



# *Serra Club of Southwest Denver*

## *NEWSLETTER*

*August 2024*

### < **Calendar of Upcoming Events** >

- **Club Meetings Every First and Third Friday of each month at 7:30 AM in the St. Agnes Center at Holy Name Church**
- **August 31, 2024 at 7:00 AM – Serra Global Rosary for Vocations**
- **September 12, 2024 at 8:00 AM – Affirmation Mass, Christ on the Mountain**
- **September 14, 2024 at 10:00 AM – Serra MEETS on-line video speaker/presentation**
- **September 24, 2024 at 6:00 PM – Serra Salute, Denver Athletic Club**
- **September 28, 2024 at 7:00 AM – Serra Global Rosary for Vocations**
- **September 29, 2024 – Priesthood Sunday**
- **September 29, 2024 at 1:00 PM – Serra Club Picnic, Bear Creek Lake Park**

### **TRAVELING CROSS**

**August 2 – August 16: Ralph Hooyboer**  
**August 16 – September 6: Dixie Schulte**

**September 6 – September 20: Suzanne Reinert**  
**September 20 – October 4: Ken Krug**

### **ATTENDANCE & GUESTS**

**August 2, 2024 – 26 members** attended the meeting.

**August 16, 2024 – 27 members and 1 guest** attended the meeting. Our guest was our speaker, Seminarian Dominic Borchers.

### **DEACON'S CORNER**

**August 2, 2024**

Deacon Don provided some biographical information on St. Peter Julian Eymard (the saint of the day). He was a native of France who joined the Marist order in 1839. He founded a congregation of priest adorers of the Blessed Sacrament in 1856 and a women's community of lay apostolate thereafter. He

encouraged lay people to receive communion on a frequent basis. Deacon Don noted that only in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was the age to receive first communion lowered from 15 years to 7 years and frequent communion was encouraged. Before then, communion was typically received at Christmas and Easter. Deacon Don then educated us through a short quiz regarding doctors of the Church where we learned there are 36 doctors in the Church, “the angelic doctor” is St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Ephraem the Syrian is the only doctor of the Church who was a permanent deacon, four women have been declared doctors of the Church: Sts. Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Avila, Therese of Lisieux and Hildegard of Bingen.



Dcn Don Schaefer

#### **August 16, 2024**

Deacon Don had time for only one question this day. He asked club members if we knew what topic was to be the focus of Sunday homilies throughout the Archdiocese of Denver for six consecutive weeks including Sundays in the month of August. Fortunately, many of us did know that Sunday homilies this month (six weeks) were to focus on the true presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. ...the source and summit of the Christian life.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **August 2, 2024**

- **Ken Krug:** told us 60 children participated in the picture-taking at Christ on the Mountain Vacation Bible School. He passed around the most recent church bulletin from Christ on the Mountain that included a full page spread noting the Serra Club’s participation in the Vacation Bible School with two photos from the event.
- **Stanton La Breche:** received an e-mail from Jake Smith who recently spoke at one of our meetings and is raising funds to attend the Seminary. He mentioned his fund-raising is going well.
- **Ben Cobos:** said the next Affirmation Mass will be at St. Paul Catholic Church in Idaho Springs on WEDNESDAY, August 7 at 9:00 AM. Breakfast at Main Street Restaurant will follow the Mass.
- **Tony Schaffhauser:** updated us on the Serra Club annual Rockies Baseball game outing scheduled for Sunday, August 18. Tony also mentioned the Serra Club picnic will be held on Sunday, September 29 at the Bear Creek Lake Park. A sign-up sheet for the picnic will be available at the next meeting.
- **Diane Schreiber:** reminded us the Serra Salute will be on Tuesday, September 24 this year at the Denver Athletic Club. The Serra District 6 Convention will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Church in Castle Rock, CO on October 25 and 26.
- **Newsletter:** If you wish to have information included in the newsletter, please e-mail the information to Communications VP, Bruce Keller ([www.lakewoodkellers@q.com](mailto:www.lakewoodkellers@q.com))

#### **August 16, 2024**

- **Diane Schreiber:** elaborated on an upcoming events calendar prepared and distributed by Karen Mandolfo. Diane pointed out the **Serra Salute** to be held on **Tuesday, September 24** at the Denver Athletic Club. The **Serra District 6 Convention** will be held on **Saturday, October 26** at St. Francis

of Assisi Church in Castle Rock, CO. Keynote speaker will be Candace Tyrell, Serra U. S. Council Vice President of Membership. A hospitality event on Friday, October 25 will precede the convention (further details to come). Diane noted the annual **Serra Club picnic** is scheduled for **Sunday, September 29** at Bear Creek Lake Park and requested everyone to “bring a friend” to the picnic. Because September 29 is **Priesthood Sunday**, priests and seminarians will be invited to join us. A sign-up sheet for the picnic was distributed.

- **Joe DeLoy**: Provided us with a short review of the Serra International Convention he recently attended in New Orleans, LA. He contrasted the “indoor” convention environment with its many bishops, priests, and religious in attendance with the “outside” environment of the French Quarter and its many diverse social/cultural groups and various “lost sheep”. He noted the large number of SI organization leadership positions currently held by women and recounted that the organization’s bylaws were changed in 1986 (the year he joined our Serra Club) to include women. We are better for the change.

- **Ben Cobos**: told us the next Affirmation Mass will be at Christ on the Mountain Church on Thursday, September 12 at 8:00 AM. Breakfast at Las Fuentes Restaurant will follow the Mass. He passed around a card to sign in order to present a “spiritual bouquet” to Fr. David Allen after the affirmation Mass.

- **Stanton La Breche**: noted our picnic will be on Priesthood Sunday and requested all parish liaisons to invite the priests in the parishes they liaison with to our club picnic.

- **Tony Schaffhauser**: noted the Serra Club annual Rockies Baseball outing will be on Sunday, August 18 at 1:10 PM vs. the San Diego Padres. He distributed the sign-up sheet for the Serra Club picnic.

## **PROGRAMS**

### **August 2, 2024**

Our speaker this day was our very own Chaplain, Deacon Don Schaefer. He spoke about the “silent prayers” said during the Mass. He referenced the Roman Missal that includes everything the priest and deacon (and laity) are to do and say during the Mass. His insights and discussion of these quiet moments that occur during the Mass were enlightening and a reminder that the Mass is an opportunity to have a personal intimacy with God in prayer.



Deacon Don Schaefer



Dominic Borchers

### **August 16, 2024**

Our speaker this day was Dominic Borchers, a second-year seminarian at St. John Vianney Seminary. Mr. Borchers spoke of his faith journey and discernment process that brought him to his second year in

seminary preparing for priesthood. He was born in Ohio while his father was pursuing a theology degree from Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH. He was raised in a devout Catholic family and noted all his siblings are still profoundly Catholic. He lived six years in South Dakota until age seven. His next three years were in Chicago and his teen years in California. When he was 10 years old, his mother suffered a near fatal aneurism. Despite her survival and almost full recovery, he has come to realize that this event had a traumatic and significant effect on him. He has come to understand God used this trauma in his life as part of his formation into what he is now and that his relationship with God is better because of it. He attended Christendom College in Virginia and pursued a liberal arts degree majoring in theology and minoring in philosophy. He was particularly influenced by reading Christ in His Mysteries, by Columba Marmion regarding the hidden life of Christ (the undocumented 30 years from birth to the beginning of public ministry). Reflecting on development of the interior life, Mr. Borchers expressed these two options to living life: 1) either be really busy doing things for the Church, or preferably, 2) through prayer, reflection, and retreats allow God to help you undertake whatever work you do divinely. Two weeks after his college graduation, his father underwent spinal fusion surgery to address chronic back pain. The pain persists and causes Mr. Borchers to question the reason God allows this suffering, but helps him identify with others who are suffering. After dating, discerning, and driving 13,000 miles exploring the U.S., he eventually came to Denver, CO and felt a sense of “home”. After moving to Denver, he attended his brother’s wedding and the following weekend, attended a classmate’s ordination. Reflecting on these two sacramental events helped him decide to enter seminary in Denver.

## FUTURE PRIESTS / NUNS



Thank you to the . . .

Pictured left to right: Ken Krug, Jim Hastert, Ray Stevens, Suzanne Reinert, Hugh Wilson, Henry Nieto, Harold Deering, David Frey, Karen Mandolfo and Joe Deloy (not pictured)

We were blessed to have 10 members from the Serra Club of Southwest Denver come during our Vacation Bible School to set up a photo opportunity and take pictures for the children. Kids had fun getting their picture taken as a “priest” or a “nun” and learning a little about vocations.

Serra Club of Southwest Denver members are lay Catholic men and women from sixteen parishes in southwest Denver of all ages and all walks of life who endeavor to ensure the future of our Church by creating a “culture of vocations” to promote and foster vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life.

For more information visit their web page:  
<https://serraswdenver.org>



August 4, 2024 · Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 5

Christ on the Mountain bulletin page regarding picture-taking at their Vacation Bible School.

Serra Club of Southwest Denver hosted a picture-taking session at the Vacation Bible School program at Christ on the Mountain Church on July 24. Children attending the VBS programs and their siblings enjoyed receiving a polaroid picture of themselves appearing in priestly vestments or a religious habit. ...and our club appreciates the recognition we received in the Christ on the Mountain bulletin. We are happy to offer this activity to other interested parish programs.

## **PRIEST/ DEACON ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES**

There are no known ordination anniversaries in the month of September.



*Always forward, never back.*

**Visit our Website: [SerraSWDenver.org](http://SerraSWDenver.org)**

**Notes:** Comments and corrections should be emailed or sent to Bruce Keller, Communications VP. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the newsletter staff and not necessarily those of the Club. All or part of this newsletter may be copied if credit is given Serra Club of SW Denver Newsletter.