



SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA

Newsletter March 2019

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**.

31 CLUB: remember to keep up your commitment and recruit new members.

Trustees Meeting

Thursday 4th April, 2019 6.00 p.m.

Rosary, Monthly Mass & Meeting with Refreshments in the Curtin Parish Hall: Thursday 11th April, 2019 at 6.10 p.m. Holy Trinity, Curtin.

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.

Every Wednesday during Lent: Adoration at St. Brigid's, Dickson from 9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m.

5th April (Friday): Adoration at St. Christopher's Cathedral following 12.15 p.m. Mass.

15th April (Monday): 41st Anniversary of the Serra Club of Canberra Charter.

12th May (Sunday): Good Shepherd Sunday and the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

2nd June (Sunday): Parents' Lunch.

Pilgrimage to West Wyalong

The trip to West Wyalong has been postponed until May.

Please indicate if you are interested in making this pilgrimage to the west, possibly extending to Lake Cargelligo.

Recruitment Exercise

Could you please let John Smith know if you are one of those who responded in the Survey to arrange recruitment of new members in a parish.

We are hoping to conduct a recruitment exercise in the Curtin Parish prior to our May meeting.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2019

Extract only

2. The destructive power of sin

Indeed, when we fail to live as children of God, we often behave in a destructive way towards our neighbours and other creatures – and ourselves as well – since we begin to think more or less consciously that we can use them as we will. Intemperance then takes the upper hand: we start to live a life that exceeds those limits imposed by our human condition and nature itself. We yield to those untrammelled desires that the Book of Wisdom sees as typical of the ungodly, those who act without thought for God or hope for the future (cf. 2:1-11). Unless we tend constantly towards Easter, towards the horizon of the Resurrection, the mentality expressed in the slogans “I want it all and I want it now!” and “Too much is never enough”, gains the upper hand.

The root of all evil, as we know, is sin, which from its first appearance has disrupted our communion with God, with others and with creation itself, to which we are linked in a particular way by our body. This rupture of communion with God likewise undermines our harmonious relationship with the environment in which we are called to live, so that the garden has become a wilderness (cf. Gen 3:17-18). Sin leads man to consider himself the god of creation, to see himself as its absolute master and to use it, not for the purpose willed by the Creator but for his own interests, to the detriment of other creatures.

Once God’s law, the law of love, is forsaken, then the law of the strong over the weak takes over. The sin that lurks in the human heart (cf. Mk 7:20-23) takes the shape of greed and unbridled pursuit of comfort, lack of concern for the good of others and even of oneself. It leads to the exploitation of creation, both persons and the environment, due to that insatiable covetousness which sees every desire as a right and sooner or later destroys all those in its grip. [<https://press.vatican.va/>]

**Keeping Lent with Saint Luke -
Jack Mahoney SJ**

Extract only

We have reached that time of the year when the Church invites us over the next few weeks to associate ourselves in a special way with Our Lord, as we recall how the opposition to his teaching mounted and he was put to death, and then three days later rose from the dead. ...As part of this annual spiritual spring-cleaning in preparation to celebrate Easter with the risen Lord, the Church in the thirteenth century introduced the idea of ‘Easter duties’, with everyone bound to go to confession at least once a year – on the

pessimistic presumption that everyone would commit at least one mortal sin a year – and to receive Holy Communion at least at Easter time. ... Other so-called ‘penitential’ practices of additional prayers and works of charity were also regularly undertaken during Lent, as instances of ‘self-denial’. The idea of giving something up for Lent was commonplace, providing a continual, even if trivial reminder of the themes of penance or at least discomfort, and of preparing for Easter. This practice typically ranges from giving up sweets or sugar in one’s tea, to abstaining from alcohol or from various types of entertainment. In addition to the idea of

‘giving something up’, people were also encouraged, more positively, to ‘take something on’ for the six weeks of Lent, such as attending weekday Mass or the evening devotion of the Stations of the Cross, or considering various ways of helping people in their need. These Lenten practices are often described as ‘acts of self-denial’, when we ‘deny’ or deprive ourselves of some minor comfort or convenience or take on a minimal discomfort. But, of course, as Calvin pointed out, these instances of ‘denying ourselves something’ count little unless they are seen as reminders to us of the need to deny ourselves (see Luke 9:23), helping to shift our attention away from self-centeredness and directing it towards the Lord and other people...

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
VP Vocations:	Brian Usback		Pat Supple
VP Programme:	Mary Malycha		John Wilson
VP Membership:	Michael Allam	SCANZSPAC Rep.:	Max Spencer
VP Communications and Secretary:	Audrey Smith	Chaplain:	Fr. Bill Kennedy

Pope Francis @ Pontifex March 6

At the beginning of Lent, it would do us good to ask for the grace to preserve the memory of all that the Lord has done in our lives, of how He has loved us. #SantaMarta