



THE SERRA-NADER

Club # 25

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District XII 2-E

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Central Region

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September 2019

“Called to be Saints”: Serra Central Region Convention



Where else could you spend three days and 2 nights and enjoy time for prayer, enlightenment, inspiration and fellowship in a setting as beautiful as Conception Abbey/Seminary!

When: November 1st to the 3rd 2019

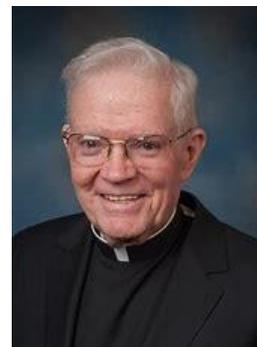
Take a moment to picture yourself attending this terrific event, this Fall. The daily schedule and list of presenters revealed here will hopefully inspire you to register, if you have not done so already. Enhance your Serran experience and your Catholic faith with this convention's venue, it will be one worth attending. There will be Serrans from 6 states attending this Central Region Convention. Many opportunities to share ideas and gain new friendships!

The event begins on Friday the 1st of November, All Saints Day (confirming the reason for the convention's theme: Called to be Saints). On that arrival day you can begin checking in at 1:00 PM. You have available from 1 to 5 PM optional tours of the Basilica lead by seminarians; or, you can walk around the Abbey/Seminary to put yourself in a prayerful and mindful state of mind.

There will be a Friday evening Travelers Mass celebrated by Bishop James Johnston at 5:45 PM in the Oratory in Maur Hall. Following Mass there will be a

dinner provided at 6:45 PM in the Guest Dining Hall. Serra US Council Board member and President Elect, Richard Ariens, will give all of us a short update on the state of Serra in the United States.

Time for fellowship occurs at 7:45 PM for a Reception/Welcoming in St. Joseph Hall. We will all be welcomed by Kansas City in Kansas' **Msgr. Mike Mullen**, he will be our daily master of ceremonies for our time together. He will lay out our upcoming days activities and help present each of our program speakers on Saturday. We will all be entertained by one of the Conception Seminarians for some soft background music.



Not to let the first evening's excitement end too soon, a hospitality room gathering will be open in St. Gabriel Guest House, allowing us to mix with one another and set the tone for the rest of the convention.

As you'd expect, most of the presentations and speakers will happen on Saturday. We'll begin the day with breakfast at 7:30 in the Guest Dining Hall. You'll have time for a good meal, coffee to clear your head and no speakers at this meal!

Our first presenter will be Conception's own, **Fr. Brendan Moss, OSB**. His talk begins at 8:45. This beginning



talk will be a reflection and to prepare us for the day and he will work in conjunction with Msgr. Mullen to prepare us for the day and to "stitch It back together" at the end of the day. He will be reminding us of how we are all called to be Saints and to encourage us to keep notes throughout the day for the fun wrap up session. He'll

also ask us to be mindful that we'll have several times during the day to reflect on our own & to take advantage of these opportunities.

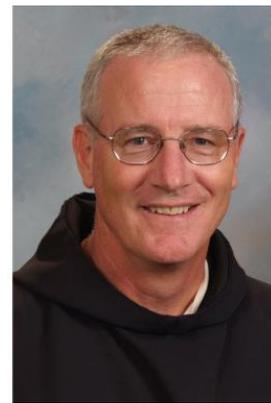
Next, at 9:30 in St. Maur Hall, we will have a video presentation from **Serra US Council President, Judy Cozzens**. Judy will be explaining the many Serra Spark programs and how we can use these in our Clubs and within our own Diocese to help enhance the vocation efforts. Richard Arians, our Serra US Council President Elect, will be in the room to help lead us through Judy's video presentation and to answer questions.



We next move on to a very special and exciting vocation story presentation by **Sr. Nancy Rose Gucwa, OSB**. Sr. Nancy begins at 10:20 and some of you have heard her vocation story, but if you've heard before or you hear it for the first time, you'll find yourself amazed at how her vocation for being a sister developed. You'll find this one VERY entertaining and encouraging!



Beginning at 10:50 there will be personal time for reflection; and preparation for Mass at 11:45. This will be the Abbey's regular Mass in the Basilica with **Archbishop**



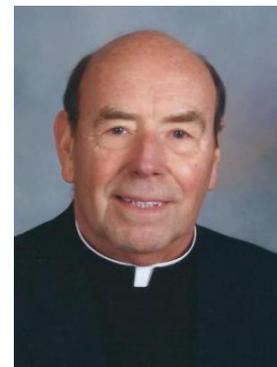
Joseph Naumann & Abbot Benedict Neenan, OSB leading us. We will be celebrating the names of deceased Serrans from all the attending clubs since 2018.

Then at 12:30 we will have lunch in the Guest Dining Hall. **Serra International Executive Director, John Liston**, will give us a short update of Serra outside the United States at the end of lunch.



At 1:30 we resume our talks, back in Maur Hall, we will have United States Council V.P. of Membership, Col. John Halloran. John will be sharing many ideas for building membership and he will be using live props from the audience to make his presentation.

Next, at 2:35 in St. Maur Hall, will be **Fr. Pat Rush**, retired Priest of our local diocese. He will be offering us his thoughts on how we can all be saints in our daily lives.



Returning at 3:25 to St. Maur Hall, to help us pull the day's presentations together, will be Fr. Brendan Moss and Msgr. Mike Mullen.

At 4:10 we will all have personal time to visit with seminarians, make reflection, visit the chapel, do adoration, recite the Rosary, take a walk or just rest.



A cocktail reception will be held in St. Raphael Hall at 6 PM and again one of the Conception seminarians will entertain our gathering with some soft background music. At 6:45 we begin the Banquet Dinner in the Guest Dining Hall. Our Keynote Speaker will be our own, internationally known, Fr. Paul Turner. Fr.

Paul will be a fabulous feature for the close of our

convention. Of course, the hospitality room will be operating for everyone following the dinner.

Sunday morning will be departure time following breakfast at 7:30. Those who wish may attend the 10:30 Mass in Community with the Monks and seminarians in the Basilica.

So, as you can determine this will be an exciting and worthwhile convention. I hope you'll register and join many other Serrans and enhance your reason for being a member of this international organization!

Jerry Haake

The Serrans Who Organized Our Regional Conference



Left to right and top to bottom: Jim Burns, Chair, Kansas City in Kansas; Steve Van Keirsbilck, Secretary, North Kansas City; George Riehle, Treasurer, Kansas City in Kansas; Deacon Robert Falke, Liturgy Committee, Southeast Kansas City; Jerry Haake, Program Chair, Kansas City, MO; Bob Rueckert, Facilities Chair, District Governor; Lorie Sage, Food/Hospitality, North Kansas City; Beth Tilling, Registration, Southeast Kansas City; the Committee at Work; Nancy Gibson, Communications Chair, Johnson County Club; and Homer Radford, Compliance, Southeast Kansas City.



Join in the Fun!!!
28th Annual
Bob & Carol Miller
Priest's Appreciation Day
Registration: 10:30 am
September 16, 2019
LionsGate Golf Course



Fellow Serrans:

The bright sun and heat of August and the coming coolness of fall reminds us of God's eternal plan of change in the midst of eternal truth. In August, we celebrated the Feast of the Assumption of Mary—which was declared in 1950 an Apostolic Constitution by Pope Pius XII as dogma of the Church.



As August drew to a close, we also remembered our devotion to our Patron, St. Junipero Serra, by prayer on the 28th which is the anniversary of his death.

In our own recent history, we look back at our Club 25's first Spiritual Retreat held in July at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart at Rockhurst High School. We were honored to have 75 to 80 members, spouses and friends attend the Mass and hear the teachings by Fathers Vincent Giacabazi, S.J., Don Farnan, Matthew Rotert and Pat Rush. Our efforts to "Improve our individual prayer life" was warmly received and clearly impactful from the efforts of our four distinguished teachers. We are more appreciative to each of them for their efforts and to Rockhurst High School for its gracious hospitality.

Our Club also hosted Bishop Johnston, three priests and twenty-three seminarians at our annual retreat at the Lake of the Ozarks. The special event was directed by Steve Pierce and included a small and dedicated group of Serrans and other volunteers who cook, serve, clean up and provide boat rides and water sports. The sole purpose is to host and provide a place for prayer and recreation for the young men who are studying to become priests for our Diocese. This long-standing tradition of our Club began in 1983 at the suggestion of Msgr. Robert Murphy, and today it is paid for by the proceeds from the Club's Annual Chili Dinner. The Chili Dinner this year will be held at St. Thomas More on November 24.

On August 23, Club #25 once again hosted the Tri-Club Mass celebrated by Bishop Johnston. This Mass and luncheon was held at St. Peter's Church. As always, we look forward to the Bishop's visit and his message to the three Serra Clubs in the Diocese.

St. Padre Junipero Serra,
Please pray with us for vocations.

Carry Ward
President

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

5th Grade Vocation Day
St. Pius X High School
October 28, 2019



Support the Seminarian Lake Retreat



Enjoy a Fabulous
Chili Dinner
November 24, 2019
St. Thomas More
More Hall

Dear Serrans,

This past week Bishop Johnston and myself spent three days at the Lake of the Ozarks with the seminarians doing a little retreat before they go back to school. Each



August, this is the first event that our new seminarians attend, and this year we welcome six new seminarians to the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph (Collin Elder, Jacob Knott, Bobby McCoy, Thomas Ross, Andrew Todd, and Lee Volmer).

Three of the new seminarians just graduated from high school, two of them were in college, and one graduated from Northwest Missouri State and was a FOCUS missionary for two years before entering seminary this year. It has been great to witness the Lord move in each of these young men and for them all to respond with generosity to God's invitation in their life.

It was great for these new men to join all our other seminarians and everyone had a wonderful time at the Lake. A special thank you to all the Serra Club members who helped to make this experience

possible. The funds needed for the retreat come from a fall chili dinner hosted at St. Thomas More each year. And several Serra Club members volunteer their time to come down to the Lake and cook meals for the seminarians and use their boats to take everyone out on the water one day.

A very special thank you to Steve Pierce who took the lead in organizing this event and is a big reason for its success every year. I know all our seminarians really look forward to these days. Please pray for all our men as they begin this new seminary school year.

This year I will be receiving a little help in the Vocation Office. Newly ordained Fr. Andrew Kleine has been appointed as our Vocation Promotor. Most of his time will be spent as the associate pastor of St. Therese

Parish in Parkville, but there are a handful of promotional and discernment events throughout the year that he will be helping me to organize. In addition to Fr. Kleine, Mark Sappington has been hired to be the Associate Vocation Director.

With some extra help in the Vocation Office, I am excited about working with our men in discernment and our seminarians. It should be a terrific year for us. Please continue to pray daily that the Lord will call many more men and women to serve in our Diocese as priests and religious.

In Christ and Mary,
Fr. Johnson

Scenes from the Lake Retreat



Under the Bright Summer Sun—First Row: Brandon Garduno, Elvis Aguilar, Bobby McCoy, Ben Armentrout, Marcus Furnari, Angel Lemus, Mark Famuliner, Thomas Ross, Jacob Knott and Xavier Schmidt. **Back Row:** Fr. Adam Johnson, Bishop James Johnston, Matthew Cline, Lee Volmer, Paul Harrison, Pius Nsoh-Awasom, Garrett King, Jared Samson, Daniel Stump, Collin Elder, Liam Connelly, Nicholas Carleton, Drew Todd, Sam Horan, and Jack Beshenich.



Bishop Johnston celebrates Mass with the seminarians with Father Johnson and Father Suárez concelebrating.



Jimmy Clossick from the Southeast Club fills his boat with “seafaring seminarians.”



Deacon Kevin Cummins raises anchor for uncharted waters.



Jacob Knott entertains fellow seminarians with his magical "sleight of hand."



Father Johnson, Bishop Johnston & Ben Armentrout fill their plates.

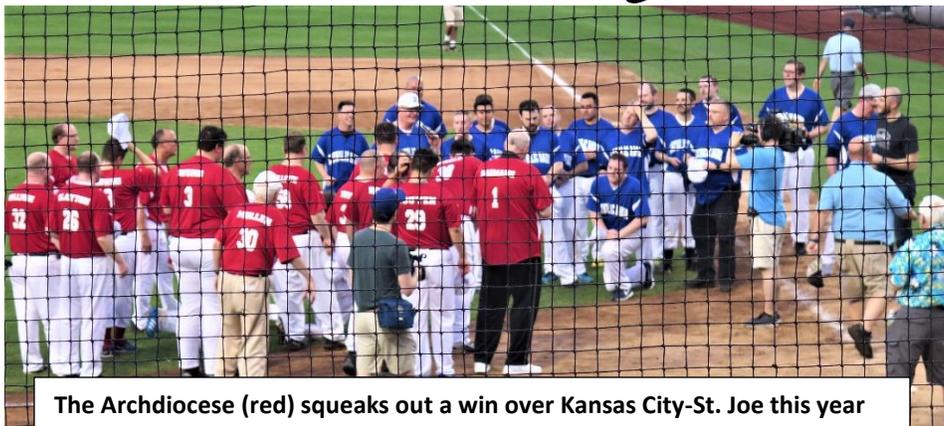


Cooks Joe Smith, Deacon Doug Warrens, Steve Pierce (Chief Cook), Tom Kenagy & Tom Coppinger pose while Chief Bottle Washer, Pat Regan, works.



Father Adam Johnson offers the "Traveler's Mass" on Tuesday morning for the seminarians.

Pitching for Priests



The Archdiocese (red) squeaks out a win over Kansas City-St. Joe this year to even the I-70 Series to 3-3. Just wait until next year.



Our Nemesis: Msgr. Mullins at bat . . . oops!



Rookie, Father Andy Kleine, connects for a long one!



Father Adam Johnson aims for the Buck O'Neill sign



Three famous profiles and hundreds of fans cheer for their favorite sluggers. Good defense this year.

First Annual Prayer Retreat for Serrans, Spouses and Friends



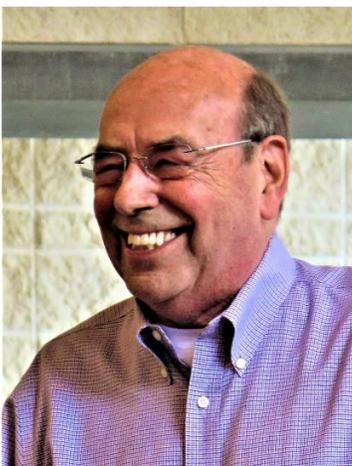
About 80 Serrans, Spouses, Widows of Serrans, Friends of Serrans and more came to learn about the various types of prayer.



Father Vincent Giacobazi, S.J. offered Mass for us and gave the first talk on Ignatian Spirituality.



Father Don Farnan followed up giving us a booklet of prayers that we could say in various situation; Serran Laurence Freeman arranged for the facilities at Rockhurst High School and kept the program flowing; Father Matthew Rotert expanded on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. (For more information contact: The Ignatian Spirituality Center of Kansas City, Missouri—816-381-9168.) Below: Father Pat Rush summarized many of the topics that were covered during the three earlier presentations and reminded us that if we get distracted during prayer to just stop for a few minutes and refocus. He also said that we should remember to say “Goodbye” when we finish our prayer. As good Catholics we concluded this new event with food, beverage and conversation.



Mark Your Calendars

September 2019	October 2019	November 2019
<p><i>(Set date for Seminarians at Lake & Tri-Club 2020—Call Bishop)</i></p> <p>4 Mass and Lunch- 12 noon St. P Speaker: Tom Turner, Bishop Sullivan Center</p> <p>10 Board Meeting-4:30 pm St. P</p> <p>16 Priest's Appreciation Day LionsGate</p> <p>23 Anniversary of Canonization of St. Junipero Serra</p> <p>29 Priesthood Sunday</p>	<p>2 Mass and Breakfast- 7:00am St. E. Kathline Fox, Dir. Gratia Plena</p> <p>3 World Day Prayer for Vocations</p> <p>4 Partnering for Future Priests—St. Joe</p> <p>8 Board Meeting-4:30 pm St. P</p> <p>15 Wine and Dine, North Club</p> <p>28 5th Grade Vocation Day @ St. Pius X High School</p>	<p>1-3 Serra Central Regional Convention— Conception Abbey</p> <p>3-9 Nat'l Vocations Awareness Week</p> <p>6 Mass and Lunch- 12noon St. P. -- Deceased Serrans</p> <p>8-10 Encounter with God's Call- Conception</p> <p>12 Board Meeting-4:30 pm St. P.</p> <p>24 Chili Dinner- KCMO Club @ STM</p> <p>28 <i>Thanksgiving</i></p>

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