

Club #25

District XII-2E

Central Region November 2020



Serra Club of Kansas City, MO Club # 25

P. O. Box 480825, Kansas City, MO, 64148



From the desk of Father Adam Johnson, Chaplain of Serra Club #25

Some of the things happening this year in the Vocation Office:

We are doing a series of "Come and See" dinners throughout the Diocese. These are regional dinners where priests of a certain area invite men from their parish that they believe might have a vocation for an evening Mass, dinner, and vocation talk. So far, we have done 6 this fall, and have begun making our plans for the spring.

Each month there are two opportunities for those in discernment to come together. On the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Cathedral in St. Joseph, and on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Good Counsel. We had 9 young men at the last discernment night at Good Counsel, with more men expressing interest in coming this month.

There are multiple high school seniors that are currently contemplating seminary for next year. Please keep these men in your prayers.

We will be hosting a weekend "Quo Vadis" retreat in January. We are currently securing our location as well as building a page on our website with details.

I have finished the last of my seminary visits for the fall. I visit each seminary twice a year: once in the fall and once in the spring. All our seminarians are doing well.

I have been in touch with the Serra Club about the Christmas Mass and Dinner at St. Thomas More. It looks like this year we will still have the Mass but won't have the dinner, like in previous years.

After some delays, we are starting to make progress on the Discernment House we are building on the 3rd floor of the Our Lady of Good Counsel Rectory. I know one member of the Downtown Club initially made an investment to assist in this project. Recently, the Northland Club made a donation as well.

I am excited to host everyone for an upcoming evening at Good Counsel.

Please continue to pray for our 22 men in formation, and for me.

In Christ and Mary,
Fr. Adam Johnson

President's Letter

November, 2020

Dear Sierra Club 25, members and friends,

On behalf of the officers and trustees we welcome you to the club's quarterly newsletter. We hope that you are all well and anxious to get back to our masses and meaningful fellowship.

We have had quite a reserved quarter. However, behind the scenes there has been a great deal of activity which includes:

- 1. The induction of our new offices and trustees via mass and lunch at St. Peter's. We are still planning to have mass and a celebration dinner in the spring.*
- 2. The officers and trustees have been meeting on a regular schedule by ZOOM*
- 3. Our email communications and updates are plentiful and frequent (thank you for your patience)*
- 4. The seminarian lake event took place in town at our Lady of Good Counsel. They had a great day with Bishop Johnston and Father Adam Johnson. We supported the day with a gift bag of goodies which included a Serra mask, a beautiful carved cross made of olive wood from the holy land, a \$50 gift certificate, a Serra logo Yeti mug inscribed with their name and some goodies which included popcorn from Topsey's. And finally, a boxed barbecue dinner from Jack Stack (Thanks to Steve and Nicole Pierce and their team)*
- 5. We published "Catholic Sisters Love Letters" and distributed these to the seventh and eighth grade religious class in the diocese. A copy is enclosed for you (Thanks to Jerry Cooke and his committee)*

6. *We honored our priests on priesthood Sunday thanking our priests for their vocations with a specially designed card. (Thanks to Dick Shaw for his design and printing and Tom Gordon for stuffing addressing and mailing.)*
7. *We instituted our "12:25 PM daily prayer" for vocations- keep the prayers coming.*
8. *Provided the planning and support for "priest appreciation day" of golf, lunch and dinner at Lions Gate Golf Course (thank you to all who volunteered their time to make this an overwhelming success-it was a great day.)*

It looks like our coming quarter will be much of the same although the officers and trustees are working to develop some different activities to support vocations. We'll keep you posted. And please send me your ideas and thoughts.

We are looking forward to honoring our Seminarians and their families with mass celebrated by Bishop Johnston, on December 21st. Stay tuned for Mass time as it may change from our usual time. This year we are unable to have an after-mass celebration dinner, however we will provide our seminarians the traditional gifts and recognition. Hope to see you all at Mass.

We thank you for your prayers and work as volunteers and for your patience during this crazy time. It is a time that gives us opportunity for additional prayer and a time to "offer up" our hardships and sadness of not being able to meet in person.

We are grateful to you for your loyalty, help, and love of our vocations. We ask the Holy Spirit to guide us to preserve and respect our history and traditions and move forward in these trying times.

While we plan for the future and move from these exceptional times, it is important to review our history and tradition, with prayer and patience, and we will-with our Lord's help accept and trust in our future. "Yesterday was organized, today is disorganized, tomorrow is reorganized".

These are times that try our patience - so thank you for your support of our vocations and a special thank you to our officers and trustees for their loyalty and work.

Blessings to all,

Vince

Thessalonians 5:16 – 18

Rejoice always, Pray continually, Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you.

P.S. Also highly contagious is . . . Kindness, Patience, Love and a Positive Attitude. Don't wait to catch it from others . . . Be The Carrier!

District Governor's Letter from Jerry Haake

Stymied by the Covid-19 Virus but not knocked out, our three local clubs, and one in formation in St. Joseph, keep pushing forward to keep members updated and to be creative. By way of meeting in person where and when allowed by local dictate and meeting by Zoom, FreeConferenceCall.com or other virtual means, we have kept the mission and ministry of our Serra commitment in focus.

Though we have had to cancel functions like Blisters for Sisters, our Tri-Club Mass & lunch with the Bishop, repurpose the Seminarian annual retreat at the lake with the Bishop, regular officer installations being abbreviated, cancel the November Chili Dinner event, the Partnering for Future Priests going to virtual and the SOS annual event becoming virtual, along with many other deviations, we still don't stop praying and finding ways to be supportive to the valued vocations we have in place and the new ones we know need to occur for the strength of our Church.

Fellow Serrans of District 12-2E let us all keep in our arsenal of action the awareness to make calls to our fellow members who we have not seen or been around for a number of months, to check in on them and keep them feeling welcome as important to the Serra family. As well, take a few minutes each day to say a prayer, write an email, a personal mailed note to a seminarian you have adopted or know, to a Sister, a Priest; tell them how important they are to us and to our Church. This is an important time to reach out to many who really need that pat on the back, let them know they are being thought of and prayed for. Let's make this a time for relationship building so that when we come out of the pandemic we can know that we are rejoining personally, physically but we never had the feeling of being detached.

The Serra District Council for District 12-2E will be meeting on Wednesday, October 28th and any changes to other future events or meetings will be forthcoming.

Let's all pray for our Priests and our Religious and those in formation as if our future depends on them, because it does; and, it compels us to be living our mission as Serrans!

Some things to consider:

1) ***The duty of citizens to contribute along with the civil authorities to the good of society*** in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom. The love and service of one's country follows from the duty of gratitude and belongs to the order of charity. Submission to legitimate authorities and service of the common good require citizens to fulfill their roles in the life of the political community.

Submission to authority and co-responsibility for the common good make it morally obligatory to pay taxes, to exercise the right to vote, and to defend one's country:

Pay to all of them their dues, taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due."

- Catechism of the Catholic Church 2239-2240

2) ***"Conscience must be informed and moral judgment enlightened."*** "The education of the conscience is a lifelong task."

"In the formation of conscience the Word of God is the light for our path,⁵⁴ we must assimilate it in faith and prayer and put it into practice. We must also examine our conscience before the Lord's Cross." - CCC 1783-1785

*"Yet it can happen that moral conscience remains in ignorance and makes erroneous judgments about acts to be performed or already committed. This ignorance can often be imputed to personal responsibility. This is the case when a man "takes little trouble to find out what is true and good, or when conscience is by degrees almost blinded through the habit of committing sin." **In such cases, the person is culpable for the evil he commits.***

Ignorance of Christ and his Gospel, bad example given by others, enslavement to one's passions, assertion of a mistaken notion of autonomy of conscience, rejection of the Church's authority and her teaching, lack of conversion and of charity: these can be at the source of errors of judgment in moral conduct." - CCC 1791-1792

3) ***"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."*** - John 13:34

"If I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing."

- 1 Corinthians 13:2

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."* - John 3:16-17

4) ***"Let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms.***

If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won't be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do."
-Pope Francis

"This mystery (of faith), then, requires that the faithful believe in it, that they celebrate it, and that they live from it in a vital and personal relationship with the living and true God. This relationship is prayer."
-CCC 2558

Catechism of the Catholic Church https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM

Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church

http://www.vatican.va/.../rc_pc_justpeace_doc_20060526...

USCCB - Forming Consciences for Faithful Catholics

<https://www.usccb.org/.../forming-consciences-for...>

EWTN: Catholic Voter's Guide

<https://www.ewtn.com/vote/>

- From His Excellency James V Johnston, bishop of the Diocese of KC-SJ Pastoral Letter:

Preparing to Vote <https://kcsjatholic.org/pastoral-letter-preparing-to-vote/>

Response to the KC Star <https://www.kansascity.com/.../gues.../article246324075.html>

Thank you and God bless, Fr. Andrew Kleine

Past Luncheon Speakers

Chris Ice, CEO



Garrett King



Fr. Sunoj Thomas



Sister Connie B



Priest's Golf Tournament



It was a Great time had by all!



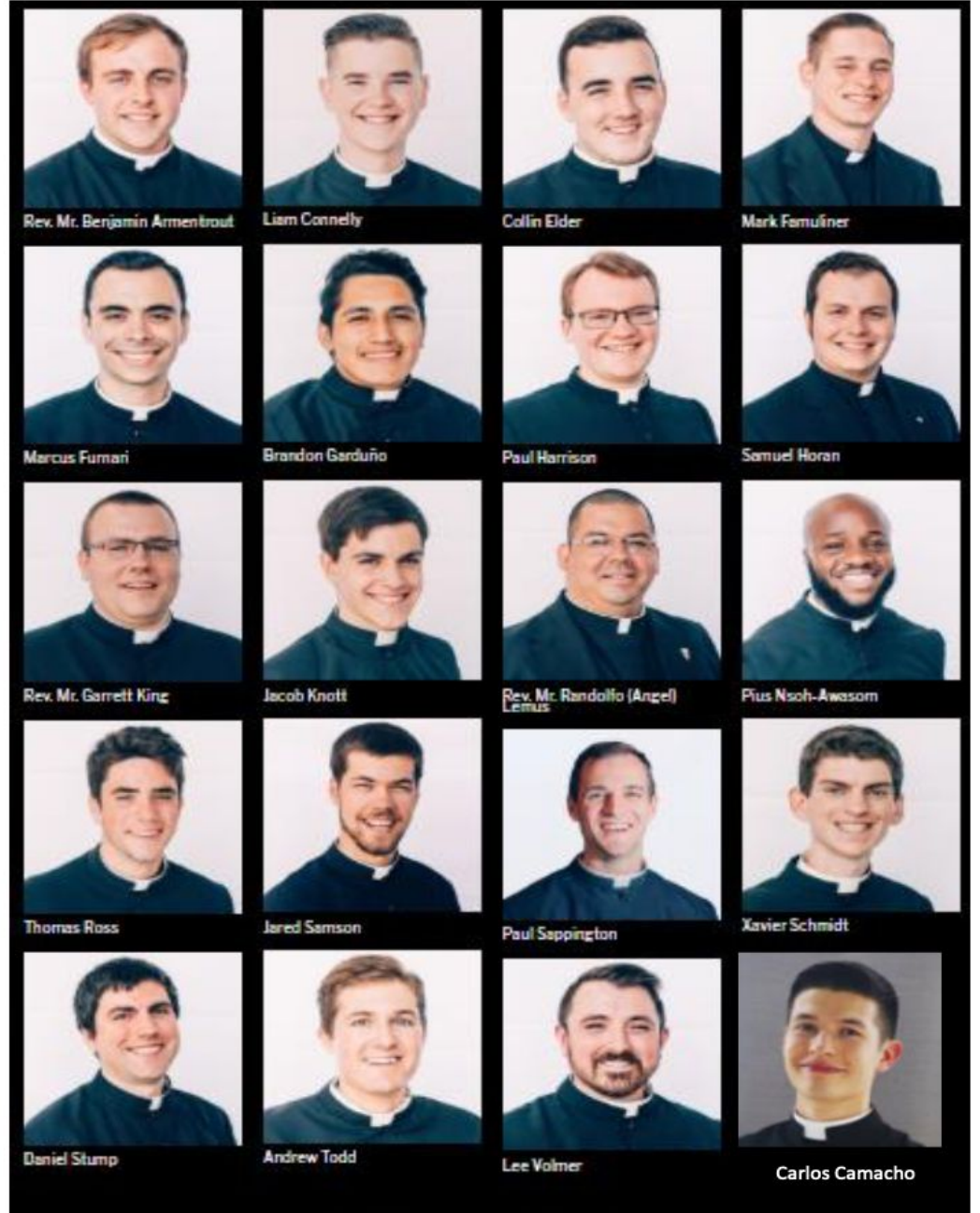
*O Blessed Mother,
keep these holy men close to your heart.*



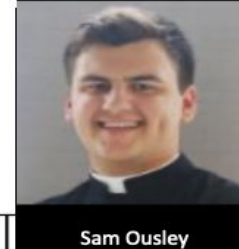
The Seminarians of the Kansas City–St. Joseph Diocese

*Becoming a priest is not primarily our own decision ...
Rather it is the response to a call and to a call of love.*

- Pope Francis



Luke Knott



Sam Ousley





A Prayer for Vocations

O God, we earnestly ask You to bless this diocese with many priests, brothers, and sisters who will love You with their whole strength and gladly spend their entire lives to serve your Church and to make You known and loved.

Bless our families, bless our children. Choose from our homes those needed for your work. Mary, Queen of the clergy, pray for us, pray for our priests, religious, and deacons. Obtain for us many more.

We ask this through your son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

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In a meeting of the Serra Board, we wanted to convey our disappointment of not being able to meet on a regular basis during this awful pandemic. We are all dealing with our daily schedules in different ways to stay safe. Please be aware that our dues will continue to support all programs for the Seminarians of St Joseph/Kansas City with the approval of the board and The Serra Club #25.



Serra Club #25 of Kansas City
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Return Service Requested. Please Do Not Forward