



SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA

Newsletter March 2022

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

PO Box 1070, Woden ACT 2606

Chaplain: position currently vacant

Pb: (02) 6214 2011

President: Michael Allam

Pb: (02) 62519333

Website: <http://www.serracanberra.org>

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, 7th April, 2022 5.30 p.m.

Rosary 6.10 p.m., Monthly Mass 6.30 p.m. Thursday, 12th May, 2022 at 6.10 p.m. Holy Trinity, Curtin followed by **Dinner** 7.30 p.m. at the Private Dining Room Southern Cross Club, Woden.

No dinner meeting in April.

Forthcoming Events

LENT – Stations of the Cross

St. Christopher's Cathedral, 5.00 p.m. each Friday during Lent.

Every Friday: Evening Prayer and Adoration, Mary Help of Christians, Pearce 5.30 p.m.-6.00 p.m. (With the exception of Good Friday, 15th April).

6th April, 2022 (First Wednesday):

Adoration St. Brigid's Dickson, **Serra commitment** - 12.00 noon-1.00 p.m.

8th April, 2022 (First Friday):

Adoration at St. Christopher's Cathedral following 12.15 p.m. Mass.

5th June, (Sunday):

John Stephens Memorial Luncheon for Parents of Priest and Religious at the Southern Cross Club, following 11 a.m. Mass at St. Christopher's Cathedral.



Welcome to Fr. Alex Osborne

Fr. Alex Osborne - recently appointed as assistant priest to St. Christopher's Cathedral Parish.

Cambodia Project

Thank you to all members who have made donations to the Cambodian Seminary project. We will be able to transfer well over \$2000 to Catholic Missions as part of the joint donation to the seminary.

The funds will be transferred within the next week and we will then await news from St. John Vianney Seminary on how they intend to apply the funds.

Catholic Military Ordinariate

At our February Serra Dinner Meeting we had an engaging speaker in Gavin Keating who spoke about military chaplaincy. Gavin has given some thought to ways that the Catholic Military Ordinariate (CMO) could maintain some contact with Serra. The CMO publishes the quarterly newsletter *Serving Faithfully*, which contains updates of the chaplaincy. The URL is: <http://military.catholic.org.au/news/serving-faithfully-newsletter> for those wanting to view this newsletter.

Always to go forward, never to turn back

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.

Longevity of elderly a reminder to take things slow, pope says

By: Junno Arocho Esteves - March 2, 2022

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Coexistence between older and younger generations can bring about a better appreciation for life that is often lost in today’s fast-paced society, Pope Francis said.

A pervasive “spirit of rejection” exists in the modern world that “tends to be hostile to the elderly and, not by chance, also to children” and “casts them aside,” the pope said March 2 during his weekly general audience.

“The excess of speed puts us in a centrifuge that sweeps us away like confetti,” he said. “One completely loses sight of the bigger picture,” and instead is tossed about by an attitude dictated by market forces “for which slower pace means losses and speed is money.”

The pope continued his new series of talks dedicated to the meaning and value of old age and reflected on the theme, “Longevity: symbol and opportunity.”

The long life of the patriarchs recorded in the Bible, he said, “confers a strong, a very strong symbolic meaning to the relationship between longevity and genealogy.”

The Bible, he said, describes how “mutual support among generations is indispensable in order to decipher experiences and confront the enigmas of life.”

However, today, “the excess of speed, which now obsesses every stage of our life, makes every experience more superficial and less nourishing.”

“Young people are unconscious victims of this split between the time on the clock, which must be rushed, and the times of life that require a proper ‘leavening,’” he said. A long life gives a person time to value the processes that take time and to see the “damages of haste.”

For this reason, the pope continued, the “slower pace” of old age helps young people and adults discover the true meaning of life and “makes everyone’s existence richer in humanity.”

“There is a need for dialogue between the generations,” he said. “If there is no dialogue between young people and the elderly, if there is no dialogue, each generation remains isolated.”

A young person “who is not bonded to his or her roots, which are the grandparents, does not receive the strength, like the tree, the strength of the roots, and grows up badly, grows up ailing, grows up without points of reference,” he said.

Greater life expectancy today, he said, should be welcomed as an opportunity to re-forge the covenant between young and old and help everyone understand “the meaning of life in its entirety.”

“The meaning of life is all of it, from birth to death, and you should be able to interact with everyone, and also to have emotional relationships with everyone, so that your maturity will be richer and stronger,” the pope said.

(Catholic News Service <http://www.catholicnews.com/>)

Membership Fees

Fees are now due. Contact John Malycha to arrange payment.

The Members of the Board of Trustees for 2021-2022 are:		
President:	Michael Allam	Treasurer: John Malycha
Immediate Past President:	John Smith	Trustees: Michael Doherty
VP Vocations:	Brian Usback	Pat Supple
VP Programme:	Mary Malycha	Lee Hardy
		Peter Verdon
VP Membership:	Vacant	SCANZSPAC Rep.: Max Spencer
VP Communications and Secretary:	Audrey Smith	Chaplain: Position currently vacant

PRAY FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

It is often forgotten that Our Lady of Fatima requested the First Saturday devotion to be widely observed to ensure Russia's conversion.



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