



# SERRA CLUB of PORTLAND BULLETIN

Serra Club 3 / District 1S / Pacific Northwest Region

## SERRAN CALENDAR

- Wed, Feb 2      11 AM Board Meeting  
                   Noon Serran Meeting  
 Speaker:      Marie Barzen  
                   St. Maria Maternity Home
- Wed, Feb 16    Noon      Mass  
    Serran Meeting
- Wed, Mar 2      **ASH WEDNESDAY**  
                   11 AM Board Meeting  
                   Noon Serran Meeting  
 Speaker: Sr. Veronica Schueler, FSE  
 Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Portland
- Wed, Mar 16    **NO MEETING**
- Tues, Mar 22    **PRIESTS APPRECIATION  
    DINNER**

### SAVE THE DATES:

FEBRUARY 2, 2022

#### World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

To be celebrated Feb 5-6 in parishes

TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022

#### PRIESTS' APPRECIATION DINNER

Portland Golf Club

Cocktails at 5 PM ~ Dinner at 6 PM

SUNDAY, MAY 8, 2022

#### WORLD DAY OF VOCATIONS

MOTHER'S DAY

JULY 14 - JULY 17, 2022

#### SERRA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Toronto, Canada

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

#### PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

SUNDAY, OCT 23, 2022

#### SISTERS' APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

## President's Message

*"After you sing the blues, you still have the blues. I sing God's music because it makes me feel free." ---Mahalia Jackson*

Mahalia Jackson died fifty years ago on January 27, 1972. Born to a poor family in New Orleans, she found her calling at Mount Mariah Baptist Church where she began singing in the choir. After moving to Chicago she met the famous Gospel choir leader Thomas Dorsey and began to tour. Her reputation began to spread throughout the country and the world. She became the first Gospel singer to perform at Carnegie Hall.

Despite her fame she constantly confronted prejudice. In the 1950s Martin Luther King Jr. invited her to help raise money for the Montgomery Bus boycott. From that time on she was always available whenever King called. Sometimes when he was feeling low, he would ask her to sing his favorite song "Take My Hand, Precious Lord," a song she would sing at his funeral. She hoped her music would "break down some of the hate and fear that divide the white and black people of this country."

She was at King's side in 1963 performing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the famous March on Washington and played a significant role in his famous oration. As King approached the conclusion of his written speech, Jackson called out, "Tell them about the dream, Martin." At this point King departed from his speech to deliver the historic lines that became a signature of his legacy.

I thought it was appropriate in this month that we celebrate a week of Christian unity and we honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for his work in civil rights, that we also recognize someone who contributed meaningfully to both Christian unity and to civil rights.

Mary, Mother of Vocations, pray for us,

*Art Diederich, President*

- Page 2      Serra Christmas Social
- Page 3      Archbishop Discernment Retreat
- Page 4      Widows of Prayer,  
                   World Day for Consecrated Life
- Page 5      Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Page 6-7    Congregation of the Holy Cross
- Page 8      Prayer Intentions

# Photos from our Serra Christmas Social

Feb/Mar 2022

In spite of the ongoing and never-ending pandemic, nothing was going to keep us from coming together for this festive occasion!



Paul Harris & Lynn Miller



Fr. Joaquim Gracias & Ron Turco



Art Diederich, Fr. Jeff Eirvin, & Melliza Palazo



Ilene & Peter Tutmark



Deacon Brian Diehm, Sr. Veronica Schueler, FSE, Archbishop Alexander Sample, Bianca Nerenberg, & Sr. Mary Margaret Delaski, FSE



Bishop Peter Smith, Ron Turco, Fr. Jeff Eirvin, Susan Gallagher, & Agnes Onkka



Christy Ulrich, Terry & Terry Prince, Gail & Gary Wilhelms, & George Van Hoomissen



Nancy & Tom Eyer, Lynn Miller, Mike Wyne, & Jeff Eirvin



Dan Jones, Mary Ann Perlot, Evelyn Gibbons, Carol Petitt, and Sandy Diederich



Archbishop John Vlazny & Fr. Jeff Eirvin



Mary Ann Perlot & Dan Jones



Susan Gallagher & Dick Safranski

Seminarians will often say that it was here, at the Archbishop's Discernment Retreat, that they made the decision to enter seminary. This is a powerful weekend of prayer, fraternity and conversation with Archbishop Sample on various topics on the priestly vocation.

Fr. Jeff Eirvin

[vocations@archdpx.org](mailto:vocations@archdpx.org)



## Reflections from our Chaplain, Rev. Jeff Eirvin

On the weekend of January 7-9, 2022, the Office of Vocations held the annual Archbishop's Discernment Retreat at Our Lady of Peace Retreat House in Beaverton, Oregon. This retreat is a wonderful experience for men who are seriously discerning diocesan priesthood. This year we had 12 men join us on retreat, no doubt the 12 that Jesus chose to be there! The weekend was colored with prayer, fraternity and a substantial amount of teaching and reflection on the priesthood with Archbishop Sample. The theme of this year's retreat was "Spiritual Fatherhood". Some of the content of the conferences was taken from the book "Priestly Fatherhood: Treasure in Earthen Vessels", by Fr. Jacques Philippe, a book given to all the priests and seminarians of the archdiocese this year from Archbishop Sample as a Christmas present.

One of the highlights of this year's retreat was to have Fr. Peter Julia, parochial vicar at St. Cecilia's Parish, join us for the evening conference on Saturday. This conference focused on what spiritual fatherhood "looks like". While on retreat, we wanted to give the guys discerning a theological understanding of the priesthood, as well as a look at the practical reality of daily life as a priest. Fr. Julia shared some beautiful stories of being a spiritual father in the parish, as he gives himself to his parishioners from the joyful moments of birth, to the painful realities of death. His stories of self-giving love resonated in the hearts of many of the men on retreat.



The retreatants came from the following parishes in the Archdiocese of Portland: St. Pius X, Portland; Good Shepherd, Sheridan; St. Patrick's, Portland; Christ the King, Milwaukie; St. Philip Benizi, Creswell; St. Birgitta, Portland; Immaculate Conception, Stayton; and 3 from St. Mary's, Eugene. The remaining 2 joined us from dioceses outside of the Archdiocese of Portland.

Most importantly, four of the men on retreat decided to begin the application process for seminary in the Fall of 2022, as a result of the Archbishop's Discernment retreat. Praise God! Thank you for all your prayers and support of our seminarians and those discerning diocesan priesthood.



## Reflections from Jan 19 Serra Meeting : Widows of Prayer

Suzanne McKenzie

The Apostolate of the Widows of Prayer is to serve the Church, praying for priests and those in Church leadership. The religious community was founded by Mary Reardon in 1994 with bylaws under the directive of the Bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin. The widow who is interested in joining fills out an application for admittance. If that is approved, she begins her formation year. At the end of the first year, the candidate is eligible to make the first promise, to live a life of holiness and prayer. She can repeat this after the second year. After three years she may make her third and final promise, with the option to become consecrated, making the vows of simplicity of life, chastity and obedience.

There are currently 8 communities in the US with a total of 58 women. In Oregon there are about 10 women, 3 in formation in the Portland area, and 7 who meet regularly at Mount Angel Abbey. The Rule of Life, (statutes as written in their bylaws), which must be adapted to the Widow's circumstances, includes: daily Mass, the rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, morning and evening prayers, and spending time daily in private prayer. Most live in their own homes, but some are in assisted or nursing homes.

Born and raised in Albany, Oregon, as a Methodist, Suzanne McKenzie was deeply influenced by the funeral Mass of President Kennedy and other events, which lead her to join the Catholic Church in 1975. She worked for 40 years as a nurse, mostly in the operating room, and retired in 2003 from the Navy as a Commander after 20 years in the service, and from nursing in 2015. That same year her husband of 43 years died of early onset dementia. In caring for her husband for 12 years, Suzanne McKenzie had lots of time to contemplate her future. "When you become a widow, you long for communion and you have more time for God in a very intimate way."

After her husband died, she felt God calling her to join the Widows of Prayer. She also pursued a life long dream and bought a farm. She has 3 children, 6 grandchildren and runs a 30 acre oak tree farm, with goats, sheep, pigs, and other animals. Suzanne made her final vows with the Widows of Prayer in Oct 2019 at Mount Angel Abbey. She feels deeply that "This is a unique opportunity for widows to make the most of the last part of their lives."

For questions about the Widows of Prayer contact Suzanne at [suzmckenzie@gmail.com](mailto:suzmckenzie@gmail.com)



## World Day for Consecrated Life

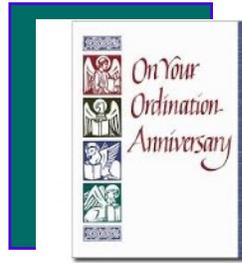
<https://serraus.org/event/world-day-for-consecrated-life-2022/>

In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day, the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. The celebration of World Day for Consecrated Life is transferred to the following Sunday in order to highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church, February 5-6, 2022.

Here in the Archdiocese of Portland, World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life will be celebrated on Saturday, February 5, at the 5:30 pm vigil Mass at St. Mary Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

**FEBRUARY**

- 02/02 Rev. Kenneth Olsen
- 02/11 Rev. Patrick Hannon, CSC
- 02/17 Rev. Richard Berg, CSC



**MARCH**

- 3/06 Rev. John McGuire
- 3/08 Rev. John Boyle ~ **25 years!**
- 3/30 Rev. Francis Chun

- 02/03 Rev. Peter O'Brien  
Rev. Edmund Smith, OSB
- 02/06 Rev. Piotr Dzikowski, S.CH
- 02/08 Most Rev. Peter Smith
- 02/11 Rev. Matías Pérez Constanzó, SSJ
- 02/12 Rev. Martin Grassel, OSB  
Rev. Sean Weeks
- 02/13 Rev. James Rigert, CSC
- 02/14 Rev. Michael Biewend
- 02/15 Rev. John Boyle  
Rev. Michael Kueber
- 02/19 Rev. David Janes
- 02/20 Rev. Joseph Hau Duc Nguyen  
Rev. Philip Waibel, OSB
- 02/21 Msgr. Donald Buxman
- 02/22 Most Rev John G. Vlazny (Emeritus)
- 02/27 Rev. Peter Do, OP

**BIRTHDAYS**

**PRIESTS**



- 3/02 Rev. Msgr. Timothy Murphy  
Abbot Nathan Zodrow, (ret) OSB
- 3/05 Rev. Mark Bachmeier
- 3/06 Rev. Patrick Neary, CSC
- 3/12 Rev. Rodel de Mesa
- 3/13 Rev. Andrew Thomas
- 3/14 Rev. David Clark
- 3/20 Rev. Kieren Healy, OP  
Rev. Msgr. Gregory Moys
- 3/21 Rev. Dale Waddill

**February 10 ~ Feast Day of St. Scholastica**

Saint Scholastica was the twin sister of Saint Benedict. Benedict studied in Rome but then decided to devote all of his life to the search for God. He organized several community dwellings and finally established a very important monastery at Monte Cassino. Scholastica helped her brother found a community of religious women about five miles south of his monastery.

St. Scholastica and Benedict visited together only once a year. They would spend the day praying and speaking of God and the spiritual life.

When Benedict said he had to return to the monastery, Scholastica begged him to stay and talk awhile longer. Benedict refused, saying that his rule required that the monks be in their monastery at night. Heartbroken, Scholastica folded her hands, put her head on the table, and quietly wept and prayed. As she prayed, a storm began, so terrible that no one could venture out. "What have you done?" Benedict exclaimed to his sister. She explained that since he had refused the favor she has asked, she had turned to God instead, and God granted it. Benedict and Scholastica continued their conversation and prayer until morning.

Three days later, Scholastica died. The brother and sister had enjoyed their final conversation. Benedict had her buried in the tomb he had built for himself.

St. Gregory the Great said of Scholastica, "She could do more because she loved more."

source:  
<https://www.ssacad.org/about/who-is-st-scholastica>

**BIRTHDAYS  
SISTERS**

- 1/30 Sr. Charlene Herinckx, SSMO
- 1/31 Sr. Catherine Hertel, SSMO  
(inadvertently omitted in the last newsletter)
- 2/07 Sr. Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB
- 2/08 Sr. Joyce Green, SP
- 2/12 Sr. Barbara Chamber, SP
- 2/26 Sr. Alexa Rebecca, SSMO
- 2/14 Sr. Dorothy Pulkka, OSB
- 3/01 Sr. Marianne Giesel, SSMO
- 3/07 Helen Jean Brinkman, FSE
- 3/01 Marianne Giesel, SSMO
- 3/12 Mechtilde Fennimore, OSB
- 3/13 Patricia Lulay, SSMO  
Ruth Etzel, SSMO
- 3/14 Miriam Hendrikson, OSB
- 3/16 Juliana Monti, SSMO
- 3/25 Susan Casey, OSB
- 3/30 Theresa Hathaway, SSMO

**ANNIVERSARY DATES**

**Profession Anniversary dates for  
Benedictine Sisters in Mount Angel**

- 2/09 Sr. Rocio Moreno Soto, OSB 1985
- 2/10 Sr. Mechtilde Fennimore, OSB 1950
- 2/10 Sr. Dorothy Rausch, OSB 1952
- 2/10 Sr. Christine Rausch, OSB 1952
- 2/10 Sr. Regina Rausch, OSB 1955

*Sisters Dorothy and Christine will celebrate 70 years on Feb 10, the feast of St Scholastica!*



For over a century, Congregation of Holy Cross priests and brothers have served at the University of Portland to carry out the vision of its founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C., educating the hearts and minds of students. They serve in a variety of roles including University leadership, professors, administrative staff, and pastoral residents. A number of Holy Cross community members at the University of Portland are retired, but still actively involved in local parish ministries. In every endeavor at the University, the congregation is helping to shape faithful citizens who will go forth from the University to inspire, lead, and improve the world. Through its own ministries and through partnerships and volunteer efforts in conjunction with the University, the Congregation and University students, faculty, and staff are working together to address some of Oregon's most pressing social concerns in enhancing educational experiences and opportunities, decreasing hunger, and bridging the divide between urban and rural areas.

The twenty-five priests and brothers at the University of Portland living in community are just a fraction of the 1,400 Holy Cross priests and brothers who live and work in 15 countries on five continents. Since 1840 when the first brothers and priests were sent from France to Algeria to work in schools, the congregation has been a missionary congregation of educators. Today members of the congregation of Holy Cross still serve primarily in high schools, colleges, and universities (including the University of Portland, University of Notre Dame, Stonehill College, King's College, and St. Edwards University). They also work as parish priests and in ministries among the poor.

In addition to supporting the University of Portland, the Holy Cross priests staff Holy Redeemer Parish and St. Andre Bessette Parish in Portland. University of Portland School of Education students provide tutoring to K-8 students at Holy Redeemer Elementary School and the Holy Cross community work with parishioners in the parish's confirmation program. At St. Andre Bessette Parish in downtown the Congregation of Holy Cross serves through several programs for the hungry and homeless providing emergency services, hospitality (Brother Andre Café, St. Mary's Food Pantry), and referrals for Portland's homeless.



To read about the work of Holy Cross in Oregon, go to [www. up.edu/holycross](http://www.up.edu/holycross)

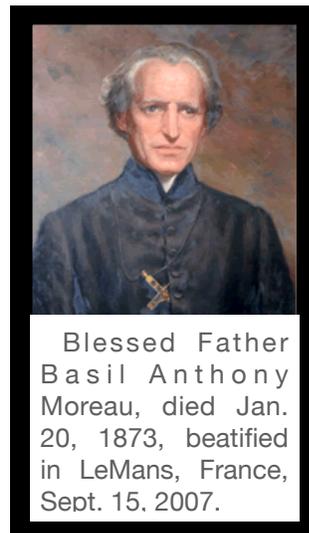


# The Congregation of the Holy Cross

In the troubled period following the French Revolution, Father Basil Anthony Moreau, a priest of the diocese of LeMans, founded the Congregation of Holy Cross. To supply the needs of the devastated Church throughout the countryside, he organized a group of auxiliary priests to assist diocesan clergy in preaching parish missions. He also intended them to be educators and began to prepare them for that work.

Only days after this group was first assembled, Father Moreau accepted, at the request of his bishop, responsibility for the Brothers of Saint Joseph, founded fifteen years earlier by another priest of the same diocese, Father James Francis Dujarie, pastor of Ruille-sur-Loir. These brothers were zealous laymen who had been meeting the need for elementary education in villages of the region.

What led to an unusual venture in the history of the church was Father Moreau's decision to unite these two groups, which he did by the Fundamental Act of 1 March 1837. Priests and brothers were united within a single association to minister to the pastoral and educational needs of the French Church. The group took its name from the town where Moreau based them - Sainte Croix, or Holy Cross. Moreau's vision was to bring into this association a group of laywomen, thus modeling the Holy Family. The Marianites of Holy Cross (in France), the Sisters of the Holy Cross (in the United States), and the Sisters of Holy Cross (in Canada) are the spiritual descendants of this initial group of women Moreau brought together. Moreau gave each group a patron. The priests were consecrated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus; the brothers were consecrated to Saint Joseph, and the sisters were consecrated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The entire congregation was placed under the patronage of Our Lady of Sorrows.



Blessed Father Basil Anthony Moreau, died Jan. 20, 1873, beatified in LeMans, France, Sept. 15, 2007.

From the outset, Fr. Moreau saw Holy Cross as an apostolic religious community destined to serve the church well beyond the frontiers of his own country. During the first fifteen years, when the group was still small and struggling, Fr. Moreau's vision compelled him to send out missionaries to Algiers, Eastern Bengal, and the United States. It was his decision to accept the difficult mission of Eastern Bengal (now Bangladesh) that persuaded Pope Pius IX to grant Holy Cross official ecclesiastical recognition as a religious institute, approving its Constitutions in 1857.



In 1842, Father Edward Sorin, C.S.C. had arrived in Northern Indiana at the age of 28 with seven brothers to found the University of Notre Dame. From there, Sorin followed Moreau's example of sending out priests and brothers to found other schools and parishes throughout the United States and Canada. It was a heroic work given the community's meager resources, cholera outbreaks in the 1850s, the divisions of the American Civil War in the 1860's, and the insatiable need for Catholic priests and brothers in parishes and schools as citizens flocked to claim the frontier.

Shortly after the dawn of the 20th century, the University of Portland first opened its doors in 1901 (as Columbia University). Its founder, Archbishop Alexander Christie, began immediately lobbying Father John A. Zahm, C.S.C., the Holy Cross superior in South Bend, Ind., to assume financial and administrative responsibility for the new university. He is said to have pleaded with Zahm to "take over Columbia University and make it the Notre Dame of the Pacific Northwest!" The Holy Cross priests soon arrived in the Northwest to run the year-old University of Portland.

In the 20th century, the priests and brothers of Holy Cross devoted their greatest efforts to educational ministries in the United States and Canada and France, (despite the difficulties caused by the suppression of religious orders between 1903-18). There was some instability within the Holy Cross orders as well. The congregation had withdrawn from Africa and would not return to the continent until 1958. The mission in Bengal continued to wrestle with a series of calamities and natural disasters that led to sickness, exhaustion, and an early death for many. However, overall the first six decades of the century witnessed rapid growth in numbers and diversification of ministries, reminiscent of the congregation's earliest years under Fr. Moreau.

Today, the Congregation has ministries all over the globe and is enjoying continued growth, particularly in India, Bangladesh, and East Africa as well as renewed interest in vocations among American high school and college students. It is represented on every continent except for Australia and Antarctica. As Holy Cross looks forward to the first century of the next millennium, it is continuing to serve the Church as "Educators in the Faith," bringing to fruition much of Fr. Moreau's original vision.

Please keep in your prayers those who have recently passed away.

Jackie Archer, wife of Serran John Archer.

Jo Duke, sister of Serran Dick Safranski.

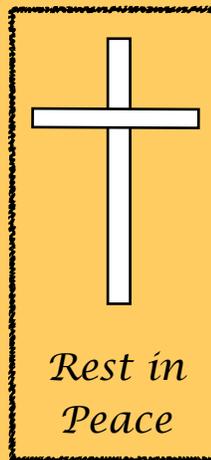
Sr. Beverly Miller, SNJM April 27, 1935 – December 10, 2021  
A virtual memorial was held on Thursday, January 6, 2022, at 2:00 p.m

Sr. Jean Marie Van Dyke, SSMO March 14, 1939 – Dec. 11, 2021

Sr. Joanne Maney, SNJM January 29, 1933 – December 14, 2021  
A virtual memorial was held on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

Sr. Mary Margaret Tan, OSF February 22, 1926 - January 13, 2022

Sr. Mary Carmel Molloy, OSF July 13, 1940 - Oct. 11, 2021



Click on their underlined names for the links to their religious orders and their life stories.

*May the souls of these servants of the Lord rest in everlasting peace.*



Sr. Beverly Miller, SNJM

Sr. Jean Marie Van Dyke, SSMO

Sr. Joanne Maney, SNJM

Sr. Mary Margaret Tan, OSF

Sr. Mary Carmel Molloy, OSF

As Serrans, we are ever so grateful for these religious sisters who have given their lives in the service to our Lord. Each life has its own story... Sr. Beverly worked with severely handicapped children at Marylhurst and in the medical field. Sr. Jean Marie grew up in Verboort with 15 siblings, and went on to serve many of the Oregon catholic schools. Sr. Joanne not only worked in the educational and financial fields, but in addition, cared for 2 foster children in what was to be temporary care and turned into permanent care. Sr. Mary Margaret was born in Mainland China and became a postulant in the Convent of the Franciscan Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Sorrows in Hengyang, Hunan, China, then came to the US in the early 1950's to California, then to Our Lady of Peace Retreat House. Sr. Mary Carmel, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia for 59 years, born in Galway, Ireland, was assistant principal at LaSalle High School and taught at Central Catholic High School. There is so much more!!! Go to the links on the names in the text box above to get the full story of each sister. They certainly have their place in heaven for their work here on earth!

### Club Information

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Let them know

**WE CARE!**