



**ST. SERRA CLUB OF COLORADO SPRINGS**  
**NEWSLETTER – April 2023**  
**“Always forward, never back”**

**President Janet Zabukovic’s Message**



Dear Fellow Serrans:

We are about to enter the Easter Season, a season of great joy and renewal! The Resurrection of Jesus fills us with joy and restores our hope for eternal life in heaven. This season of the year, with its warmer weather and lengthening daylight hours naturally turns our thoughts to renewal- not just the renewal we see in the sprouting flowers, in the leaves of the trees and bushes, in the greening grass, and in the return of robins and other wildlife, but also the renewal we long for in our relationship with our God.

Let this be a time of reflection on where we, as Serrans, can grow and stretch our spiritual wings. In May, we will focus on learning more about the four ministry areas and determining where each one of us can best use our time, gifts and talents in service to our mission to pray for and support religious vocations, those already ordained, those in formation and those discerning. Each of you will be asked to sign up to help with one of the areas of ministry that are

part of being a Serran: Communications, Programs, Membership and Vocations. What is the Holy Spirit calling you to do?

Our nominating committee is working to form a slate of officers for the Serra Board. I want to thank the nominating committee for their work in securing a slate of officers and I want to thank those who agree to accept a position on the Serra Board. But it is important that all of us, not just the identified board members, resolve to use our time, talent, and treasures to further our mission. We need the work of **all** our members to continue to grow in both membership and in service to support vocations.

Happy and Blessed Easter to each of you!

Jan Zabukovic

## Prayer List

Continue to pray for all our members, especially: Loretta Bocast, Janet Clouse, Rudy Legleiter, Betty Plush, Mary Hayes, Joan Gawlik and her family, and Bishop Richard Hanifen.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Prayer Hour - April 6

Please join us for the **Serra Prayer for Vocations Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet Monthly from 11:00am - noon on the first Thursday.**

We will **NOT** have in-person prayers at **St. Mary's Cathedral** as it is Holy Thursday.

**The Rosary and Chaplet are ONLY available on-line by zoom this month.**

**The link to the zoom meeting is below.**

**Thursday, April 6 at 11:00am**

<https://zoom.us/j/9955357113>

Click on "Join a Meeting"

Enter Meeting ID: 995 535 7113

## Serra Club Monthly Mass, Luncheon, and Guest Speaker Thursday, April 20, 2023

Our guest speaker for April 20 will be Patrick S. J. Carmack, JD, Founder and President of the *Angelicum Academy Homeschool Program* and the *Great Books Academy Homeschool Program*. Mr. Carmack will be speaking on **The Impact of Studying the Classics on Vocations**. There is a remarkably high correlation between the study of the humanities and vocation rates. For example, since the Great Books-based Thomas Aquinas College's inception, a steady 10 percent of its alumni have pursued a vocation. There are 74 alumni priests and more than 40 fully professed religious, with many more alumni in seminaries around the country and abroad. While higher than most, a high rate of vocations is typical at Catholic Great Books programs. This talk will discuss what a Great Books program is, and possible reasons why they seem to have a dramatic impact on vocations.

We will order lunches from Panera Bread or you are welcome to bring your own lunch.

The Serra Club meets monthly on the third Thursday at The St. John Henry Newman Catholic Student Center at 4785 Stanton Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80918, near the UCCS campus

**For more information or to RSVP, contact: [SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net](mailto:SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net)**

## World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Serra Club of Colorado Springs encourages you to pray for vocations on **Sunday, April 30**, the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**.

## Serra Meets

There will be **NO Serra Meets in April** since our regular date falls on Holy Saturday. Upcoming **Serra Meets** presentations:

May 13, 2023, 11 am Central: **John Flanagan, Executive Director, The Laboure Society**

June 10, 2023, 11 am Central: **Kevin Wells, Catholic author of the book *The Priests We Need to Serve the Church***

July 8, 2023, 11 am Central: **David Rinaldi, President, NET Ministry**

## Serran Apostolate Treasurer's Report – April 1, 2023

I just returned from being out of town for over two months and have not had time to catch up on the account data yet. I will try to catch up in the next week and send out dues invoices where needed. I plan to be at the next Serra meeting and to be available to collect any dues checks that are brought to the meeting. Additionally, if you have any outstanding invoices, bills or receipts that need to be paid, please call me at 307-922-6813 and I will get you a check ASAP! – Ray Gentilini

## Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee will be contacting members in the early part of April to ask members to volunteer to run for positions or take committee assignments to help out with various tasks to operate the club. Please be generous with your time and talent to assist the club in performing all its missions. Additionally, for those that accept leadership positions in the club, there will be training available towards the end of the month to assist you in performing your new duties.

## Serra Club Parish Liaisons- Update

We recently updated our Club brochure that we hope to deliver to all parishes in the Diocese. We are recruiting Liaisons for each parish to go and talk with the Pastor and request permission to display the brochures and to be contact for other information such as the Priest Appreciation Sunday contest. We are specifically asking non-board members to sign up to be involved with this mission. Please prayerfully consider if you could take on this role at your own parish and/or other parishes in the Diocese, especially those outside of Colorado Springs.

**UPDATE:** *Thank you to all who signed up to be a Parish Liaison to distribute our new Serra brochures. We have already covered 14 of the 21 parishes in Colorado Springs Metro North and South Deanery and surrounding communities. We are still in need of a Liaison for the following:*

St. Peter – Monument

Our Lady for the Pines – Black Forest

St. Michael – Calhan

St. Andrew Kim

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Our Lady of the Woods – Woodland Park

Vietnamese Holy Martyrs

*If you are able to help with this project, please let us know by email to*

*[SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net](mailto:SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net) or call 719-375-5486. Thank you for supporting this important project.*

## Membership Update

**Save the Date:** We are hosting a prospective members gathering on **Saturday, April 29** at the Newman Center. It is going to begin with Mass at 5 p.m. followed by a **Wine and Cheese** social. Mark your calendars! We look forward to seeing you.

**For more information or to RSVP, contact:** [SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net](mailto:SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net)

## Important Information on By-Laws - Update

Our Serra board has been working for the last year to revise our by-laws so they will be in compliance with the new Serra USA by-laws. Rose Marie has been our liaison with Serra USA and has recently provided the updated by-laws for our review. The board has discussed the document and an email from our President, Jan Zabukovic, has been sent asking all Serra members to vote to accept the by-laws. Please respond to her email ASAP.

## Save the Date! - July 18, 2023

**Seminarian Picnic Luncheon** will be held on Tuesday, **July 18, 2023** at the St. John Henry Newman Center and Chapel in lieu of our usual monthly Thursday gathering.

## We Need More Prayers for Vocations!

**We are asking all Serra members and friends to please take time to pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet for vocations on First Thursdays at 11:00am or any other time, at your parish or at home, even if you are not able to participate with us in-person or online.**

***Please also consider joining the 31 Club (to pray for vocations one day a month) or Seven Serran Prayer Program (to pray for our Vocations Director)!***

## Seven Serran Prayer Program

Several years ago, the Serra US Council established a prayer program to ensure every vocation director in the US has at least one Serran praying for them for one hour each day of the year. Each Serra Club was asked to organize seven-member teams whose members agree to commit to one hour of prayer (Mass, Holy Hour, rosary, or other prayers) each week in support of their Vocation Director. The St. Serra Apostolate of CO Springs prayer team has been praying for Fr.

Kyle the past year. If you are currently a member of the prayer team or if you have not participated and would like to commit to praying for Fr. Kyle and his work for one hour on a specific day every week, please notify Jan Zabukovic at [JRZabukovic@comcast.net](mailto:JRZabukovic@comcast.net). Thank you for your consideration in participating in this very important ministry.

## Thanks to all who have signed up for the 31 Club!

Your commitment to **attend Mass or pray a Holy Hour one day a month for vocations** will certainly strengthen present vocations as well as awaken new ones. If you have not joined the 31 Club yet, please choose one of the empty dates below and contact Charlene at [SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net](mailto:SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net) to be added to this roster.

### 31 CLUB ROSTER

#### DAY of the Month. Name

1. Rose Marie Stimpfl
2. Mary Ellen Castillo
3. Dennis and Jan Palsgrove
4. Ray Gentilini
5. Bill McNamara
6. Marty Broestl and Loretta Bocast
7. Mary Helen Miller
8. Nell Smith
9. Kathy Bull
10. Pat Van Matre

#### DAY of the Month. Name

11. Laura Jean Hawley
- 12.
13. Helene Knapp
- 14.
15. Joel Kostyrka
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
19. Charlene Pardo
20. Beth Pressley
21. Jerry Schaefer
22. Sue Harman

#### DAY of the Month. Name

23. Patty O'Connell
- 24.
25. Eleanor Gentilini
- 26.
- 27.
- 28.
- 29.
30. Jon and Claudine Duncan
31. Connie Pratt

## Fr. Sijo George, Speaker, March 16 Luncheon

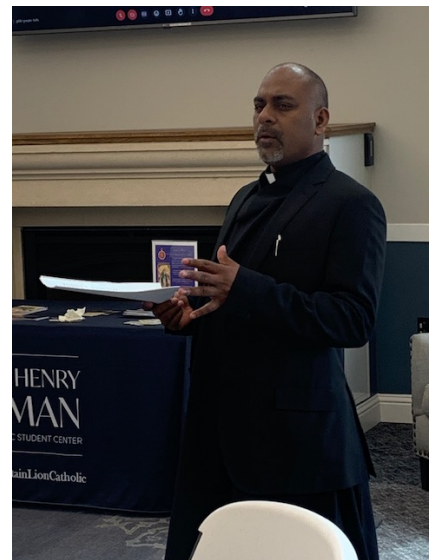
**Fr. Sijo George** is a Benedictine Priest from the southern state of Kerala, India. He is currently the Parochial Vicar at St. Paul Catholic Church in Colorado Springs. Fr. George spoke to the Serra Club on the topic of **Christianity in India**.

Fr. George was ordained a priest in 2003. He studied formative spirituality, taught school, and later, he was sent to Italy for two years and earned his Masters in Philosophy from the Univ of St. Anselmo Rome. He also had the wonderful experience of being on cruise ships as chaplain and as Crew Welfare Officer, which is how he met personal expenses during his studies in Italy.

Fr. George most recently has been serving as the Dean of studies at St. Joseph's Institute of Philosophy in the village of Makkiyad, outside the town of Wayanad in the state of Kerala, India. He is a member of the Congregation of the Sylvestro Benedictines belonging to the Priory of St. Joseph's Monastery Makkiyad, Kerala, India

#### Link to video of talk:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XZs9dFl5AHssa19bA0Id26pLG00vHOf7?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XZs9dFl5AHssa19bA0Id26pLG00vHOf7?usp=share_link)



## **Priests Birthdays for April 2023 (no ordinations this month)**

Rev. John Stearns	3-Apr
Rev. Vince Hovley, SJ	10-Apr
Rev. Jason Keas	12-Apr
Rev. Erin Kochivar	12-Apr
Rev. Francisco J. Quezada	17-Apr
Rev. Timothy O'Connell	27-Apr
Rev. Mark Zacker	27-Apr
Rev. George Fagan	4-May

### **Serra Club Current Officers**

President – Jan Zabukovic

Vice-President – Joel Kostyrka

Secretary – Marty Broestl

Treasurer – Ray Gentilini

VP Vocations – Jon and Claudine Duncan

VP Programs – Jerry Schaefer

VP Communications – Beth Pressley

VP Membership – Pat Van Matre

Trustees – Charlene Pardo, Eleanor Gentilini

And Rose Marie Stimpfl

Serra Foundation - Charlene Pardo

Newsletter Editor – Beth Pressley

Contact Beth to be added to our Newsletter email list at: [medmep@sbcglobal.net](mailto:medmep@sbcglobal.net)

Contact Serra Club of Colorado Springs: [SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net](mailto:SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net)







**FOLLOW OUR COLORADO SPRINGS SEMINARIANS ON THE  
FACEBOOK PAGE:**



**[Colorado Springs Priest Vocations | Facebook](#)**

### ***Pray for our Seminarians***

**Diocesan Seminarians and electronic calendar access: <https://www.diocs.org/Offices/Office-of-Vocations/Priestly-Vocations/Vocations-Prayer-Calendar>**



Seminarists	Name & Address	Email Address
	<p><b>Anthony Ambuul</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:a.p.ambuul@email.msmary.edu">a.p.ambuul@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Dominic Ambuul</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:d.j.ambuul@email.msmary.edu">d.j.ambuul@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Patrick DiLoreto</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:p.g.diloreto@email.msmary.edu">p.g.diloreto@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>James McCann</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:jimccann@email.msmary.edu">jimccann@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Sean O'Conner</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:s.p.oconnor@email.msmary.edu">s.p.oconnor@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Thomas Pressley</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:t.l.pressley@email.msmary.edu">t.l.pressley@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
Seminarists	Name & Address	Email Address

	<p><b>Mark Rocco</b> St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434-8145</p>	<p><a href="mailto:mark-rocco@sggs.edu">mark-rocco@sggs.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Vincent Smith</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:v.f.smith@email.msmary.edu">v.f.smith@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Christian Vaca-Rodriguez</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:m.c.vacarodriguez@email.msmary.edu">m.c.vacarodriguez@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Kevin Ward</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:k.h.ward@email.msmary.edu">k.h.ward@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Ian White</b> Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727- 7797</p>	<p><a href="mailto:i.j.white@email.msmary.edu">i.j.white@email.msmary.edu</a></p>
	<p><b>Joshua Wojcik</b> St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434-8145</p>	<p><a href="mailto:joshua-wojcik@sggs.edu">joshua-wojcik@sggs.edu</a></p>





# THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF COLORADO SPRINGS

April 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> <u>Joshua Wojcik</u> College IV St. Gregory the Great College Seminary
<b>2</b> <u>Kevin Ward</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>3</b> Permanent Deacons in the Diocese	<b>4</b> Fr. John Stearns	<b>5</b> <u>Sean O'Connor</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>6</b> An increase in Vocations to the Priesthood	<b>7</b> Holy Cross Novices	<b>8</b> <u>Ian White</u> Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
<b>9</b> Fr. Jeffrey Cooper, CSC, 4/9/94	<b>10</b> Fr. Vincent Howley, SJ	<b>11</b> <u>Anthony Ambuhl</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>12</b> Fr. Erin Kochivar	<b>13</b> Fr. Jason Keas	<b>14</b> <u>James McCann</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>15</b> Deceased Priests of the Diocese
<b>16</b> Fr. Jarrod Waugh, CSC, 4/16/13	<b>17</b> Fr. Francisco Quezada	<b>18</b> St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	<b>19</b> <u>Dcn. Thomas Pressley</u> Theology IV Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>20</b> Leaders who form the Seminarians	<b>21</b> Fr. Randall Rentner, CSC 4/21/90	<b>22</b> <u>Vincent Smith</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
<b>23</b> <u>Patrick DiLoreto</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>24</b> Military Chaplains	<b>25 (St. Mark)</b> <u>Christian Vaca-</u> <u>Rodriguez</u> , Theology II <u>Mark Rocco</u> , College IV	<b>26</b> Retired Priests of the Diocese	<b>27</b> Fr. Timothy O'Connell	<b>28</b> Fr. Mark Zscker	<b>29</b> <u>Dominic Ambuhl</u> Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
<b>30</b> Mt. St. Mary's Seminary						

May 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> <u>Dominic Ambuhl</u> Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>2</b> Permanent Deacons in the Diocese	<b>3</b> St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	<b>4</b> Retired Priests of the Diocese	<b>5</b> The Holy Father and his intentions	<b>6</b> <u>Anthony Ambuhl</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary
<b>7</b> <u>Sean O'Connor</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>8</b> <u>James McCann</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>9</b> <u>Vincent Smith</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>10</b> <u>Dcn. Thomas Pressley</u> Theology IV Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>11</b> Fr. Edward Kinerk, SJ, 5/11/72	<b>12</b> <u>Christian Vaca-</u> <u>Rodriguez</u> Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>13</b> <u>Mark Rocco</u> College IV St. Gregory the Great College Seminary
<b>14</b> Fr. James Klein	<b>15</b> Fr. Patrick Battiato, 5/15/76, Retired	<b>16</b> <u>Patrick DiLoreto</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>17</b> Fr. Kirk Slattery, 5/17/08	<b>18</b> <u>Ian White</u> Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>19</b> Fr. John Auer, 5/19/79, Retired	<b>20</b> Fr. Matthew Kane
<b>21</b> Fr. Kenneth Przybyla, 5/21/77, Retired	<b>22</b> Fr. James Gordon, FSSP 5/22/04	<b>23</b> Fr. Thomas Cwik, SJ	<b>24</b> Fr. John Toepfer, OFM Cap., 5/24/86 Fr. John "Jack" Fitzpatrick, 5/24/14	<b>25</b> Deceased Priests of the Diocese	<b>26</b> <u>Kevin Ward</u> Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	<b>27 Tentative</b> <u>Transitional Deaconate</u> <u>Ordination Day</u> Fr. Ernest Bond, 5/27/88, Retired
<b>28</b> Fr. Kyle Ingels, 5/28/05	<b>29</b> <u>Joshua Wojcik</u> Most Rev. Michael Sheridan, 5/29/71, Retired Fr. Timothy Corbley, IV DEL, 5/29/93 Fr. Frank Grinko, OFM Cap., 5/29/61 Fr. David Price, 5/29/10	<b>30</b> Fr. Gregory Bierbaum, 5/30/15 Fr. C. Chance Billmeyer, 5/30/20 Fr. Gregory Golyznik, 5/30/98 Fr. Dennis Grabrian, 5/30/70, Retired Fr. Nathaniel Hinda, 5/30/15 Fr. Tomasz Jamka, 5/30/09 Fr. Timothy O'Connell, 5/30/20 Fr. Roylan Recio Mirabent, 5/30/15 Fr. Bogdan Siewiera, 5/30/98	<b>31</b> Fr. Andrzej Szczesnowicz, 5/31/03			

Eternal Father, we lift up these seminarians and priests of our diocese. Sanctify them. Protect and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Underlined names are seminarians; Names in bold indicate the seminarian's birthday, and a priest's ordination anniversary