



SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA

Newsletter February 2021

The Five Elements of Serra

- ✚ Spiritual growth in Christ
- ✚ Encouragement of church vocations
- ✚ Religious education of the laity
- ✚ Responsive lay leaders
- ✚ Association in Christian fellowship

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Serran Prayer for Vocations

O God who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech you, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph her spouse, Saint Junípero Serra and all the saints, an increase of labourers for your Church, fellow labourers with Christ, to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ Your Son who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer for the Perseverance in Vocations

O God, you have constituted your Only-Begotten Son supreme and eternal Priest for the glory of your majesty and the salvation of mankind: grant that those whom he has chosen ministers and dispensers of his mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Lourdes - Feast day: 11th February

Reminders

REMEMBER to say the Serran Prayer DAILY and 31 Club commitment.

Trustees Meeting

Thursday 4th March, 2021 6.00 p.m.

Rosary 6.10 p.m., Monthly Mass 6.30 p.m. Thursday 11th March, 2021 at Holy Trinity, Curtin followed by **Dinner 7.30 p.m.** at the Private Dining Room Southern Cross Club, Woden.

Forthcoming Events

WALK IN THE SPIRIT - ARCHBISHOP'S 2021 LENTEN RENEWAL EXPERIENCE

18th February – 25th March, Thursdays 7.30 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. led by Archbishop Prowse, the renewal experience involves livestreamed teaching, prayer, discussion, community hubs and Encounter Nights. Walk in the Spirit is open to all desiring a new Lenten renewal experience. Registration and further information is available at <https://cgcatholic.org.au/walk-in-the-spirit/>.

20th February, 2021 Serra Annual Retreat at The Carmel, 28 Mugga Way, Red Hill, 9.15 a.m.-1.00 p.m.

Adoration

Every Friday: Evening Prayer and Adoration, Mary Help of Christians, Pearce 5.30 p.m.-6.00 p.m.

3rd March (First Wednesday): Adoration St. Brigid's Dickson, **Serra commitment** - 12.00 noon-1.00 p.m.

5th March (First Friday): Adoration at St. Christopher's Cathedral following 12.15 p.m. Mass.

8th April Dinner Meeting, Guest Speaker: Fr. Norvin Dias (Assistant Priest, St. Christopher's Cathedral).

Sunday Mass Online Canberra

Mass each Sunday at 11.00 a.m., see the Catholic Voice Canberra Website: <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

APOSTOLIC LETTER *PATRIS CORDE* - OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF SAINT JOSEPH AS PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

Extracts only

... Matthew and Luke, the two Evangelists who speak most of Joseph, tell us very little, yet enough for us to appreciate what sort of father he was, and the mission entrusted to him by God’s providence.

We know that Joseph was a lowly carpenter (cf. Mt 13:55), betrothed to Mary (cf. Mt 1:18; Lk 1:27). He was a “just man” (Mt 1:19), ever ready to carry out God’s will as revealed to him in the Law (cf. Lk 2:22.27.39) and through four dreams (cf. Mt 1:20; 2:13.19.22). After a long and tiring journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, he beheld the birth of the Messiah in a stable, since “there was no place for them” elsewhere (cf. Lk 2:7). He witnessed the adoration of the shepherds (cf. Lk 2:8-20) and the Magi (cf. Mt 2:1-12), who represented respectively the people of Israel and the pagan peoples. Joseph had the courage to become the legal father of Jesus, to whom he gave the name revealed by the angel: “You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins” (Mt 1:21). As we know, for ancient peoples, to give a name to a person or to a thing, as Adam did in the account in the Book of Genesis (cf. 2:19-20), was to establish a relationship... Blessed [Pius IX](#) declared him “Patron of the Catholic Church”,^[2] Venerable [Pius XII](#) proposed him as “Patron of Workers”^[3] and [Saint John Paul II](#) as “Guardian of the Redeemer”.^[4] Saint Joseph is universally invoked as the “patron of a happy death”.^[5]

Now, one hundred and fifty years after his proclamation as Patron of the Catholic Church by Blessed [Pius IX](#) (8 December 1870), I would like to share some personal reflections on this extraordinary figure, so close to our own human experience. For, as Jesus says, “out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (Mt 12:34). My desire to do so increased during these months of pandemic, when we experienced, amid the crisis, how “our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked. People who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines, or on the latest television show, yet in these very days are surely shaping the decisive events of our history. Doctors, nurses, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caregivers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests, men and women religious, and so very many others. They understood that no one is saved alone... How many people daily exercise patience and offer hope, taking care to spread not panic, but shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday ways, how to accept and deal with a crisis by adjusting their routines, looking ahead and encouraging the practice of prayer. How many are praying, making sacrifices and interceding for the good of all”.^[6] Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all...

A working father

An aspect of Saint Joseph that has been emphasized from the time of the first social Encyclical, [Pope Leo XIII](#)’s *Rerum Novarum*, is his relation to work. Saint Joseph was a carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family. From him, Jesus learned the value, the dignity and the joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one’s own labour.

In our own day, when employment has once more become a burning social issue, and unemployment at times reaches record levels even in nations that for decades have enjoyed a certain degree of prosperity, there is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron...

The aim of this Apostolic Letter is to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and his zeal. ...

Franciscus

http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html

The Members of the Board of Trustees for 2020-2021 are:

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Always to go forward, never to turn back