



SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA

Newsletter November 2018

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.

Trustees Meeting

Thursday 7th February, 2019 6.00 p.m.

Rosary, Mass & Christmas Party

13th December, 2018 6.10 p.m. Holy Trinity, Curtin. Dinner 7.30 p.m. at the **Private Dining Room Southern Cross Club**, Woden.

Forthcoming Events

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

Every Friday: Prayer Group, "Community of the Risen Lord", St. Brigid's, Dickson 7.00 pm. - 9.30 p.m.

18th November (Sunday): installation of seminarian Mark Ha as Lector

at 11 a.m. Mass St. Christopher's Cathedral.

23rd November (Friday): installation of Alex Osborne to the Diaconate, 7 p.m. St. Christopher's Cathedral.

7th December (Friday): Adoration following 12.15 p.m. Mass at St. Christopher's Cathedral.

13th December (Thursday): Serra Christmas Party.

Annual Retreat: either 9th Feb. or 9-10th March. More details later.

Visit to St. Benedict's Parish Batemans Bay

A group of twelve Serrans attended adoration at Batemans Bay and hosted Frs. Aloga Martins and Dominic Byrne to an enjoyable dinner gathering on the 2nd November.

Fr Martins has replied expressing their appreciation for our support. He requested copies of our prayers for vocations.

Fr. Dominic will be moving to West Wyalong in the new year.

Moruya Parish will re-open with Fr. Steven Astill SJ as administrator.

Mary and Pat Supple do Serra Proud



Serra received a request from seminarian Foliga Etuale for us to assist with accommodation on the 17th November for three Bathurst diocese seminarians who will attend the installation of Mark Ha as Lector on the 18th November. A big thank you for the generous offer of accommodation for all three by Mary and Pat Supple.

31 CLUB Promotion

What can you do to increase attendance at Mass and prayers for vocations by promoting the 31 CLUB?

Always to go forward, never to turn back

**ON THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY’S WORLD – ACTIVITY THAT SANCTIFIES
POPE FRANCIS**

Extract

25. Just as you cannot understand Christ apart from the kingdom he came to bring, so too your personal mission is inseparable from the building of that kingdom: “Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness” (Mt 6:33). Your identification with Christ and his will involves a commitment to build with him that kingdom of love, justice and universal peace. Christ himself wants to experience this with you, in all the efforts and sacrifices that it entails, but also in all the joy and enrichment it brings. You cannot grow in holiness without committing yourself, body and soul, to giving your best to this endeavour.

26. It is not healthy to love silence while fleeing interaction with others, to want peace and quiet while avoiding activity, to seek prayer while disdain service. Everything can be accepted and integrated into our life in this world, and become a part of our path to holiness. We are called to be contemplatives even in the midst of action, and to grow in holiness by responsibly and generously carrying out our proper mission.

27. Could the Holy Spirit urge us to carry out a mission and then ask us to abandon it, or not fully engage in it, so as to preserve our inner peace? Yet there are times when we are tempted to relegate pastoral engagement or commitment in the world to second place, as if these were “distractions” along the path to growth in holiness and interior peace. We can forget that “life does not have a mission, but is a mission”. [27]

28. Needless to say, anything done out of anxiety, pride or the need to impress others will not lead to holiness. We are challenged to show our commitment in such a way that everything we do has evangelical meaning and identifies us all the more with Jesus Christ. We often speak, for example, of the spirituality of the catechist, the spirituality of the diocesan priesthood, the spirituality of work. For the same reason, in *Evangeliu Gaudium* I concluded by speaking of a spirituality of mission, in *Laudato Si’* of an ecological spirituality, and in *Amoris Laetitia* of a spirituality of family life.

29. This does not mean ignoring the need for moments of quiet, solitude and silence before God. Quite the contrary. The presence of constantly new gadgets, the excitement of travel and an endless array of consumer goods at times leave no room for God’s voice to be heard. We are overwhelmed by words, by superficial pleasures and by an increasing din, filled not by joy but rather by the discontent of those whose lives have lost meaning. How can we fail to realize the need to stop this rat race and to recover the personal space needed to carry on a heartfelt dialogue with God? Finding that space may prove painful but it is always fruitful. Sooner or later, we have to face our true selves and let the Lord enter. This may not happen unless “we see ourselves staring into the abyss of a frightful temptation, or have the dizzying sensation of standing on the precipice of utter despair, or find ourselves completely alone and abandoned”. [28] In such situations, we find the deepest motivation for living fully our commitment to our work.

30. The same distractions that are omnipresent in today’s world also make us tend to absolutize our free time, so that we can give ourselves over completely to the devices that provide us with entertainment or ephemeral pleasures. [29] As a result, we come to resent our mission, our commitment grows slack, and our generous and ready spirit of service begins to flag. This denatures our spiritual experience. Can any spiritual fervour be sound when it dwells alongside sloth in evangelization or in service to others?

31. We need a spirit of holiness capable of filling both our solitude and our service, our personal life and our evangelizing efforts, so that every moment can be an expression of self-sacrificing love in the Lord’s eyes. In this way, every minute of our lives can be a step along the path to growth in holiness. [*GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE* <https://w2.vatican.va/>]

Nowadays, pastoral care for families has to be fundamentally missionary (AL, 230bis)

ST. JOHN PAUL II'S PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Father, You are love and life. Through Your Son, Jesus Christ, born of woman, and through the Holy Spirit, the fountain of divine charity, grant that every family on

earth may become for each successive generation a true shrine of life and love. Grant that Your grace may guide the thoughts and actions of husbands and wives for the good of their families and of all the families in the world.

Grant that the young may find in the family solid support for their human dignity and for their growth in truth and love. Grant that love, strengthened by the grace of the sacrament of marriage, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass.

Through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that the Church may fruitfully carry out her worldwide mission in the family and through the family.

We ask this of You, Who is life, truth and love with the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen. [<http://aleteia.org/>]

The Members of the Board of Trustees for 2018-2019 are:

President:	John Smith	Treasurer:	John Malycha
Immediate Past President:	Michael Doherty	Trustees:	Daniel Kenny
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