



Serra GB

focus

Christmas 2021



*Wishing all our
Priests, our
Religious, our
Missionaries,
Serrans and our
supporters,
A Holy and
Joyous Christmas
and a
Happy New Year
for 2022*

To foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood in the Catholic Church as a particular vocation to service, and to support priests in their sacred ministry.

To encourage and affirm vocations to consecrated religious life in the Catholic Church.

To assist its members to recognize and respond in their own lives to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.

Consider joining our Serran apostolate contact the editor Alex Duncan: serra.glasgow@aol.com

Under the patronage of the His Eminence Most Reverend Vincent Cardinal Nichols
For more information visit: <http://www.serragreatbritain.org.u>

Christmas message from the President of Serra Great Britain



As I contemplate on Christmas, particularly this year as we recover from this dreaded covid virus and rejoice in being with our families. My thoughts turn to families who have suffered losses of loved ones which are brought back to mind at this time. If you are gathering together with your family you will realise how important they are to you especially your children.

The plight of many impoverished children is something to think about as we pray with our families. As Serrans our thoughts are also with our priests and religious who make that sacrifice, caring for those less fortunate than ourselves, who are away from their families at this time of year, who make our Christmas special. Let us also pray that families realize the importance of those who have dedicated their lives to our Lord.

We can encourage pray for vocations and that parents will foster vocations from their own children. Our infant Jesus came to a suffering world to bring healing, reconciliation, and hope.

*Let us hope and pray that this pandemic can be overcome.
Remember we have our patron Saint Junipero Serra to inspire our work in the New Year.*

“Have a Happy and Holy Christmas and a meaningful New Year!”

Chris Kelly President Serra (GB)



As we prepare for Christmas, let us avoid being distracted by the “commercial” or “cultural” Christmas around us and focus on the one thing Christmas is really about—the Incarnation of the Son of God.

A Christmas Story “The Holy Night” by Selma Lagerlof

It was a Christmas Day and all the folks had driven to church except grandmother and me. I believe we were all alone in the house. We had not been permitted to go along, because one of us was too old and the other was too young. And we were sad, both of us, because we had not been taken to early mass to hear the singing and to see the Christmas candles. But as we sat there in our loneliness, grandmother began to tell a story.

There was a man who went out in the dark night to borrow live coals to kindle a fire.

He went from hut to hut and knocked. "Dear friends, help me!" said he. "My wife has just given birth to a child, and I must make a fire to warm her and the little one."

But it was way in the night, and all the people were asleep. No one replied.

The man walked and walked. At last, he saw the gleam of a fire a long way off. Then he went in that direction and saw that the fire was burning in the open. A lot of sheep were sleeping around the fire, and an old shepherd sat and watched over the flock.

When the man who wanted to borrow fire came up to the sheep, he saw that three big dogs lay asleep at the shepherd's feet. All three awoke when the man approached and opened their great jaws, as though they wanted to bark; but not a sound was heard. The man noticed that the hair on their backs stood up and that their sharp, white teeth glistened in the firelight. They dashed toward him.

He felt that one of them bit at his leg and one at this hand and that one clung to this throat. But their jaws and teeth wouldn't obey them, and the man didn't suffer the least harm.

Now the man wished to go farther, to get what he needed. But the sheep lay back to back and so close to one another that he couldn't pass them. Then the man stepped upon their backs and walked over them and up to the fire. And not one of the animals awoke or moved.

When the man had almost reached the fire, the shepherd looked up. He was a surly old man, who was unfriendly and harsh toward human beings. And when he saw the strange man coming, he seized the long, spiked staff, which he always held in his hand when he tended his flock, and threw it at him. The staff came right toward the man, but, before it reached him, it turned off to one side and whizzed past him, far out in the meadow.

Now the man came up to the shepherd and said to him: "Good man, help me, and lend me a little fire! My wife has just given birth to a child, and I must make a fire to warm her and the little one."

The shepherd would rather have said no, but when he pondered that the dogs couldn't hurt the man, and the sheep had not run from him and that the staff had not wished to strike him, he was a little afraid, and dared not deny the man that which he asked.

"Take as much as you need!" he said to the man.

But then the fire was nearly burnt out. There were no logs or branches left, only a big heap of live coals, and the stranger had neither spade nor shovel wherein he could carry the red-hot coals.

When the shepherd saw this, he said again: "Take as much as you need!" And he was glad that the man wouldn't be able to take away any coals. But the man stopped and picked coals from the ashes with his bare hands and laid them in his mantle. And he didn't burn his hands when he touched them, nor did the coals scorch his mantle; but he carried them away as if they had been nuts or apples.

And when the shepherd, who was such a cruel and hard-hearted man, saw all this, he began to wonder to himself. What kind of a night is this, when the dogs do not bite, the sheep are not scared, the staff does not kill, or the fire scorch? He called the stranger back and said to him: "What kind of a night is this? And how does it happen that all things show you compassion?"

Then said the man: "I cannot tell you if you yourself do not see it." And he wished to go his way, that he might soon make a fire and warm his wife and child.

But the shepherd did not wish to lose sight of the man before he had found out what all this might portend. He got up and followed the man till they came to the place where he lived.

Then the shepherd saw the man didn't have so much as a hut to dwell in, but that his wife and babe were lying in a mountain grotto, where there was nothing except the cold and naked stone walls.

But the shepherd thought that perhaps the poor innocent child might freeze to death there in the grotto; and, although he was a hard man, he was touched, and thought he would like to help it. And he loosened the knapsack from his shoulder, took from it a soft white sheepskin, gave it to the strange man, and said that he should let the child sleep on it.

But just as soon as he showed that he, too, could be merciful, his eyes were opened, and he saw what he had not been able to see before, and heard what he could not have heard before. He saw that all around him stood a ring of little silver-winged angels, and each held a stringed instrument, and all sang in loud tones that tonight the Saviour was born who should redeem the world from its sins.

Then he understood how all things were so happy this night that they didn't want to do anything wrong. And it was not only around the shepherd that there were angels, but he saw them everywhere. They sat inside the grotto, they sat outside on the mountain, and they flew under the heavens. They came

Marching in great companies, and, as they passed, they paused and cast a glance at the child.

There was such jubilation and such gladness and songs and play! And all this he saw in the dark night whereas before he could not have made out anything. He was so happy because his eyes had been opened that he fell upon his knees and thanked God.

What that shepherd saw, we might also see, for the angels fly down from heaven every Christmas Eve, if we could only see them.

You must remember this, for it is as true, as true as that I see you and you see me. It is not revealed by the light of lamps or candles, and it does not depend upon sun and moon, but that which is needful is that we have such eyes as can see God's glory.

"The Christmas Heart"

"Let us remember that the Christmas heart is a giving heart, a wide open heart that thinks of others first. The birth of the baby Jesus stands as the most significant event in all history, because it has meant the pouring into a sick world the healing medicine of love which has transformed all manner of hearts for over two thousand years... Underneath all the bulging bundles is this beating Christmas heart."

George Matthew Adams,

Fr Bill Tollan

On the 27th October 2021 we were invited to attend a thanksgiving mass at Nazareth House for the retiral of a long time friend of Glasgow Serra.



Fr Bill Tollan of The Millhill Missionaries hosted our Serra meetings celebrated our vocation masses, instructed us in our faith for over fifteen years. He was also our guest speaker relating both formal and informal stories of his missionary life in the Cameroon.

Of the five MHM priests attending, Fr Bill had trained three of them at seminary. Some

were in tears at the loss of such a powerful loving priest, who for over 62 years as a missionary had spread the Gospel at home and abroad and cared for God's people with the love and kindness of the good shepherd he was. This priest will be greatly missed in our Glasgow communities. We wish him well in his retirement back at headquarters in Liverpool. I dare say we will hear from him again.

"Ad multos annos"

COP26

Global leaders and delegates from around 190 countries with some 20,000 visitors representing their countries and a further 50,000 demonstrators predominantly younger people visited Glasgow. Credit must be given to the organisers, volunteers, security personnel, the police and importantly the demonstrators who conducted themselves in a reasonable way with no violence and little disorder. Well done to Glasgow!

In our October '21 edition of the Serra GB *focus* we talked about the stewardship of God's creation in relation to the COP 26. At the time of writing it seemed that our Holy Father would attend but regrettably was unable to be here in Glasgow. In his message to the delegates Pope Francis' plea: "In Glasgow let the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor be listened to". Stating the "unprecedented threat" that climate change requires an urgent and effective response, the Holy Father added that "The political decision-makers who met at COP26 in Glasgow were summoned to provide effective responses to the present ecological crisis, and in this way to offer concrete hope to future generations,"

In addition Pope Francis also pointed to poverty, health care, food supply issues and the economic challenges as part of a "profoundly interconnected" global crisis which represents an "immense cultural challenge." He called for "vision" in rethinking of the future of the world amid the crises and urged leaders to make "radical decisions that are not always easy." "We can confront these crises by retreating into isolationism, protectionism and exploitation or we can see in them as real chance for change."



"The Creation of Adam"

In this fresco dated 1508–1512 created by Michelangelo Buonarroti, which forms part of the Sistine Chapel's ceiling, illustrates the biblical creation narrative from the Book of Genesis in which God gives life to Adam, first man, receiving life directly from God, and through the life given to him – he will, in turn, give life to all of humanity.

We have reached a critical position where urgent action is required to save our planet. As Catholics and indeed Christians as in many other faiths, we believe that the world is a gift from God and that he placed humans in a position of stewardship and dominion over his creation. Throughout the Book of Genesis and indeed "The Creation of Adam" inspired by the biblical text of Genesis (1:26) "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground". "Genesis 1.28 " The drive to

"Serve the garden in which we have been placed" (also Genesis 2:15) sees Christian influence in political and practical affairs. This stewardship requires change, both in moral behaviour and technical advancement. Change must come now not by 2030 or 50 but now.

For several years we have been aware that human activity has been detrimental to the survival of our planet. We know of recent that countries that have experienced drought, excessive temperature rises, catastrophic fires and rising sea levels causing extreme flooding, increased frequency of hurricanes and so much devastation to countries and peoples. And that is becoming a frequent situation.

This COP by number the 26th must rectify the environmental issues that are currently facing our world. We must reflect and pray with intent upon these environmental issues, with the understanding of environmental stewardship. We have a two-thousand-year history of reasoned reflection upon divine revelation, it serves as an indispensable point of departure for establishing a deeper understanding of the created order, the nature, and the value of God's creatures, and, in particular, humanity's value and our place on this earth.

The Catholic Church has responded to the challenges raised by environmental issues by stressing the need for every individual and every nation to play their part. The important points that the Church makes include the beliefs that: creation has value because it reveals something about God the creator. Creation has value in itself; humanity depends on God but everyone has a responsibility for the world and the environment. We must not destroy the beauty of God's gift.

During the event several priests and sisters from the Vocations commissions of England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland were also present as volunteers, in their high vis jackets mingling with the crowds distributing materials and a gift of wild flower seeds with the hope of planting for a better future and preserve nature. ***"Learn from the way the wildflowers grow" They do not "work and spin," they just sway in the wind of their God, accepting whatever comes their way: rain or sun. Matthew(6:28)***



Oh Lord! At this time of crisis, let us hear the cries of the earth to repair this planet and the devastation caused by us, To hear the cries of the poor who are the first to suffer. Guide our leaders to take courageous action to cause change for the good of all and foster within us a renewed vision of our stewardship of this earth. We ask this through Our Lord, Jesus Christ for whom all things were made. Amen.

MISSION OF HOPE

Sr Mary Joachim

Each edition of focus we try to bring you a report from Sr Joachim. When she is home she is a frequent visitor to our South Herts club, reflecting on the work done by her group in Ethiopia. On this occasion it is;

Fragments from the Frontier #6

“The Dusty Season”



The Mission of Hope began in 2011 when Sr Mary Joachim, a sister in the congregation of St Mother Teresa, felt God was asking her to serve those no one serves, in places to which no one wishes to go. In 2014, after setting up a small work among homeless mentally ill people in Cebu, Philippines, Sister travelled to the Somali region in Ethiopia, at the invitation of the local Bishop. There she met a Missionary priest, Fr Christopher Hartley, who had lived in Gode for six years, and who had requested assistance in vain. Situated in the south west of the country, 700 km away from the nearest Catholic Church,

Gode is a military town in which prostitution has taken root.

Young women and girls come from all over Ethiopia to work in restaurants as waitresses, cooks and kitchen girls; and invariably end up in the lucrative ‘work’ of prostitution. Children are born, which makes it harder to move away or find other work, and so a cycle is begun which often only ends when the girls are infected and seriously ill from HIV, tuberculosis, or STDs and are unable to work.



In this condition, both they and their children are homeless, and have to rely on the assistance of their friends and co-workers. In 2015 we started to work with these women and their children, offering them the opportunity immediately to leave the world of prostitution and begin the road to recovery of their dignity, by joining TAMARA .

TAMARA is a project where women have their numerous health issues dealt with, are invited to learn a skill and have their children looked after while their mothers are in training. Additionally, through interaction with others ‘further along the road to recovery and wholesome living’ the women regain their sense of being important and precious to others rather than being a commodity which is consumed. The women’s handywork is sold, and the money so gained is placed in bank accounts under each one’s name. After two years of working with these women, we have seen more than 40 pass through our doors, some have succeeded to return to Society with their heads held high, taking up self-sustaining work, supporting them and their children. Some have used the space to rethink their lives and return to their hometowns, and to their families and in some way begin again. Others have been too sick and have been accompanied in their illness, ensuring that they will not be alone in the last moment of their lives.



Whilst the women learn their skill, their children are cared for in a nursery-cum-kindergarten. This gives the mothers a break, and the children a chance to learn to play, giving the social skills necessary for life. The

Mission in Gode is far from complete and there are more missionary projects that may be attempted in the future.

The Mission of Hope takes on whatever is deemed to be the most pressing need of the Church wherever it accepts a mission, at the invitation of the local Bishop and under the guidance of the Parish Priest. When the task entrusted by the Bishop is completed, or when others come forward who are willing to take over projects in a sustainable way, the missionaries then move to where they are most needed. The Mission of Hope is distinctly Catholic in its vision, seeking to work with, build up and assist the Parish Priest in his mission of making Christ in His Church fully present in the area

The money which has been donated from many sources has gone to a variety of charitable works: The lives of many women and their children have been transformed by providing healthcare, training and education.



Fragments from the frontier #6 The whole story If you would like to share in our Mission, please contact: trustees.missionofhope@gmail.com

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John the evangelists.

This is the second article on the evangelists with Luke and John to appear in our Feb and April 2022 editions

Mark and the Lion

John Mark, later known simply as Mark, was Jewish by birth. He was the son of that Mary in whose home was the Cenacle or "upper room" which served as the meeting place for the first Christians in Jerusalem.



Vladimir Borovikovsky (1757-1825), "Saint Mark the Evangelist" (photo: Public Domain) courtesy NCR

Revelations 4:7 we read: "And the first living creature resembled a lion", well-known as symbol of power, pride, magnificence, nobility and courage was associated with Mark because it emphasises Resurrection power, the majesty and the regality of Christ and the characteristics of Mark's Gospel.

He was still a teenager at the time of the Saviour's death. In his description of the young man who was present when Jesus was seized and who fled from the leaving behind his "linen cloth," he was probably speaking of himself.

During the years that followed, as Mark became a young man, he witnessed the growth of the infant Church in his mother's Upper Room and came to know very well the traditions and practices of the Church, which we see included in his Gospel. In the Acts of the Apostles we find Mark accompanying his uncle (or perhaps cousin) Barnabas and Paul on their return journey to Antioch and on their first missionary journey. But Mark wasn't ready for the hardships of this type of work and therefore left them at Perga in Pamphylia to return home.

As the two apostles were preparing for their second missionary journey, Barnabas wanted to take Mark with him. Paul, however, objected, and so Barnabas and Mark went on a missionary journey to Cyprus. Time healed the

strained relations between Paul and Mark, and during St. Paul's first Roman captivity, Mark gave Paul valuable service, which St. Paul wrote about. When he was in chains the second time, Paul requested Mark's presence (2 Tim. 4:11).

A close friendship existed between St. Mark and St. Peter; he was Peter's companion, disciple, and interpreter. According to common patristic opinion, Mark was present at Peter's preaching in Rome and wrote his Gospel under the influence of St. Peter. This explains why incidents which involve Peter are described with great detail. Little is known of St. Mark's later life, but there is an account of his martyrdom, when he was tied to a rope and dragged over sharp stones until he was dead. At the time of his martyrdom he was the bishop of Alexandria in Egypt. His relics were transferred from Alexandria to Venice, where a worthy tomb was erected in St. Mark's Cathedral.

According to tradition, in AD 49, about 19 years after the Ascension of Jesus, Mark travelled to Alexandria and founded the Church of Alexandria – today, the Coptic Orthodox Church, the Greek Orthodox Church of Alexandria, and the Coptic Catholic Church trace their origins to this original community. Aspects of the Coptic liturgy can be traced back to Mark himself. He became the first bishop of Alexandria and he is honored as the founder of Christianity in Africa. St. Mark died 25 April 68 AD, Alexandria, Egypt. 25th April being his feast day

Our Priests and religious need our prayers

The health of our Church depends directly on the spirit of her priests and religious who need to be Priests, brothers and Sisters who are more than simply honest or diligent or even faithful. They need to be consumed by a love for God, a love for their people and a love for our Catholic faith. That kind of love, a passion to give of ourselves to something greater than ourselves, cuts against the very nature of the noise, distractions, addiction of the consumerist society in which we live.

Throughout the year and especially at this festive time the consumerist culture which is all around us detracts from the true spirit of Christmas namely the greatest gift of our Lord's incarnation, the most significant event in all history.

Our priests and religious may or may not be with their families but their main vocation at this time and for all time is to give of themselves to their communities and take care of the impoverished and downtrodden.

Remember them in our prayers.

Lord, we ask you to protect all our priests and consecrated religious around the world. Bless them Father; give them the Holy Spirit to provide wisdom and strength, to protect them physically and spiritually. Amen

A Message and prayer from a friend

Cindy with Alex and Ella, Nashville



During my Holy Hour at the Serra International convention in Chicago, I was reflecting on the long list of presidents who have served Serra over so many years. God called each one of you to serve with your particular

background & talents at a time when Serra needed your insights & efforts. I also thought of the joy of the tradition of the past presidents escorting the newly elected president after the Delegates' meeting to give his or her brief acceptance. It is a visual reminder of their support & prayers for the president during that term in office. The term "a blessed continuity" came to mind. YOU are each a special part of Serra, called by God, and I am grateful to you for your sacrifices & service.

May God continue to bless each one of you, your families, and our mission of vocations work through Serra. With special prayers for Michael & Sharon Bragg as they serve this year, and for Greg & Mary Lynn Schwietz as they prepare.

Mary, Mother of Vocations, pray for us.

Saint Junipero Serra pray for us.

Your friend in Serra,..... Cindy Bell

Cindy Bell of the Serra Club of Green Bay, Wisconsin has been a packer and Serran from a very young age, has served our apostolate for some 32yrs having joined in 1990 at a time when very few women were members. Over the years Cindy the daughter of James (Jim) and Doris Madigan both deceased were the influence on her joining Serra. Jim as a president of Serra International 1975.

Over the years Cindy has held many positions on the Serra International board as trustee and Vice president and currently as secretary to the Serra International Foundation.

As a Past President of Serra International I send my thanks for her example, commitment and continual prayer for vocations and our apostolate. I have often talked on Serra in the family, Cindy exemplifies that statement. She is part of our family.

Thanks Cindy

Serra International Rosary for Vocations



On the last Saturday of every month, you are invited to join the world in a recitation of the Rosary for vocation. The Serra International Rosary continues Saturdays, Dec 26th, Jan 30th 2021, at 2.00pm GMT thereafter on the last Saturday of every month. Join us free,

use Access Code: 314-315-91. at: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/314315981>

"I invite you to pray the rosary, and to carry it in your hands or in your pockets. The recitation of the rosary is the most beautiful prayer we can offer to the Virgin Mary. It is a contemplation on the stages of the life of Jesus our the Saviour, with his Mother Mary. It is a weapon that protects us from evils and temptations.

.....Pope Francis



A Serran "Rosary for vocations" can be downloaded [here](#): or our [web site](#): resources page.

Consider, Praying the Rosary with the intercession after each decade.

Mary. Mother of vocations. Pray for us.

Finish with Our Serran prayers for vocations:

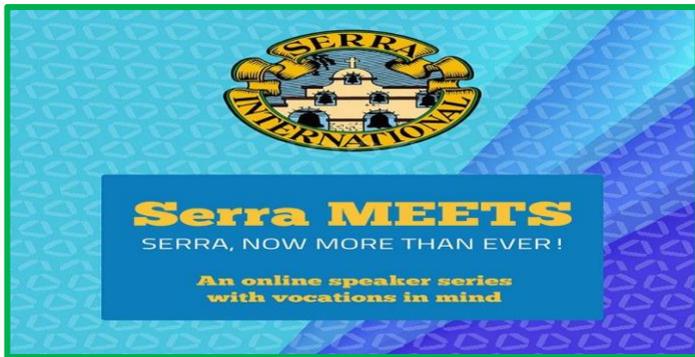
Serran prayers for vocations.

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 Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase in 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 forever and ever. Amen.

Serran Prayer for the Perseverance of 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 hosen ministers and dispensers of His mysteries, may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received.

An opportunity to join us internationally



Due to the success of this programme, we are continuing the Serra Meets virtual lectures from leading clergy and experts on the topic of Catholic vocations, designed to inspire you and keep you connected to our mission. Serra Meets is now a routine webinar broadcast each second Saturday of the month. Our Next Serra Meets on December 11th 5.00pm GMT will be an Advent Reflection by Bishop Thomas Daly, Episcopal Advisor to the US Council of Serra.

January and February have not been firmed up yet. March will be Cardinal Thomas Collins, Toronto, Episcopal Advisor to Serra International. April will be Archbishop Cordileone of San Francisco, about defending St Junipero Serra's legacy in the marketplace. This link gives access to all [Serra MEETS](#) events.

All Serra Meets talks are recorded and posted on the Serra International You tube channel. click this. [link](#) Patterned after regular Serra meetings, Serra Meets events will open and close with prayer, featuring a notable keynote speaker, followed by a short business topic. As Covid restrictions ease, this is an opportunity for Serra clubs internationally to come together. Serra Meets is organized and hosted by the US Council of Serra International.

Serra GB Council meeting at



on Sunday 10th October. hosted by our National chaplain Fr Anthony Cogliolo

We were also joined by Fr David Quiligotti Chaplain to our Manchester club.

After some 19 months of no physical contact, it is fair to say that our meeting was well received everyone attending from throughout Great Britain delighted that we could once again meet in person and renew our personal friendships.

We reflected on the past problems presented by the Pandemic and associated lockdown regulations, most importantly the loss of some of our members. We discussed the regulations prohibiting us from meeting but more importantly the loss of the ability to carry out our many programmes in our churches homes and schools. It was noted that many of us used technology to be in touch, this becoming a subject of our meeting. It is hoped that we can resume our normal programmes and introduce more to further the promotions of vocations. Our AGM now updated our policies and new board of trustees See our [website](#) for further details.

By browsing our Serra Great Britain [website](#) you may be able to understand the work we do and the role we have within our church. Our main objectives are to attract vocations to the priesthood and religious life and to help build our own appreciation and understanding of our faith.

Consult our “Who are we” our “Resources” and “Serra GB” pages to find out more.

Serra International Convention 2022 Returning to Toronto, July 14th-17th 2022

SERRA INTERNATIONAL
2022 Toronto Convention July 14 – 17, 2022

WEDNESDAY JULY 6 TO SUNDAY JULY 10, 2022:
Optional: Pre-Convention Pilgrimage to Quebec Holy Sites:
• St. Joseph's Oratory, Montreal
• Notre-Dame Basilica, Montreal
• Notre-Dame Cathedral-Basilica, Quebec City
• Sanctuary Notre-Dame du Cap, Trois-Rivieres
• Shrine of St. Anne de Beaupre, Beaupre

WEDNESDAY JULY 13, 2022:
Optional: Lunch and stay at CN Tower
Optional: Mass and Dinner at St. Augustine's Seminary

THURSDAY JULY 14, 2022:
Mass at St Michael's Cathedral-Basilica
Welcome Reception at convention hotel

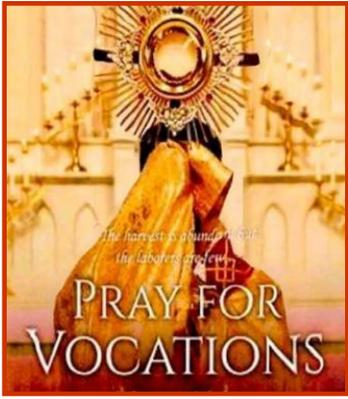
FRIDAY JULY 15 & SATURDAY JULY 16:
Serra International Convention

SUNDAY JULY 17, 2022:
Departure

MONDAY JULY 11, 2022:
Optional: Bus tours to Toronto and Niagara Falls attractions

TUESDAY JULY 12, 2022:
Young Adults program at convention hotel – Open to all
Optional: Harbor Boat Cruise and Lunch

Does your parish have “Adoration for Vocations?”



It is during these quiet times away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life that you can escape and concentrate, with the help of the Holy Spirit, on prayer which will assist in solving problems. You can also browse through our resources page on our website, to help you focus, particularly on your vocation

in life or that of religious vocations, during that special time with Our Lord. Download and print off for your own or your parish use. Encourage prayer for all vocations.

Let us pray for all men and women who are contemplating their future work and lives. May they consider Our Lord's call in their lives.

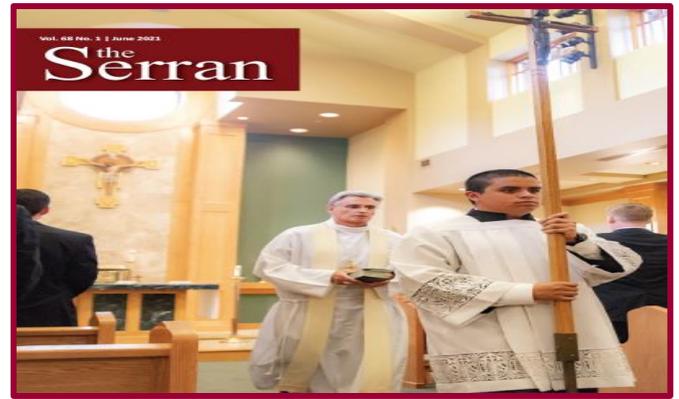


Vocations Ireland formed a team with the U.K. to work on a European music project with Austria, Germany, Switzerland, The Netherlands and Croatia. We are hosting an online music competition for 18-35's, with the theme of Vocation. Visit our website www.vocation-music-award.com You will see and hear some of last year's winners and will see the calibre of the entries. Click on the English section for more details.

The results for this year's competition are now in which can be streamed on You Tube at this link: <https://bit.ly/vocation-music-award-youtube>

We are also delighted to launch A Vocations Music Award Event app where you can find up to - date information on our finalists and a schedule of the event video. To access the app, please go to <https://vocationsmusicaward.lineupr.com/vocations-music-award-final/>

The June edition Serran Magazine



https://www.serrainternational.org/sites/default/files/june%202021%20serran%20magazine_1.pdf

It's just a Joke

A lawyer and the pope were both killed in an accident. The two were in line to see St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter asked the lawyer his name and looked it up in his book. He then asked the Pope for his name and looked it up in his book also. "Now, if you will come with me, I will show you your eternal dwellings," said St. Peter. They walked along the clouds and came to a huge mansion with all sorts of lavish trappings. St. Peter turned to the lawyer and told him this was to be his house. The Pope, knowing how important he was to the church could hardly imagine what his house would be like. St. Peter and the Pope continued on to a small, beat-up wooden shack. St. Peter told the Pope that this would be his dwelling. The Pope, shocked, said to St. Peter, "Just a minute!" That other guy was a lawyer and he gets a mansion. I was the head of the Roman Catholic church, and this is all the reward I get?" St. Peter looked at the Pope and said "True, you have done great things. But we have lots of Popes in Heaven, and that guy was the first lawyer ever to make it up here."

Tommy asks his wife "What do you want for Christmas, darling?" His wife replies, "I don't know, surprise me." Tommy then waits till his wife has left the room, and when she re-enters he jumps out at her and screams

"WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS, DARLING?"

"Grant me, O Lord, a sense of humour. Allow me the grace to be able to take a joke to discover in life a bit of joy, and to be able to share it with others.

Serra clubs of Serra Great Britain are slowly returning. You can contact us by email or telephone for information.

District 60

Liverpool

We meet at 6.30pm 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at the Cenacle Convent, Tithebarn Grove, Lance Lane, Liverpool L15 6TW.

email; serra.liverpool@gmail.com tel: 0151 724 6249

Manchester

We meet 1st Tuesdays of the month 2pm at Our Lady's Parish Centre, Davyhulme Rd, Manchester. M41 7DS

email; serramanchester@gmail.com tel; 0161 928 2029

North Cheshire

We meet 1st and 3rd Thursdays of month 2.00 pm at Christ Church, Heald Green, Cheadle, Cheshire. SK83Dye

email; serra.northcheshire@outlook.com

tel; 01625477215 3876

South Lancs

For further information on Serra club of South Lancs

email; secretary@serragreatbritain.org.uk

or tel: 0151 724 6249

District 62

South Hertfordshire.

We meet 2nd Tuesday of every month (except August)

7.30pm at Our Lady and St. Michael's Church, Crown Rise, Garston, Herts WD25 0NE

email; serrasouthherts.co.uk tel; 01923 661692

District 63

Dunkeld

We meet last Tuesday of the month at 6 pm with Mass at 7pm at St Joseph's convent, Lawside Rd, Dundee DD36XY.

email; serra.dunkeld@hotmail.com tel; 01382 322920

Glasgow

We meet 1st and 3rd Thursdays, August to June at 7.30pm Millhill, Cardonald and University of Glasgow Chaplaincy (as programmed)

email; serra.glasgow@aol.com tel; 0141 571 8313

Paisley

For further information on Serra club of Paisley

email; secretary@serragreatbritain.org.uk

or phone: 01505 321005

**Mary. Mother of vocations. Pray for us.
St Junipero Serra. Pray for us.**



The Roman Catholic church worldwide is growing with approximately 1.3 billion of God's people needing shepherds.

Here and worldwide we need more priests and religious to support our growing numbers.



Serra's prime function is to attract more lay people to that vocation of service.

Send us Oh Lord many active lay people to support us in our quest for more priests and religious.

