



SERRA CLUB OF CANBERRA

Newsletter April 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 2nd May, 2019 6.00 p.m.

Rosary, Monthly Mass followed by our Meeting with Refreshments in the Curtin Parish Hall: Thursday 9th May, 2019 at 6.10 p.m. Holy Trinity, Curtin.

Forthcoming Events

Every Friday (except Good 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.

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

3rd May (Friday): Adoration at St. Christopher's Cathedral following 12.15 p.m. Mass.

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

2nd June (Sunday): Parents' Lunch.

1st July (Monday): Feast Day St. Junípero Serra.

30th August (Friday): ordination to priesthood for Deacon Alex Osborne,

St. Christopher's Cathedral at 6.00 p.m.

Recruitment Exercise

Could you please let John Smith know if you were one of those who responded in the Survey to arrange recruitment of new members in a parish. In particular we need the following assistance.

North Woden Parish

Volunteers needed to assist with a recruitment exercise following Masses as follows:

Holy Trinity Church, Curtin

Saturday 4th May 6.00 p.m. and

Sunday 5th May 5.30 p.m.

St Peter & Pauls' Church, Garran

Sunday 5th May 9.30 a.m.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2019

Edited Extract

3. The healing power of repentance and forgiveness

Creation urgently needs the revelation of the children of God, who have been made “a new creation”. ...

This “eager longing”, this expectation of all creation, will be fulfilled in the revelation of the children of God, that is, when Christians and all people enter decisively into the “travail” that conversion entails. ... Lent is a sacramental sign of this conversion. It invites Christians to embody the paschal mystery more deeply and concretely in their personal, family and social lives, above all by fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Fasting, that is, learning to change our attitude towards others and all of creation, turning away from the temptation to “devour” everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts. Prayer, which teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy.

Almsgiving, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus to rediscover the joy of God’s plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Dear brothers and sisters, the “lenten” period of forty days spent by the Son of God in the desert of creation had the goal of making it once more that garden of communion with God that it was before original sin (cf. Mk 1:12-13; Is 51:3). May our Lent this year be a journey along that same path, bringing the hope of Christ also to creation, so that it may be “set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God” (Rom 8:21). ... Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ’s victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.

Putting the Youth Synod into practice: the exhortation *Christus vivit* and the International Youth Forum

The Apostolic Exhortation *Christus vivit*, published on 2nd April, invites us to reflect, together with the Holy Father, on the role of all young people in the Church and in today’s society and on each one’s vocation to holiness.

The document *Christus vivit* is yet another gesture of the Holy Father’s love for young people, the gesture of a Pope who allows himself to be inspired by the new generations, recognizing in them the action of the Holy Spirit that makes old people dream and gives young people a vision (see Joel 3, 1). “The Church, through Peter’s Successor, is crying out that young people count, that they are the necessary protagonists of change and that is why they are called to the mission!”, says Father João Chagas, Head of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life’s Youth Office in regard to Pope Francis’s new document, published on 2nd April and inspired, among other things, by the voices of the young that emerged during the Synodal

process last year. As the Holy Father highlighted in the introduction to the document “this is a milestone in the context of a Synodal journey. I am calling to all the People of God, to the pastors and to the faithful so that reflection on young people and for young people involves and stimulates us all”.

The Apostolic Exhortation *Christus vivit* will be a reference point for the forthcoming International Youth Forum that will take place in Sassone di Ciampino from 19th to 22nd June. The meeting, called “Youth in Action in a Synodal Church”, will bring together young representatives from the Episcopal Conferences, ecclesial associations and movements from all over the world as well as some young auditors present at last year’s Synod. Answering the Holy Father’s invitation to promote the spirit of synodality in the Church, the young participants (all younger than 30) will work together to share these initial months of reception of the Final Document of the Synod, the Apostolic Exhortation that has just been published and the good practices and possible future steps for implementing the Youth Synod

in the daily life of the Local Churches in relation to the youth mission. This meeting will renew and relaunch the tradition of the International Youth Forums created at the time of the World Youth Days in the Eighties.

(Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life)

Pope at Mass: ‘Pray with courage, putting it all on the line’

Prayer, he said, is one of three ways – along with fasting and acts of charity – with which we prepare ourselves for Lent.

Pray with boldness...we are often lukewarm... True prayer is this: with the Lord. And when I need to intercede, I need to do so with courage. In common parlance, people use an expression that I really like when they have a goal: ‘I put it all on the line’... But perhaps the doubt may arise: ‘I do it, but how do I know the Lord listens to me?’ We have a certainty: Jesus. He is the great intercessor.”

(Vatican news)

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