



# SERRA NEWSLETTER

*The SERRA Club of Council Bluffs*

*May, 2010*

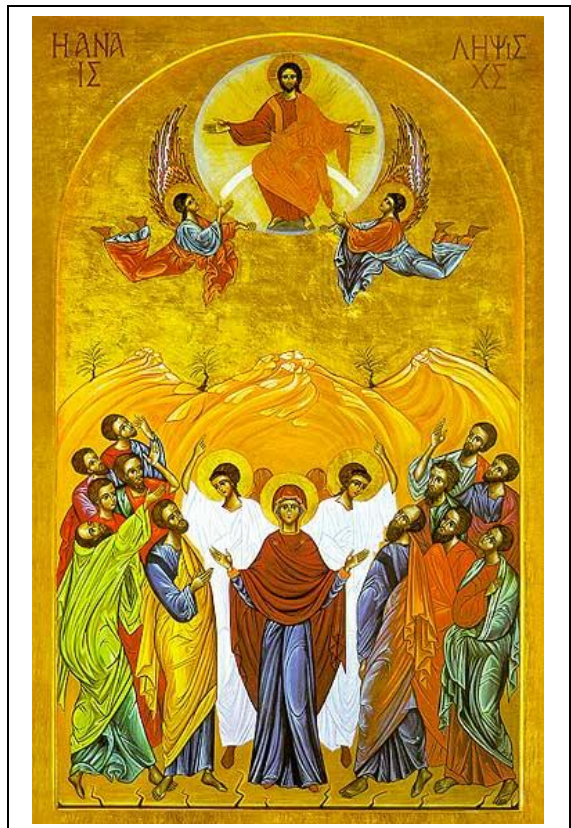
## *Council Bluffs Serrans Encourage Western Iowa Churches To Initiate Parish Vocations Committees*

In response to the request by Bishop Pates, members of the Council Bluffs Serra Club have visited numerous parishes during the month of April to encourage the formation of Parish Vocations Committees.

Eight parishes have been visited to date and eleven more have been scheduled. President McGargill has organized the effort and eight Serrans have been involved thus far. Although some parishes will be visited in May and June, the work should be substantially completed by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

"Thank you to everyone who has so generously responded to help fulfill Bishop Pates' request for Serrans to speak at some of the parishes in our diocese regarding parish vocation committees. Some of the parishes may have already formed vocations committees, so we'll need to ensure that their structure includes the "4x4 Plan" (4 persons doing the 4 tasks) Bishop Pates has requested and find out what other activities their plan may promote.

Every Serran is encouraged to accept the request made by the Bishop to participate in this effort to develop a **"Culture of Vocations"**.



### *2010-2011 Serra Officers Elected*

On Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, the following individuals were elected to serve as officers of the Council Bluffs Serra Club for the upcoming business year:

President: Mark Versch, [reivax@cox.net](mailto:reivax@cox.net)  
VP Vocations: Lois O'Gara, [logara@cox.net](mailto:logara@cox.net)  
VP Membership: Jan McGargill, [janmcgargill@cox.net](mailto:janmcgargill@cox.net)  
VP Communications: (vacant)  
Treasurer: Sharon Beckman, [johnlbeckman@aol.com](mailto:johnlbeckman@aol.com)  
Chaplain: Fr Dan Kirby  
Trustee: Joe McGinn, [mlmcginn@cox.net](mailto:mlmcginn@cox.net)  
Trustee: Irene Schlautman, [rene20@cox.net](mailto:rene20@cox.net)  
Trustee: Rita Hughes, [jimritahughes@cox.net](mailto:jimritahughes@cox.net)

**Seminarian Message from Guthrie Dolan. . . See Page 2**

**Men of Galilee**, why do you stand looking up toward heaven?" Acts 1:9-11

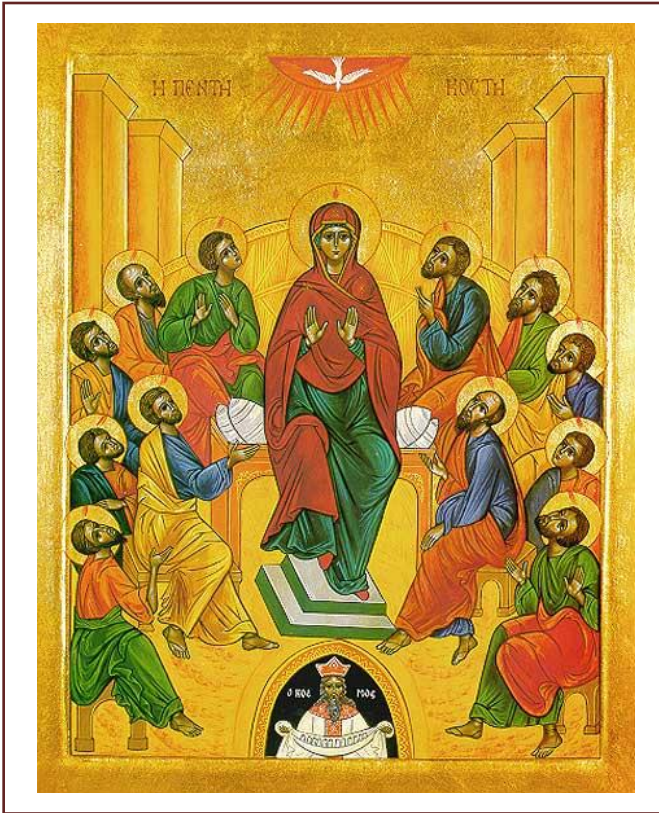
Mary and the apostles witness **the miracle of the Ascension**, celebrated forty days after Easter each year as one of the major feasts of the Church.

*Celebrated on Sunday, May 16, 2010*

### *Sixth Grade Vocation Awareness Day Held At St Albert's April 16th*

Dr. Luvern Gubbels, Superintendent of Schools for the Des Moines Diocese organized the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Vocation Awareness Day on Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup> Serrans helped serve juice and donuts for a morning snack and again at lunchtime. Father Kirby celebrated mass at 1:00 pm.

*More on page 3.*



## The Story of the Original Pentecost

Jews from all over were gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate the Jewish feast. On that Sunday, ten days after our Lord's [Ascension](#), the Apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary were gathered in the Upper Room, where they had seen Christ after His Resurrection:

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty wind coming, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them parted tongues as it were of fire, and it sat upon every one of them: And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak with divers tongues, according as the Holy Ghost gave them to speak. [Acts 2:2-4]

Pentecost, marking the end of the Easter season in the [Christian calendar](#), will be celebrated on Sunday, May 23, 2010.

## Announcements

- May 1<sup>st</sup> the Monthly Rosary, Mass and monthly Board Meeting of the Serra Club will be **held at Holy Family** church beginning at 8:10 am. Mass will start at approximately 8:30 am and the meeting will follow.
- "The Day of Reflection" Retreat with Father Horn will be held September 26<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 pm.
- Plan to Attend the Ordination of Deacon Zack Kautzky, June 4<sup>th</sup> in Des Moines.
- The Rosary is prayed each Friday at 8:15 am in the St. Albert's grade school chapel. All Serrans are encouraged to participate.

## Institute For Priestly Formation

Set-Up for the Institute For Priestly Formation summer Program at Creighton University will be from 9:00 am to noon on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact Rosie Wallace if you can help prepare the Creighton dormitory for this annual educational program.

## Seminarian Birthday In May: Matthew Krastel. . . May 24th

### A Message From Seminarian Guthrie Dolan . . .

The seeds of my vocation were planted by my grandmothers, who had a vibrant faith which expressed itself in service to the church - specifically in their parishes.

By the time I entered high school, I knew that I had a desire deep in my heart for something more than the way of life I had been following. Through the inspiration of a schoolmate who became a good friend, I discovered my need for God.

This is when I began to pray regularly, attending daily Mass. This is also when I began to sense that I was being called by God to serve him as a priest.

I was quite scared to follow this call. However, I received support from a number of friends who were also considering the priesthood. Their support, as well as that of a couple priests, gave me courage to respond to God's call.

Now that I have been in the seminary for seven years, I am looking forward to the priesthood more than ever.

**Thank You Guthrie For Sharing This Message!**

**Financial Report** Prepared By Sharon Beckman, Vice-President of Finances . . .

March 1, 2010 Through March 31, 2010

Balance brought forward										\$3,397.65
EXPENSES										
Check No. 1873 March breakfast meeting										\$38.00
Total										\$38.00
INCOME										
Dues										\$441.75
Breakfast - March										\$ 75.00
Total										\$516.75
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE										\$3,876.40
SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE										<u>\$1,707.78</u>
TOTAL										\$5,584.18
SEMINARIAN BAGS										\$115.35
SEMINARIAN FUND										\$1,000.00
WORKING BALANCE										\$4,468.83

**Ordination Bus Trip To Des Moines**

The Serra Club of Council Bluffs is sponsoring a bus trip to the ordination of Deacon Zach Kautzky on Friday, June 4, 2010 at St. Ambrose Cathedral in Des Moines. The bus will leave the Mall of the Bluffs at 3pm.

There will be a stop for dinner at the Machine Shed prior to the ordination. The cost is \$30 per person, including meal and transportation.

Please contact Rosie Wallace at 323-8357 with your reservation and questions.

Please register by May 24 and encourage others!

**Vocations Awareness Day**

Assisting Dr. Gubbels at the St. Albert's Vocations Awareness Day was Fr David Muenchrath, Fr. George Komo, Fr Dan Kirby and Sisters representing the following Orders: the Sisters of Humility (Davenport IA), the Sisters of Mercy (Omaha NE), the Servants of Mary (Omaha NE) and the Benedictines of the Sacred Heart (Yankton SD).

Thank you to the Serrans who helped:  
Jo Meade, Rose Spoto, Margaret O'Connell, Rita Hughes, John Lookabill, Duane Chevalier, Elaine Hussman and President McGargill.

**Calendar of Activities** . . .

Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> Rosary at 8:10 am, Mass at 8:30 am, followed by Social Time and the Serra Club **Monthly Board Meeting** at Holy Family

Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup> **First Friday of May**

Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> **Regular Serra Monthly Dinner Meeting** at Queens, 5:30 pm

Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup> Help to Set-Up for the Summer Institute For Priestly Formation Program at Creighton University between 9:00 am and noon. Contact Rosie Wallace to help.

Monday, May 31<sup>st</sup> IPF Seminarian/Faculty Dinner at Queen of Apostles, Serrans needed to greet and serve deserts; arrive at 5:45 pm.

Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> **Ordination of Deacon Zachary Kautzky**

Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> No regularly scheduled Serra Mass or Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> **Installation of New Officers and Members** at Queen of Apostles

Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Social with Seminarians Attending the Institute For Priestly Formation

# Serra of Council Bluffs Board Meeting Minutes

*March 27, 2010*

On Saturday, March 27, 2010 the Board of the Serra Club of Council Bluffs met at 9:00 am in the Village Inn restaurant at 1906 Rue Street in Council Bluffs. The following Board Members were present: Jan McGargill, Elaine Hussman, Lois O'Gara, Duane Chevalier, Bonnie Helms and Mark Versch.

The meeting began with a prayer led by President McGargill.

The Board was asked to consider the minutes of the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting as published in the newsletter. Motion by O'Gara, seconded by Hussman, for approval as prepared and distributed. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

Time was spent considering the Treasurer's Report for February as prepared by Beckman and published in the newsletter. The Report showed a Balance Brought Forward of \$1,3632.90, Income of \$1,949.75, Expenses of \$185.00 and a Checking Account Balance of \$3,397.65. The Club also had a Savings Account Balance of \$1,707.04 for a Total Balance of \$5,104.69. With addition savings of \$115.35 in Seminarian Bags and \$1,000.00 in the Seminarian Fund the Club has a Working Balance of \$3,989.34.

Bonnie Helms explained that due to the Easter weekend there would not be a Saturday mass nor Board Meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, but that on April 14<sup>th</sup> there would be Adoration for Vocations at 5:30 pm at Queens of the Apostles, followed by a working meeting. The normal schedule would be followed in May with a Rosary followed by Mass at 8:30 am on May 1<sup>st</sup> at Holy Family, with the Board Meeting to follow. The May meeting at 5:30 pm on May 12<sup>th</sup> will feature the May Crowning, at Queen of Apostles. It was announced that there will not be a June Board Meeting nor Mass on the 5<sup>th</sup> due to the Ordination the night before in Des Moines. The new club officers will be installed at the Dinner Meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup> and Bishop Pates has been invited.

Vice-President of Vocations, Elaine Hussman, noted that the World Day of Prayer For Vocations will be celebrated on April 25<sup>th</sup> and that the Corpus Christi Procession will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

It was reported that Art Hill, Brian Hunter and Pam Ratigan would be inducted as new members.

McGargill lead discussion of the following New Business:

- Plans for Parish Visits to encourage the formation of parish vocations committees to begin on Sunday, April 11. McGargill sought volunteers and discussed communications she had had with several parish priests.
- Volunteers are needed to help set-up for the Institute For Priestly Formation (IPF) on May 29<sup>th</sup>, and for clean-up on August 5<sup>th</sup>. The IPF Adoration and Social has been scheduled for July 16<sup>th</sup>. And the Day of Reflection will be scheduled in September or October.
- It was announced that the Region 9 Spring Leadership Planning Conference would be held at St. Albert's Chapel and cafeteria on Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup> based on planning work done by Bonnie Helms, and cost \$15.
- Since the Queen of Apostles hall would not be available any more this spring on Wednesday evenings the Holy Family hall had been reserved for the first Saturdays during the months of August, September, October and December. No arrangements have been made for the location of the November meeting. The Board consented to this action.
- The mass on May 1<sup>st</sup> will be offered in memory of former club member Robert Dressel who recently passed away.
- There will be a celebration on June 6th for Fr. Paul Monahan's 50 year anniversary as a priest.

The following Old Business was discussed:

- The Lay Vocations Committee meeting with Father Muenchrath is scheduled for Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The Officers for the 2010-2011 Business Year are set.

With no further business the meeting ended at approximately 10:10 am.

Respectfully Submitted, Mark Versch

