



# *Serra Club of Southwest Denver*

## **NEWSLETTER**

### *April 2025*

#### < **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**
- **April 26, 2025 at 7:00 AM – Serra Global Rosary for Vocations**
- **May 8, 2025 at 9:00 AM – Affirmation Mass, St. Frances Cabrini Church**
- **May 11, 2025 – World Day of Prayer for Vocations**
- **May 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM – Serra MEETS on-line video speaker/presentation**
- **May 31, 2025 at 7:00 AM – Serra Global Rosary for Vocations**

#### **TRAVELING CROSS**

**April 4 – May 2: Diane & Harry Schreiber**  
**April 18 – May 2: Diane & Harry Schreiber**

**May 2 – May 16: Bruce Keller**  
**May 16 – June 6: Jim Hastert**

#### **ATTENDANCE & GUESTS**

**April 4, 2025** – 26 members and 1 guest attended the meeting. Our guest was our speaker, Ms. Debra Kahn.

**April 18, 2025** – Due to Good Friday, there was no meeting this day.

#### **DEACON'S CORNER**

**April 4, 2025**

Deacon Don was back from his recent cruise, yet in a good mood, and opted not to quiz us this morning. Instead, he reminded us of the persecution that Christians around the world experience. He recounted the story of 21 construction workers who were kidnapped and beheaded in Libya by Islamic State terrorists on February 15, 2015. Twenty of the martyrs were Coptic Christians of Egypt and the other one was from Ghana. A videotape of the beheadings indicates they were all given a chance to renounce their faith and convert to Islam. Instead, the twenty Coptic Christians were beheaded for remaining steadfast in Jesus Christ. The 21<sup>st</sup> martyr was an African man from Ghana who may not have been a

Christian, but inspired by the others when asked if he rejected Jesus replied, “Their God is my God.” knowing he would also be beheaded. Two years ago, Pope Francis announced the 21 Coptic Orthodox martyrs will be inserted into the Roman Martyrology of the Catholic Church as a sign of the spiritual communion of the two Christian Churches. These martyrs are commemorated on February 15 each year in both Churches. Deacon Don mentioned other martyrs recently approved for sainthood including: Blessed Peter To Rot of Papua New Guinea who was a catechist in his village during WW II when Imperial Japanese forces occupied the region. He stood up for his religious beliefs including monogamy against the Japanese views on taking multiple wives. He was given a lethal injection and then beaten to death when the poison was slow to work. Blessed Ignatius Maloyan was born in Mardin, Turkey in 1869. He was Bishop of Mardin in 1915 during WW I and the genocide of Armenians (who were Catholics) by the Turkish. He was beaten and tortured and witnessed the mass execution of 470 of his parishioners in an effort to get him to renounce his faith and convert to Islam. When he refused, he was shot dead. Two religious sisters of the Little Sisters of St. Therese of the Child Jesus, a Haitian religious congregation, were shot and killed in their residence during gang violence in 2023. Recently, Rev. Arul Carasala, Pastor at Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Seneca, Kansas was recently shot and killed in the church rectory. Deacon Don also mentioned the sainthood of Maria Carmen Rendiles, the first female Venezuelan saint who founded the Congregation of the Handmaids of Jesus in 1946 and died in 1977. The miraculous cure of a woman ill with hydrocephalus was attributed to her. Deacon Don asked that we pray for these martyrs and all martyrs of our faith.



Deacon Don Schaefer

#### **April 18, 2025**

Due to Good Friday, there was no meeting this day.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **April 4, 2025**

- **Diane Schreiber:** advised us there would be no meeting on April 18 due to Good Friday.
- **Phil Ryman:** collected payments for the Serra Club annual retreat (\$35/person).
- **Ben Cobos:** announced the next Affirmation Mass will be at St. Bernadette Church at 8:00 AM, Thursday, April 10th. Breakfast will follow Mass at Jaime’s restaurant at Sixth St. and Garrison Ave.
- **Stanton La Breche:** Asked parish liaisons to advise him how many prayer cards each parish needs for their OCIA participants. Prayer cards will be given to each person entering the Church at Easter.
- **Tony Schaffhauser:** Reminded us of the annual Serra Club retreat scheduled for Thursday, April 24 at Mother Cabrini Shrine at 8:30 AM. (7:30 AM Mass is optional). Fr. Tom Scherer will be the Retreat Director. The theme will be “Pilgrims of Hope”. The cost is \$35 per person and includes coffee and lunch. Guests are welcome. Contact Tony or Phil Ryman if you plan on bringing a guest.
- **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))

## April 17, 2025 Board Meeting Notes

- **Diane Schreiber:** the Serra International Convention will be held in Kansas City, MO June 26-29, 2025. Members of other Serra Clubs in our area are interested in carpooling to the event.
- **Stanton LaBreche:** A Vocations Walk is planned for October 11, 2025 at Mother Cabrini Shrine.
- **Ben Cobos:** the next Affirmation Mass will be at St. Frances Cabrini Church at 9:00 AM, Thursday, May 8th. Breakfast will follow Mass at Las Dahlia's restaurant.

## PROGRAMS

### April 4, 2025

Debra Kahn, Executive Director of Birthline of Colorado was our speaker this day. Birthline was started in 1969 and is the oldest pregnancy center in Colorado. Its mission is to help pregnant women choose life vs. abortion. It is a place where women can get help to support their choice to have their baby such as health care advice, material goods, and education. Birthline is currently trying to gain greater recognition and partnering with local churches and charities. They have a newly renovated building under construction on Wadsworth Blvd. across the street from Alameda H.S. in Lakewood and hope to move from their current location in Denver to the Lakewood building in May this year. Their current building is too small to provide a health clinic with ultra-sound equipment that they want to provide. The \$1.6M renovation for the new location will allow half the building to serve as a health clinic while the other half will support their education programs. In addition to health services, they provide education to young mothers in cooking, child care, and basic personal financial management. To staff the new location and new services, they are currently seeking a medical director, a nurse practitioner, an ultra-sound tech., and a receptionist. They would like to hire bi-lingual staff to support their clientele. Ms. Kahn told us Birthline determined they could provide more comprehensive care for women and improve results by establishing a new organization called HiPeak Health LLC. The new clinic on Wadsworth Boulevard in Lakewood will work with clients and patients by tending to their medical, mental, personal, and spiritual needs. With the new facility, they hope to be certified and licensed as a health clinic by the state of Colorado. Ms. Kahn mentioned AAPLOG (American Association of Pro-life OB/Gyns) has a Colorado state chapter and supports pregnancy resource centers. Birthline of Colorado is entirely funded by donations. They are currently seeking donations from foundations. You can contact them through their website for more informaton: [www.birthlinecolo.org](http://www.birthlinecolo.org)



Debra Kahn

**April 18, 2025**

Due to Good Friday, there was no meeting this day.

**PRIEST/ DEACON ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES**

Rev	Michael Tran	May 14, 2016		All Saints
Dcn	Micheal Fletcher	May 15, 1999		Christ on the Mountain
Rev	Matthew Book	May 15, 2010	(15 years)	Light of the World
Rev	Anthony Phan	May 13, 2023		Light of the World
Rev	Matthew J. McCarthy, FSSP	May 21, 2011		Our Lady of Mt Carmel
Rev	Daniel Nolan, FSSP	May 31, 2014		Our Lady of Mt Carmel
Rev	Artura Chagala	May 18, 2013		Saint Anthony of Padua
Rev	Miljenko Pavkovic	May 17, 2008		Saint Anthony of Padua
Rev	Peter Urban	May 31, 1958	(67 years)	Saint Anthony of Padua
Rev	Joseph McLagan	May 16, 2015	(10 years)	Saint Bernadette
Rev	Angel Perez-Lopez	May 14, 2005	(20 years)	Saint Cajetan
Rev	Miguel Nahu Mendoza	May 14, 2022		Saint Cajetan
Rev	Juan Adrian Hernandez Dominguez	May 16, 2020	(5 years)	Saint Cajetan
Rev	Ronald Sequeira	May 19, 2009		Saint Frances Cabrini
Dcn	John Volk	May 30, 2009		Saint Jude
Dcn	Greg Frank	May 26, 2007		Saint Mary
Rev	John Green	May 15, 2010	(15 years)	Saint Paul

*Christ is risen!*



*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.