



SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA

Newsletter August 2021

The Five Elements of Serra

- ✚ Spiritual growth in Christ
- ✚ Religious education of the laity
- ✚ Encouragement of church vocations
- ✚ 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.

Reminders

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

Trustees Meeting

Thursday, 2nd September, 2021
6.00 p.m.

JUBILARIANS' DINNER

9th September, 2021: Rosary 6.10 p.m., Monthly Mass 6.30 p.m.
Thursday 9th September, 2021 at 6.10 p.m. Holy Trinity, Curtin followed by **Dinner** 7.30 p.m. at the Private Dining Room Southern Cross Club, Woden.

Forthcoming Events

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

1st September (First Wednesday): Adoration St. Brigid's Dickson, **Serra commitment** - 12.00 noon-1.00 p.m.

3rd September (First Friday): Adoration at St. Christopher's Cathedral following 12.15 p.m. Mass.

14th October: GUEST SPEAKER

Karen McKerrow,

Director, Catholic Mission,

Canberra-Goulburn Archdiocese.

CATHOLIC MISSION - THE AUSTRALIAN AGENCY OF THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETY

Our Mission

As the Pope's international mission agency, we respond to the call to love God and to love our neighbour by forming individuals and communities as missionary disciples of Jesus who share their faith in action and through prayer.

We share in God's mission to reach out, give life by sharing our personal and financial resources to:

- proclaim the Gospel,
- serve people in need,
- act for peace, justice and creation.

In partnership with local churches, so that all may have life in Christ.

<http://www.catholicmission.org.au/>

Pope's prayer intention for August: Church on the way

Pope Francis releases the prayer intention for the month of August, inviting everyone to work for a transformation of the Church - a work that begins with "a reform of ourselves" through an experience of prayer, charity and service, inspired by the Holy Spirit... To make progress in this regard, Pope Francis invites all to move forward based on spiritual experience: "an experience of prayer, an experience of charity and an experience of service"... "A reform... does not consist in words but in attitudes that have the courage to face the crisis, to assume reality whatever the consequences may be. ... And every reform begins with oneself. The reform in the Church was made by men and women who were not afraid to enter into crisis and let themselves be reformed by the Lord," the Pope said.

Concluding the video message, the Holy Father invited all to pray for the Church, "that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel."

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - 15th August

Almighty ever-living God, who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of your Son, body and soul into heavenly glory, grant we pray, that, always attentive to the things that are above, we may merit to be sharers of her glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. (Readings on USCCB website)

Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, 8 August 2021

Mary MacKillop chose St Joseph as patron of the women she inspired with her vision of simple living and the education of poor children.

Last December Pope Francis announced a Year of St Joseph, describing him as a father who was beloved, tender and loving, obedient, accepting, creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows. In 1893, Mary wrote this to her sisters: ‘Let us ask Joseph to obtain for us a generous devoted love for Jesus, a love that will make us like himself . . . A love that . . . will make us delight in serving his poor, and his neglected little ones.’

It’s timely advice for the church in this land that she loved.

VALUE OF EACH PERSON

Mary MacKillop, who famously told her sisters, ‘**Do not see a need and do nothing about it**’, was acutely conscious of the needs of the people about her – for basic education, for care, for food. She dedicated her life to doing something about those needs – heroically and most effectively. But inspiring it all and sustaining it all was the vision of God she learned from scriptural passages such as today’s Gospel, projecting not just material help and opportunity, but the sense that each person is precious in God’s eyes, is loved by God, and therefore is to be valued and given dignity.



THE WEEK’S PRAYER FOCUS

For the Church in Australia, that it be renewed with Mary MacKillop’s bold faith, missionary spirit and passion for the poor.

God of mercy, you raised up Mary MacKillop to be a tireless apostle of compassion in this land. May our hearts be fired with her passion for justice. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

[Jesuit Communications]



Always to go forward, never to turn back