra, Pray for Us  
Mary, Queen of Vocations, Pray for Us  
-Paul



## Sister Maureen Martin, Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

By: Joe Racher



In recognition of Catholic Sister's Week, our guest speaker was Sister Maureen Martin on March 10. Sister Maureen's brother is a long time Serran Mark Martin, so she is very familiar

with the Serra Club. She is a native St Louisan, attending St Mary Magdalen Grade School in the City, Seven Holy Founders and Our Lady of Providence. She attended Cor Jesu High School. She has a degree from St Louis University and has had a ministry as an educator for many years with the Sisters of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. She is the former Provincial for her Order in the United States for 9 years and is currently the Director of the Faith Alive in the Home program at the Archdiocese of St Louis. Sister Maureen credits her vocation to all the sisters and priests at the Catholic Schools she attended while growing up, especially the Sisters at Cor Jesu.

Sister focused on three themes in her talk on vocations. Since March 10<sup>th</sup> was the birthdate of the foundress of their order, Sister focused on their foundress Blessed Mother Clelia Merloni talking about her life and struggles in founding the order and sharing some of her writings that are pertinent to Vocations. Sister then talked on her own vocation and talked about her current work with the Faith Alive in the Home Program.

What is a vocation, in one word Sister defined vocation as a *Calling*. The essence of a Catholic Family is not something that we do. Being a Catholic family is something we are. When she was

young, the perception of a vocation was something one did, like a career choice, to grow up to be a journalist or an interpreter in a big city. Her vocation was not something she did. It was something she had to uncover, as all of us do, to discover, as she deepens her awareness, who she was.

This was the way for their foundress Clelia Merloni. She knew when she was quite young that she wanted to be a sister. But her idea of what that was going to be did not workout. She belonged to many different communities over a decade and none of them were right for her. The last one she loved, but then she got deathly ill. Clelia on her death bed said, "I think I might be called to start a new Congregation." The priest, who was the leader of her Congregation said to her "Let's pray to the Blessed Mother and if you make it through this it will be a sign and I will support you in starting a new congregation." Her recovery was miraculous, and she went on to found a congregation dedicated to the Sacred Heart. She always knew that was what she was called to do. She goes on to say that "God created me solely out of love so that I might love You. Give me a grace to fill my glorious purpose." So Vocation is a connection of who I am with what I am called to be.

This synopsis is just a sampling of Sister Maureen's talk and I encourage you to listen to her complete presentation. Sister Maureen ended her talk with this quote from Blessed Clelia. "Today Jesus makes me feel a boundless confidence and trust in his Divine Heart. And I rejoice in this immensely, knowing that confidence is the key that opens the treasures of His infinite mercy. Jesus leave me in your love, it is all that I want." The end of our Vocation is to get to the essence of who we are with God.

Here are the links to the Facebook recording of Sister's talk. [Facebook Live | Serra Luncheon March 10](#) or [https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=351418726109306&ref=watch\\_permalink](https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=351418726109306&ref=watch_permalink)

# Serra Club Golf Tournament

The Serra Club of St. Louis has served as the vocational arm of the Catholic Church in the Archdiocese of St. Louis since our founding in 1943. Our mission is to foster and promote vocations to the ordained priesthood and vowed religious life.

We give direct financial aid to St. Louis seminarians, sponsor religious vocation projects in Catholic grade and high schools, and publicize the call to service in the Church. We also conduct programs to thank and recognize priests and religious for their service to God's people of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

### **Our sole fundraiser is an annual golf tournament and dinner auction!**

Golfers of any skill level are welcome. Gift certificates or tickets to entertainment and sporting events are always popular auction items. We would also be grateful if you choose to purchase a raffle ticket or make a cash donation.

As a small charitable organization focused on religious vocations, we rely on the generosity of people. . Please know that a contribution in any amount is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your kind consideration of financial support for our mission. As a final request, please join us in our prayers for an increase in religious vocations!



1st Place Girls Sophomore Vocation Essay Winner:  
Kendall Roberts  
Incarnate Word Academy

## World Day of Prayer for Vocations April 25th

Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests in your prayers throughout the week.
- Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

Gerald P. Deppe, a member of the Serra Club of St. Louis since 1967, passed away on March 23, 2021. His wife, Mary, preceded him in death on November 29, 2020. Our By-Laws require that a Mass be said for deceased Serrans. In this case, it is recommended that the Mass be offered for both Gerald and his wife, Mary, since their deaths were so close together. A Memorial Mass for both of them is planned for September in Florida. Please send the Mass cards to their daughter, Maria McNitt. The address is:

Maria McNitt  
1031 Willow Road  
Winnetka, IL 60093

## Prayers For Priest

1. Oldani, Rev. Louis J., S.J.
2. Padberg, Rev. John W., S.J.
3. Renard, Rev. Eugene C., S.J.
4. Rotola, Rev. Albert C., S.J.
5. Ryan, Rev. Francis X., S.J.
6. Salazar, Rev. Edward , S.J.
7. Sebesta, Rev. James A., S.J.
8. Seibert, Rev. Gary G., S.J.
9. Sheridan, Rev. Paul G., S.J.
10. Smith, Rev. Michael N., S.J.
11. Steele, Rev. Philip G., S.J.
12. Suwalsky, Rev. David J., S.J.
13. Swetnam, Rev. James H., S.J.
14. Tueth, Rev. Michael V., S.J.
15. Vogt, Rev. Richard J., S.J.
16. Weber, Rev. Leo F, S.J.
17. Welch, Br. Henry E., S.J.
18. Willmering, Rev. John H., S.J.
19. Aug, Br. Robert L., S.J.
20. Baker, Rev. James H., S.J.
21. Bayhi, Rev. W. Peter , S.J.
22. Bosken, Rev. Robert E., S.J.
23. Byrne, Rev. Luke J., S.J.
24. Folzenlogen, Rev. John N., S.J.
25. Kelly, Rev. Thomas E. J., S.J.
26. Miller, Rev. William T., S.J.
27. Mueller, Rev. John J., S.J.
28. O'Connell, Rev. Daniel C., S.J.
29. Perl, Rev. Richard D., S.J.
30. Pinne, Rev. Christopher P., S.J.

## April Birthdays

Eleanor Moran 3	Bruce Bange 15
Dale Doerr 8	Chuck Raymond 15
Michael Gerritzen 8	Jim Martin 21
Rick Mulligan 8	Susan Burke 23
Kristine Ruyle 8	Rosana Guerra 24
Cheri Reh 8	Denise O'Rourke 27
Elise Rich 10	Robert Burke 28
Julie Killeen 13	Wally Nowak 29
Roy Klostermann 13	
Yvonne Allen 15	

## Events

**Wednesday, April 14th Mass, Lunch and Speaker at Sunset 44 Bistro and Banquet Center.** Speaker - John Guerra, SJ, a Jesuit Scholastic. Mass will be celebrated at 11:30 am by Fr. Matthew Baugh, SJ. Fr. Baugh is part of the formation team for the Jesuit Central and Southern Province. He will speak for a few minutes after John and show a short video on the entire formation process.

**Wednesday, April 28th Rosary, Lunch and Speaker at Sunset 44 Bistro and Banquet Center.** Speaker - Fr. Brian Fallon. Fr. Fallon will update us on his ministry and what is happening at Kenrick Glennon Seminary.

**Wednesday, May 12th Luncheon Meeting.** Location and Speaker to be announced.

**Monday, May 17th–Serra Club Golf Tournament** – Held at Tapawingo National Golf Club, located at 13001 Gary Player Dr, in Sunset Hills, MO 63127. Day will include Box Lunches, 18 Holes of Golf, Cocktails and Appetizers, Silent Auction Items (limited golf related items) and Raffle. There will not be a dinner this year. We need the participation of all members of our Serra Club. For more information please contact Bob Helmsing at 314-805-4679.

**Wednesday, June 16th Serra Club Installation Mass and Dinner** – Installation Mass and Dinner for all new Officers and Members. Mass will be held at 5:30 p.m. at Queen of All Saints Catholic Church, located at 6603 Christopher Drive, Oakville, MO 63129, followed by dinner at Andre's Banquet Facilities, 4238 Telegraph Road, Mehlville, MO 63129. More information and invitations are forthcoming.

**September 7th - Serran Night at the Ballpark!** Los Angelus Dodgers vs St Louis Cardinals at Busch Stadium 6:45 p.m. More information is forthcoming.

**Friday, October 1st–Serra Club Vocation Appreciation Dinner and Dancing** – Vocation Appreciation Dinner and Dancing will be held at St. Louis Marriott West, located at 660 Maryville Center Drive, Creve Coeur, MO 63141. Cocktails and Silent Auction will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by Dinner and Live Auction at 7:00 p.m. Bishop Mark Rivotuso will offer the blessing. After Dinner there will be an Open Bar (for one hour) and Dancing until 10:30 p.m. Music will be provided by Mirage Entertainment Band. All Serrans are encouraged to attend and invite their families and friends. Volunteers are needed. For more information or to volunteer please contact Angie Doerr at 314-330-8454.

**Monday, December 6th–Christmas Mass and Dinner** - Mass will be at 6:00 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica with Archbishop Mitchell Rozanski presiding, followed by Cocktails and Dinner at 7:00 p.m. at The Saint Louis Woman's Club, located at 4600 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108. More information is forthcoming.

## Spiritual Works

As a Serran Family, we remember our Serra Club members and friends who have gone before us with the sign of faith. We pray they are now celebrating with Our Lord in heaven. We remember in prayer: Gerald P. Deppe, Glenn Holtz, father of Lennis Bange, Robert Stoverink, Marietta Riehemann, Marie Klein, Mary Fitzgerald (former Serran), Elmer Borgmeyer, Glenn Mertens, Dorothy Tracy, mother-in-law of Adina Tracy, Walter "Bud" Leonard, Bob Wiedemann- Jeanne Fluri's father, Whitey Schneller

We also pray for those who are ill, especially, Judy Maurer, Dottie Borgmeyer, Mary Espenschied, Gloria Schwarz, Evelyn Keller, Karen Taylor and her husband John.