



SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA

Newsletter November 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.

Trustees Meeting

Thursday, 3rd February, 2022 5.30 p.m.

Rosary 6.10 p.m., Mass 6.30 p.m.

Thursday, 9th December, 2021 at Holy Trinity, Curtin followed by **Christmas Party Dinner** 7.30 p.m. in the Private Dining Room Southern Cross Club, Woden.

The first dinner meeting in 2022 will be held on 10th February.

Forthcoming Events

19th November: Ordination to the Diaconate for Eden Langlands at St. Christopher's Cathedral, Manuka.

Adoration Events are back

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

1st December (First Wednesday): Adoration St. Brigid's Dickson, **Serra commitment** - 12.00 noon-1.00 p.m. (2nd Feb. 2022).

3rd December (First Friday): Adoration at St. Christopher's Cathedral following 12.15 p.m. Mass. (4th Feb. 2022).

2022 Annual Retreat – 12th February. Contingent upon a booking at the Carmel and availability of a priest.

Spread the good news

Paul reminds us of the importance of spreading the good news of Jesus Christ, and to do this in a humble way. We should not do so to gain glory for ourselves. If we see that another person has already done a good job, then we should go somewhere else to reach far and wide. The whole purpose is to do something for God – to bring as many people as possible to understand the Gospel message. Pope Francis reminds us to attract people to Jesus by the example of our own lives. (Marist Messenger)



Plenary Council Prayer: Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land. O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen. Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP - Extracts from a recent homily

...Marriage, dare I say, is one example of the Christian song and dance act, the cry for help and response to grace. A place of confusion, sin and hurt, where people find mercy, reconciliation and healing. A place where people express the excitement that comes not just from romantic feelings or natural friendship but from redemption. These are supernatural graces, sacramental graces, given to those who embrace that state of life, that particular way of “following Christ along the road”.

Pope Francis has observed that: “The family is experiencing a profound cultural crisis... the weakening of [family] bonds is particularly serious because the family is the fundamental cell of society, where we learn to live with one another despite our differences and to belong to one another... the place where parents pass on the faith to their children.” Nowadays, the Holy Father says, “marriage tends to be viewed merely as emotional satisfaction that can be constructed or modified at will. But its indispensable contribution to society is that it transcends the feelings and momentary needs of the couple.”^[2]

If ever the world needed faithful married couples—trying like **Blessed Karl** to get each other to heaven—it is today. Our jubilarians are the lessons in loving we need if we are to recover from our civilisation’s crisis of love, commitment and self-sacrifice...

About Karl of Austria

For these efforts the great French litterateur Anatole France described him as “the only decent man to have appeared in this war”. He did succeed in improving social assistance to the poor. But he was doomed to lead his crumbling empire for less than two years. On the day of the Armistice, he relinquished his administration, left the Schönbrunn Palace forever and went into exile and poverty.

Karl took his family with him. He had proposed to his wife before the Blessed Sacrament and married in 1911. The day after the wedding he told her: “Now, we must help each other get to heaven.” They led an exemplary married life. As he lay dying from pneumonia, aged only 34, he told his wife “I love you so much.” She then held a crucifix before him, he prayed for each of their children by name, and finally for his unborn. He forgave his enemies and then spoke to the corpus on the cross: “Thy holy will be done. Yes, yes, as you will it my Jesus” and gave up the ghost.

Miracles were soon attested at his tomb, and after fifty years his body was found incorrupt. He was beatified in 2004 by St John Paul II. The Pope declared his feast to be not the day of his death, as is usual, but the day of his marriage, 21 October, for it was marriage that sustained his heroic virtue. (<https://www.sydneycatholic.org/homilies/>)

Educating children: a call, a challenge, a joy - Vatican News

259. Parents always influence the moral development of their children, for better or for worse. It follows that they should take up this essential role and carry it out consciously, enthusiastically, reasonably and appropriately. Since the educational role of families is so important, and increasingly complex, I would like to discuss it in detail. ...[reference:

<http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia.html>]

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