

Saint Serra Club of Colorado Springs

"Always forward, never back"



Saint Serra

ST. SERRA CLUB OF COLORADO SPRINGS NEWSLETTER September 2025

President Janet Zabukovic's Message



Dear Fellow Serrans, Priesthood Sunday in 2025 will be on Sunday, September 28, 2025. This day is a special occasion for the Catholic Church to honor the service of priests and to encourage young people to consider a vocation to the priesthood. As Serrans, part of our mission is to support those already ordained to the Priesthood. We can fulfill this call through our prayers for our Priests, but also by building a relationship with them, taking the time to thank them personally, to thank them for teaching us and inspiring us to grow in our relationship to God. We should not assume they already know that we love and support them; let's remember to be intentional in expressing our love and support!

We are also called to be a friend to our seminarians, those men who are currently in a long and intense process leading to ordination. We now have twenty-one men in formation for our diocese. It is important that we support them in prayer daily, but I think we might underestimate the importance of a letter from "home," a card with a short message of support and promise of prayer, a note or text to encourage and uplift them throughout the year. These men have chosen the "less traveled path" by attending the seminary instead of the more widely traveled paths to vocations in the married or single life. It took courage for them to respond to God's call, and it takes stamina, hard work, and faith to travel the difficult path leading to the Priesthood.

Support, encouragement, friendship, prayer- it's what we are called to do as Serrans.

Jan Zabukovic

Prayer List

Continue to pray for all our members and supporters, especially: Joe DeBenedittis; Sandy Lehnertz; Michael Lehnertz; Marlene Kondrup; Miki Feldman; Jan Zabukovic; Tom Plush; Loretta Bocast; Rudy Legleiter; Mary Hayes; Joan Gawlik and her family; Bishop Richard Hanifen.

1st Thursday Prayer Hour - September 4

Please join us! Serra Prayer for Vocations - Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet Prayed Silently; Monthly at 11am - Noon on the first Thursday, In-person at St. Mary's Cathedral.

You are welcome to stay for Mass at 12:10pm.

We are asking all Serra members and friends to please pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet for vocations on First Thursdays, at your parish or at home, even if you are not able to participate with us in-person at the Cathedral.

Serra Meets - Monday, Sept 15 at 6pm MT

Serra Meets: Erin Kinsella, (Consecrated Virgin)

In her book *Espoused to Christ*, Kinsella has delivered a valuable sourcebook, useful for those women who are already consecrated virgins as well as for those discerning whether they are called to the order. In it, she puts the theological meat on the bones of *Ecclesiae Sponsae Imago*. Passcode: 85355

https://zoom.us/j/95992451924?pwd=RFdzZjgybDk0VVlKVlhyYXNlNkpkUT09

SAVE THE DATE!! Thursday, September 18th Join us for our annual lunch celebrating RELIGIOUS WOMEN AND CONSECRATED VIRGINS!!

Serra will have our annual celebration for religious women and consecrated virgins of our Diocese on Sept 18. We will start with adoration at St. Mary's Cathedral at 11:00am, then

Mass at 12:10pm, followed by lunch in the Cathedral Center!

Please join us and help make their visit extra special for everyone!

Please pray for ALL our consecrated and religious women! Lunch will be provided, along with drinks and dessert.

Serrans – We need volunteers for set-up and decorating, serving, and clean-up for luncheon.

Please RSVP for the luncheon and/or to volunteer at the luncheon to:

SerraCOSprings@DioCS.net, or call Beth at 806-789-9002

SAVE THE DATE!! Saturday, September 20th Wine and Cheese Social!!

Please Join Us! Our Wine and Cheese Social will be held on Saturday, September 20, at Holy Apostles Catholic Church (4925 N. Carefree Circle) after the 5:30 Mass. This is the time to invite someone to come meet Serrans and learn about our apostolate. Please RSVP (with the name of your guest[s]) to Karen Wagner, VP of Membership, (wagnerkt5@gmail.com) before September 17.

Can you help? We need Serrans to help set up and/or clean up after the social - if you can help, please email Karen asap. Many thanks!

SERRA Dist 6 Conference, Sept 12-13 in Aurora

Attention ALL Serrans!

Time for our Annual Serra District 6 Conference, where we can meet Serrans from the Denver Serra Clubs and get ideas for our programs and events.

Keynote Speaker will be Col (Ret) John Halloran, Serra USA Council (USAC) President Saturday, September 13, 2025, Queen of Peace Parish
1320 E. Kentucky Ave., Aurora, CO
Social will be held Friday, Sept 12, 5:30-8:00pm
At Noonan's, 13521 E Iliff Ave, Aurora
Please let the Board know if you will be attending,

SerraCOsprings@DioCS.net, or call Beth at 806-789-9002 and leave message.

Thursday, August 21 Serra Monthly Lunch and Program

Our Speaker was Serran Robert Applegate.

Our Programs theme this year is the Jubilee of HOPE, so Robert talked about the year of Hope and also the history of the jubilee year of Hope. He mentioned highlights and interesting aspects of the Jubilees that have been happening since the year 1300.

In February of 1300, Pope Boniface VIII, in the papal bull *Antiquorum Habet Fida Relatio*, declared the first-ever Catholic Jubilee Year. Anyone who made a pilgrimage to the tombs of the Apostles Peter and Paul in Rome, and who repented and confessed, would receive "the fullest and broadest pardon for all sins committed," Boniface proclaimed.

Dante references the "jubilee" in Inferno, Canto XVIII, comparing the two lines of sinners moving in opposite directions to the two-way traffic system created on the <u>Bridge of Angels</u> during the 1300 Jubilee of Rome, an event he likely witnessed as a pilgrim.

2025 is the Jubilee Holy Year, the 2,025th anniversary of the Incarnation of our Lord, an "event of great spiritual, ecclesial, and social significance in the life of the Church."

The concept of "Jubilee" has its origins in the Book of Leviticus (chapter 25) as a special year of reconciliation, pilgrimage, and coming home.

Everyone is encouraged to look up the Jubilee of Hope online to get more interesting information!

Saturday, August 16th Vocations Discernment Retreat!!

The Diocese of Colorado Springs hosted a **Discernment Retreat** for **young men ages 11-17 on Aug. 16** at Our Lady of the Pines Parish Life Center. **Bishop Golka** attended and made opening remarks at the Retreat. The day consisted of presentations, followed by confessions, adoration, the rosary and Mass.







Bishop Golka speaking to the young men; Mike Lehnertz leading a discussion; Attendees at Mass

Treasurer's Report - September 2025

Dues: All dues are up-to-date! Thank you. **Treasurer – Jerry Schaefer**

FYI – The next World Day of Prayer for Vocations is April 26, 2026!!

St. Patrick holds a Mass followed by a Holy Hour for Vocations every First Saturday of the month.

Join us First Saturday, September 6 at 9:00am at St. Patrick to pray for Vocations! 6455 Brook Park Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80918



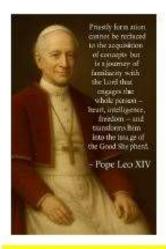


The Serra Club of Colorado Springs Presents



Priesthood Appreciation Contest!!

In celebration of Priesthood Sunday
September 28, 2025





Theme: Be A Saint! What Else Is There?

Create an essay, encouraging letter, poem, artwork, video or thank you card

> <u>Submissions Due:</u> October 24th, "virtually" submit to: <u>serracosprings@gmail.com</u> or via QR Code above

Winners: There will be 3 winners for each of the following (4) groups:
(1) Pre-K to 1st Grade (2) Grades 2-4 (3) Grades 5-8 (4) Grades 9-12

The winners will be announced during National Vocation Awareness Week (Nov 2-8)

For those who missed the funeral of Janelle O'Keeffe:

Former Serra Member <u>Janelle O'Keeffe</u> passed away on Friday July 18th. She and her husband Dave are a big part of why we have Serra in Colorado Springs. Janelle's funeral was <u>August 19 at 2pm</u> at the Newman Center, 4785 Stanton Road Colorado Springs, CO 80918. Janelle will be buried next to her husband Dave at Pikes Peak National Cemetery.



Born on November 19, 1932, in Nashville, Tennessee, Janelle was the daughter of Stanley and Virginia Louise Cortner. Proud of her deep roots in Tennessee, she was honored to be a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and part of the Scots-Irish community that helped settle Robertson County in northern Tennessee.

Janelle graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1954 and began a career as a stewardess—an exciting profession at the time. During a layover in Dallas, she met a young Army lieutenant named Dave O'Keeffe at a party. That night sparked a long-distance courtship filled with love letters the family still cherishes. The two were married on June 5, 1955, in Nashville.

The O'Keeffes welcomed five children over the next decade—David Jr., John, Karen, Jennifer, and Timothy. As Dave's career with IBM led to frequent relocations every few years, Janelle skillfully managed each move, building homes and communities from scratch, all while raising a growing family. Their final family home was in Lake Oswego, Oregon, where all five children graduated from high school before heading out into the world.

In their later years, Janelle and Dave lived in Falls Church, Virginia, before settling in Colorado Springs, where they made their home at Kissing Camels, McKenzie Place, and eventually Sunny Vista.

Janelle was a devoted Catholic, giving much of her time in service to others. She played the organ at Mass, volunteered with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and was active in the Serra Club. She loved reading, but her true recreational passion was cards—especially Bridge, where she was widely regarded as a formidable and talented player.

Above all, Janelle was deeply committed to her family. She crisscrossed the country to visit her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, forming strong, lasting bonds with each generation. Her kindness, warmth, generosity, and playful spirit live on in her five children, 11 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.



Check out our Serra Club of Colorado Springs Facebook Page!

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553890047739

Or search "Serra Club of Colorado Springs" Our FB Admin has wonderful vocation links. Please follow our page and invite your friends!!

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 for many years. We also pray for the Vocations Director in Salt Lake City, as they do not have a Serra Club at this time. If you have not participated and would like to commit to praying for Fr. Kyle or Fr. Carlos Guzman and his work for one hour on a specific day every week, please notify Jan Zabukovic at

JRZabukovic@comcast.net.

Seven Serrans praying for Fr. Kyle

Day of Week	Name
Monday	Patty O'Connell, Mike and Sandy Lehnertz
Tuesday	Mary Ellen Castillo, Anna Maria Trupp Hughes
Wednesday	Rosemarie Stimpfl, Marty Broestl
Thursday	Charlene Pardo, Ray Gentilini
Friday	Pat Van Matre, Bob Applegate
Saturday	Jeanne Frey, Maria Augusto
Sunday	Suzy Ferguson

Seven Serrans praying for Salt Lake City Vocations Director, Fr. Carlos Guzman

Day of Week	Name
Monday	Rose Marie Stimpfl, Regina Applegate
Tuesday	Diane Hemstock
Wednesday	Maruquel Reich
Thursday	Rose Marie Stimpfl
Friday	Karen Wagner
Saturday	Sandy Lehnertz
Sunday	Nell Smith

Thank you for your consideration in participating in this very important ministry.

Priest Birthdays

Rev. Frank Grinko, OFM Cap	Sept 2
Rev. Robert Newbury, Jr.	Sept 13
Rev. Daniel Ayers	Sept 15
Rev. Marek Krol	Sept 19
Rev. David Price	Sept 19
Most Rev. James Golka	Sept 22
Rev. Jeffrey Cooper, CSC	Sept 24
Rev. Alejandro Diaz, OFMCap	Sept 27

Priest Ordination Anniversaries

Rev. Vincent Nguyen, CSC 9/05/20 Rev. Joseph Pedersen, CSC 9/05/20

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

Please help fill the calendar!!

We're thrilled to have more than one person for some dates, because we can never have too many people praying for vocations!!

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 to be added to this roster. Only three open days (days 11, 12, & 29)!!! Can we add YOUR name?!

31 CLUB ROSTER

31 CLOD ROSTER						
DAY of the Month. Name	DAY of the Month. Name	DAY of the Month. Name				
1. Rose Marie Stimpfl	12.	23. Patty O'Connell				
2. Mary Ellen Castillo	13. Maruquel Reich	24. Robert Applegate &				
3. Dennis and Jan	14. Maria Augusto and	Jeanne Frey				
Palsgrove	Shirley Plush	25. Eleanor Gentilini				
4. Ray Gentilini	15. Joel Kostyrka	26. Gail Donnelly				
5. Bill McNamara	16. Karen Wagner	27. Margarita Treviño-				
6. Marty Broestl and	17.Patty Townley &	Waters				
Loretta Bocast	Sr Marietta Spenner OSF	28. Mike Larsen				
7. Sandy Lehnertz	18. Mike Lehnertz	29.				
8. Nell Smith	19. Charlene Pardo	30. Jon and Claudine				
9. Regina Applegate	20. Angie Stattman	Duncan				
10. Pat Van Matre	21. Jerry Schaefer	31. Connie Pratt				
11.	22. Sue Harman					

Serra Club Officers

Effective July 1, 2025

President – Jan Zabukovic

Vice-President – Jon Duncan

Secretary - Marty Broestl

Treasurer – Jerry Schaefer

VP Vocations – Angie Stattman

VP Programs – Robert Applegate

VP Membership – Karen Wagner

VP Communications – Beth Pressley

Hispanic Ambassador – Margarita Waters

Trustees - Charlene Pardo, Eleanor Gentilini, Rose Marie Stimpfl

Serra Foundation Representative - Charlene Pardo

Newsletter Editor – Beth Pressley

Contact Beth to be added to our Newsletter email list at: medmep@sbcglobal.net
Contact Serra Club of Colorado Springs: SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net



"The Summit with Father Kyle Ingels" is a radio show that airs on Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. on Catholic Radio Network 1120 AM. It's also available as a podcast at

https://thesummitwithfatherkyleingels.podbean.com/.

PLEASE TAKE A MINUTE TO PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

Prayer for Vocations (Vianney Vocations Website)

Prayer to Saint John Vianney for Vocations

O glorious Saint John Vianney, model of priestly virtue and zeal, you who dedicated your life to serving God and His people, we beseech you to intercede for us. Pray for young men and women to hear and respond to God's call to the priesthood and religious life. Inspire them with the same love for God and His Church that burned so brightly within you. Grant them the grace of courage, generosity, and a deep desire to follow Christ, just as you did. May your example of prayer, humility, and sacrifice be a beacon of light, guiding those discerning their vocation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Liaisons

Serrans, we need YOU to help spread our information to the Parishes of the Diocese!!

Our goal is to have a Liaison for every parish. That person will be the point of contact between Serra and the parish. The first order of business is to distribute our tri-fold brochure in English and Spanish. You need to contact the Parish Office or Pastor to request permission to display the brochures.

For those in and near Colorado Springs, we still need someone for:

Holy Trinity St. Andrew Kim

St. Peter St. Dominic

Immaculate Conception

For outlying parishes, we need:

Western Deanery (4)- one person could do all of these by mail.

Holy Family - Leadville

St. Rose of Lima - Bueno Visit & St. Joseph - Fairplay

St. Joseph - Salida

St. Mary of the Rockies - Bailey

Northern Deanery (4) - one person could do all by mail or four people could visit separately

Ave Maria - Parker

Pax Christi - Lone Tree

St. Mark - Highlands Ranch

St. Francis of Assisi - Castle Rock & Our Lady of the Visitation - Kiowa

Other

Catholic Center - Citadel Mall Peterson AFB Air Force Academy

If anyone can help with this mission, please send an email to: SerraCOSprings@dioCS.net

Sponsors and those communicating with the newest seminarians:

Five of our new men are in the spirituality year at Seminary, which means their ability to communicate is limited. They are fasting from technology to enhance inward reflection. They have limited access to social media and phones, and extended periods of silence and retreat. Please don't be concerned if you don't hear back or don't hear back in a timely manner from these men. Letters by mail are the best way to correspond with them.

Pray for our Seminarians Diocesan Seminarians and electronic calendar access: https://www.diocs.org/Offices/Office-of-Vocations/Priestly-Vocations/Vocations-Prayer-Calendar access:

Seminarians	Name & Address	Email Address	
	Dcn. Dominic Ambuul Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	d.j.ambuul@email.msmary.edu 4 th Theology	
	Stephen Ambuul St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434	2 nd College	
	Robert Ancona Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Propaedeutic Stage	

Jonathan DeCock Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	2 nd year of Pre-Theology
Aaron Doyle St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434	College Propaedeutic Stage
Joel Flinn Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	Propaedeutic Stage
Dcn. Yunior Gonzalez Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology 7335 S. Hwy 100, Hales Corners, WI 53130-042	4 th Theology
Joseph Hourigan St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434	2 nd College

Trevor Keene St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434	2 nd College
James McCann Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	3 rd Theology
Evan Morgan Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	2 nd year of Pre-Theology
Christopher Oram Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	1st year of Pre-Theology

Michael Pokorny Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	1 st Theology
Mark Rocco Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	3 rd Theology
Vincent Smith Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	v.f.smith@email.msmary.edu 3 rd Theology
Vincent Staverosky Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	2 nd year of Pre-Theology

Garin Tretter St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Rd. Seward, NE 68434	College Propaedeutic Stage
Kevin Ward Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	k.h.ward@email.msmary.edu 3 rd Theology
Dcn. Ian White Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	i.j.white@email.msmary.edu 4 th Theology
Joshua Wojcik Mt. St. Mary Seminary 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7797	joshua-wojcik@sggs.edu 3 rd Theology
Matthew Zimmer St. Gregory the Great College Seminary 800 Fletcher Road, Seward, Nebraska 68434	2 nd College

September 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Joshua Wojcik Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	2 Fr. Frank Grinko, OFM Cap	3 Mark Rocco Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	4 Michael Pokorny Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	5 Fr. Vincent Nguyen, CSC, 9/5/20 Fr. M. Joseph Pedersen, CSC, 9/5/20	6 Don Yunior Gonzalez Theology IV Sacred Heart Seminary
7 Jonathan DeCock Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	8 James McCann Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	9 Robert Ancona Propaedeutic Stage Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	10 Evan Morgan Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	11 Stephen Ambuul College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	12 Garin Tretter College Propaedeutic St. Gegory the Great College Seminary	13 Fr. Robert Newbury
14 W. Trevor Keene College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	15 Joel Flinn Propaedeutic Stage Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	16 Don Dominic Ambuul Theology IV Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	17 Permanent Deacons in the Diocese	18 Don. Ian White Theology IV Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	19 Fr. David Price	20 Fr. Marek Krol
21 Vincent Staverosky Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	22 Most Rev. James Golka	23 Christopher Oram Pre-Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	24 Fr. Jeffrey Cooper, CSC	25 Aaron Doyle College Propaedeutic St. Gegory the Great College Seminary	26 Joseph Hourigan College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	27 Fr. Alejandro "Alex" Diaz, OFM Cap
28 Priesthood Sunday Matthew Zimmer College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	29 Vincent Smith Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	30 Kevin Ward Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary				

Eternal Father, we lift up these seminarians and priests of our diocese. Sanctify them and mold them into the likeness and holiness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May our Blessed Mother, Mary, wrap her mantle of love and protection around them. Amen.

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

October 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Robert Ancona Propaedeutic Stage Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	2 Jonathan DeCock Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	3 Den Dominic Ambuul Theology IV Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	4 Garin Tretter College Propaedeutic St. Gegory the Great College Seminary
5 Fr. August Stewart	6 Fr. Rafael Torres-Rico	7 Joseph Hourigan College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary	8 Joel Flinn Propaedeutic Stage Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	9 Fr. Timothy Corbley, IV DEI	10 Vincent Smith Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	11 Stephen Ambuul College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary
12 <u>Kevin Ward</u> Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	13 Permanent Deacons in the Diocese	14 Joshua Wojcik Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	15 Fr. Brian Mohan	16 Don. Ian White Theology IV Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	17 Msgr. Robert Jaeger	18 W. Trevor Keene College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary
19 Fr. Dennis Gordon, FSSP	20 Fr. James Gordon, FSSP	21 Aaron Doyle College Propaedeutic St. Gegory the Great College Seminary	22 Vincent Staverosky Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	23 Don, Yunior Gonzalez Theology IV Sacred Heart Seminary	24 Evan Morgan Pre-Theology II Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	25 Matthew Zimmer College II St. Gregory the Great College Seminary
26 Michael Pokorny Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	27 Mark Rocco Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	28 James McCann Theology III Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	29 Christopher Oram Pre-Theology I Mt. St. Mary's Seminary	30 Fr. Michael Goodyear	31 Fr. Nathaniel Hinds	

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