



The Serra Club of Johnson County  
Region 9 District 12-2 Central Club

March 2023  
Volume 4, Issue 3

[www.jocoserra.org](http://www.jocoserra.org)

## Serran Sphere

REVERENCE FOR THE EUCHARIST:  
BE AMAZED!

As we established in the February edition of **Serran Sphere**, on the Feast of Corpus Christi, June 19, 2022, the Catholic Bishops of the United States began a very important initiative, a nationwide **Eucharistic Revival**. Known also as “Eucharistic Amazement,” the spiritual initiative is meant for us to revitalize (in some cases, *discover*) our love for and, quite literally, our *amazement* in Jesus Christ, His real Presence, in the Holy Eucharist. This second part in our “Eucharistic Amazement” series introduces a big event planned for the summer of 2024.

In learning about the 2024 National Eucharistic Congress, we read another story of a life-changing personal encounter with Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. There is a theme here. Meeting Jesus in the Holy Eucharist is as easy as spending time with your best friend. For us Serrans and Catholics, it is part of our response to God’s vocational call to holiness.

Meet Tim Glemkowski. Tim is the founder and former president of **L’Alto Catholic Institute and Revive Parishes**. He authored *Made for Mission: Renewing Your Parish Culture*, released in Fall 2019 through **Our Sunday Visitor**. A former Director of Strategy for the Archdiocese of Denver, Tim is Executive Director of the **2024 National Eucharistic Congress**, to be held in Indianapolis, IN, July 17-21, 2024.



Read Tim’s story.

*Growing up, I was proudly “the rebellious one” in a very devout Chicago Catholic family. I’m not sure if I didn’t believe in God or if the world was just more compelling . . . but as my older sister discerned religious life, I was partying on weekends.*

*This all changed when my daily-Mass-going, Rosary-praying, Irish Catholic mom forced me on a bus to a weekend youth conference in a place called, “Steubenville.” The full story I will have to tell you someday, but that weekend I met Jesus in the Eucharist. Nothing was ever the same. God moved from an idea to a Person who knew me fully and loved me unservedly. I realized that if this was all real, all true, if God was actually present in that tiny, white Host, then this was not just one thing among many, but the “stillpoint of the turning world.” (T.S. Elliott)*

*The Only Thing.*

*That encounter changed my life completely. But as I returned home and began to grow in a relationship with God in the dark quiet of the 6:30 AM daily Mass at my suburban parish, something began to gnaw at me.*

*I began to realize that we are a Church in desperate need of revival.*

*And as a member of a generation that has lost faith in previously unforeseen numbers, I want to be part of that solution. I have had front row seats to the discouraging trends with*

*See Be Amazed, p. 2*



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### MEETING/EVENT DATES:

- **4/4/2023—6:00 PM**, First Tuesday Holy Hour—**Curé of Ars**
- **4/5/2023—6:30 PM**, General Membership Meeting—**Curé of Ars**
- **4/13/2023—7:30 PM**, Thursday Rosary for Vocations—virtual/on-line
- **4/17/2023—7:00 PM**, Runnin’ with the Revs Hayden High School Topeka
- **4/20/2023—7:30 PM**, Thursday Rosary for Vocations—virtual/on-line
- **4/24/2023—7:00 PM**, Board Meeting, Holy Spirit Church
- **4/27/2023—7:30 PM**, Thursday Rosary for Vocations—virtual/on-line

*Be Amazed, continued from p. 1*

*respect to belief and practice in Catholicism, and organized religion generally, in our country. Personally, I don't think these trends are cause for despair. I think a relationship with Jesus Christ, in his Church, is still the answer to every question and longing of the human heart, and that God is still desiring to work powerfully in this world, through His Church. But only if we are willing to become open to that work.*

*Almost a year ago, Bishop Andrew Cozzens and the National Eucharistic Congress Board invited me to be a deeper part of the Eucharistic Revival movement (which is another long story) as the first Executive Director of the new National Eucharistic Congress apostolate.*

*I joined the mission for one reason. After years of working in our Church for revival, I have become convinced that **this** is where it is happening. Through this work, I have seen how, through the Eucharistic Revival, Congress, and Pilgrimage, God is doing something new in His Church. Something that people will be talking about for a very long time. He wants to call everyone back to His heart. He wants to breathe new life into His people. He want this, both for our sake, and "for the life of the world."*

*I have heard from countless Catholics across the country who feel the same way, who feel like God is up to something through this Eucharistic Revival. They tell me how God is drawing them close to His Eucharistic heart in a new way. They want to be part of this movement, falling more in love with God and helping others to do the same.*

*This is what the Eucharistic Revival is about. It's not the marketing campaign, a program, or a strategic plan. It's a prophetic invitation issued by God, through the bishops, to every Catholic in our country to say, "God is on the move. Will you join Him?"*

*So . . . will we?*

*In Christ,*

*Tim*

Tim Glemkowski's photo and story © National Eucharistic Congress, reprinted with Mr. Glemkowski's permission.

## Vocations activities:

- ◇ **31-Club**—join in the daily prayer effort for vocations! Pick one day of the month to pray for vocations either by attending Mass or offering a Holy Hour. [Sign up here!](#)
- ◇ **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**—happening Sunday, April 30, 2023. Look for activities in your parish church bulletin. Offer a Rosary for vocations. Make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament and pray for vocations.
- ◇ **Birthday cards for Seminarians**—we will have birthday cards for seminarians to be signed at General Membership meetings. This is a great way to let our seminarians know they are in our thoughts and prayers always! Add your signature to the birthday cards!
- ◇ **First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations**—11:00 AM on the First Friday of every month at Holy Spirit Parish, 11300 W 103rd St., Overland Park, KS.
- ◇ **First Tuesday Holy Hour for Vocations**—6:00 PM on the First Tuesday of every month at Curé of Ars Parish, 9401 Mission Rd., Leawood, KS.
- ◇ **Third Monday Holy Hour for Vocations**—7:00 PM on the Third Monday of every month at Church of the Ascension, 9510 W. 127th St., Overland Park, KS.
- ◇ **Weekly Rosary for Vocations**—a virtual Rosary experience via Zoom link, every Thursday evening at 7:30 PM, sponsored by the Vocations Committee of the Serra Club. [Learn more and connect here.](#)





## DR. LUKE MURRAY TO SPEAK AT APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Dr. Luke Murray serves as Headmaster of the Chesterton Academy of St. Philip Neri in Kansas City, MO. Dr. Murray received a Ph.D. in Historical Theology and went on to postdoctoral work at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Belgium). He also has earned a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology from Ave Maria University, a Masters Degree in Theology from Franciscan University of Steubenville, and an undergraduate degree in Philosophy during his time discerning the priesthood at Mt. Angel Seminary, St. Benedict, Oregon. He comes to Chesterton Academy after having served most recently as the Berkel Chair of Theology and leading the Institute for Faith and Culture in Lawrence, Kansas, based out of the Saint Lawrence Center serving the University of Kansas. Dr. Murray is passionate about reaching young people with the truth and joy of the Gospel, and forming well-rounded servant leaders able to flourish wherever the Lord leads them.

The goal of the Chesterton Academy is to form joyful, generous, and confident Catholic leaders prepared for life and mission in the modern world. Inspired by Saint Pope John Paul II, the motto of the Chesterton Academy is “Cultura Vitae,” (“culture of life.”) The focus is to provide an educational foundation from which students triumph over the materialism and despair that pervade our culture, as they realize the potential to have life and have it abundantly. The Academy employs a classical curriculum that combines a broad, liberal arts education with a strong emphasis on the development of Christian virtues and an appreciation of beauty. Through a Three Pillars Model, students are formed in intellect, character, and spirituality.

Part of the Chesterton Schools Network based in Minneapolis, MN, a collaborative effort of the American Chesterton Society and Chesterton Academy. The Chesterton Schools Network aims to inspire and encourage parent-led Catholic schools across the nation. By the fall of 2022, there were 50 Chesterton Academies throughout the USA and overseas, with that count jumping to 70 by the fall of 2023.

The Kansas City, MO, Chesterton Academy of St. Philip Neri is named for the great English writer and Catholic convert, G.K. Chesterton (1874- 1936), and the 16th century Italian priest and Second Apostle of Rome, St. Philip Neri. Chesterton and Neri are models for the school because they exemplified the Catholic faith through a life filled with joy, wonder, and gratitude.

### SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAYS

#### April/May

Dcn. Colm Larkin.....20 Apr  
Joseph Punswick.....25 Apr  
Dcn. Tim Skoch.....30 Apr  
John Donart.....2 May  
Jarrad Condreay.....7 May  
Dan Mauro.....10 May  
Juan Vasquez.....17 May

Mark your calendar with Seminarian Birthdays and pray for the seminarian’s intention.



Mark your calendar! The 2023 **Master’s Cup** golf event is slated for **Monday, July 10, 2023**, at beautiful **Ironhorse Golf Club** in Leawood, KS. A one-of-a-kind golf event, The Master’s Cup brings together young men and young women discerning vocations to the priesthood and religious life, seminarians, priests and religious, for a round of golf, sharing a meal, and hearing a great witness to the faith. Make plans now to join the fun and fellowship.

Guest luncheon speaker this year: American film producer, writer, and Catholic speaker, **Jim Wahlberg**. You won’t want to miss it!

### REMINDER: General Membership Meeting

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023  
6:30 PM**

Fr. Burak Room  
Curé of Ars  
9401 Mission Rd  
Leawood, KS

**Guest speaker:**  
**Dr. Luke Murray**  
Headmaster  
Chesterton Academy of St. Philip  
Neri, Kansas City, MO

### DID YOU KNOW?

- ⇒ BRAZIL HAS MORE CATHOLICS THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY IN THE WORLD, WITH MORE CATHOLICS THAN ITALY, POLAND, AND FRANCE COMBINED.
- ⇒ THE FIRST PRINTED BIBLE WAS PRINTED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. IT WAS PRINTED BY THE CATHOLIC INVENTOR OF THE PRINTING PRESS: JOHANNES GUTENBERG.
- ⇒ OVER THE PAST 100 YEARS, THE NUMBER OF CATHOLICS AROUND THE WORLD HAS TRIPLED FROM 291 MILLION IN 1910 TO 1.1 BILLION IN 2010.
- ⇒ THE WORD ‘CATHOLIC’ WAS FIRST USED BY IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH AROUND THE YEAR A.D. 110. IT IS FROM THE GREEK WORD **KATHOLIKOS**, WHICH MEANS “TOWARD THE WHOLE.”

FACTS CONFIRMED AT [66 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CATHOLICISM | FACT RETRIEVER](#)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**SERRA CLUB  
OF JOHNSON COUNTY**

**2022-23  
Officers**

**President**  
John Weber

**President Elect**  
Dale Romme

**Immediate Past  
President**  
Doug Leibbrandt

**Secretary**  
Judy Rielley

**Treasurer**  
Chuck Lillis

**Vice Presidents**

**Vocations**  
Thomas and Nicole Skoch

**Membership**  
Joane Wilkerson

**Programs**  
Larry Ryan

**Communications**  
Michael Skoch

**Trustees**  
Len Chmelka  
Ray Zielinski  
George Len

**District Governor**  
John Caton

Date	Agenda	Location
April 4 Tuesday	First Tuesday Holy Hour for Vocations 6:00 PM	Curé of Ars Church Leawood, KS
April 5 Wednesday	JOCO Serra General Membership Meeting 6:30 PM	Curé of Ars Church Leawood, KS
April 6 Thursday	Holy Thursday	Attend the beginning of the Easter Triduum at your parish
April 7 Friday	Good Friday	Attend Good Friday services at your parish
April 8 Saturday	Holy Saturday	Attend the Easter Vigil at your parish
April 9 Sunday	Easter Sunday	Celebrate Christ's Resurrection at your parish
April 13 Thursday	Thursday Rosary for Vocations 7:30 PM	Virtual See website calendar for details
April 17 Monday	Runnin' with the Revs 7:00 PM	Hayden High School Topeka, KS
April 20 Thursday	Thursday Rosary for Vocations 7:30 PM	Virtual See website calendar for details
April 24 Monday	JOCO Serra Club Board Meeting 7:00 PM	Holy Spirit Church Overland Park, KS
April 27 Thursday	Thursday Rosary for Vocations 7:30 PM	Virtual See website calendar for details
April 30 Sunday	World Day of Prayer for Vocations	See website calendar for details

***First Friday  
Holy Hour  
for Vocations***

***11:00 AM 2/3/2023  
Church of the Holy  
Spirit***



*Mark your calendar!*  
**USCCB World Day of Prayer for Vocations**  
**April 30, 2023**

*The Vocations Committee will provide a slate of suggested  
activities—check the website calendar for details!*







**A** crowd estimated at more than 500 gathered for the 2023 Runnin' with the Revs night at St. Thomas Aquinas High School on Monday evening, March 20, 2023. In a competitive contest from start to finish, priests, seminarians, and young men in grades 8–12 teamed up, Blackshirts vs. Whiteshirts, giving fans a taste of the sport while promoting vocations and raising funds to support seminarians and those discerning religious life. Top left, Danny Rottinghaus (Bishop Miego) puts up a short jumper while Joachim Burton (whiteshirt, Chesterton Academy) and Immanuel Njunge (blackshirt, Prince of Peace) follow the play. Moving down the left side, Fr. Kent O'Connor and Fr. Greg Hammes battle for a rebound; Fr. Viet Nguyen puts up a fadeaway jumper; refs for the event, (L to R) Riley Cobb, Tom Skoch, and Reid Hitchens. Moving right across the bottom, Michael Kilroy (Nativity) puts up a short jumper while David Vasquez (Bishop Ward) and Charlie Bezdek (Holy Trinity) defend; Immanuel Njunge (Prince of Peace) connects on a short jump shot; and Sam Lien (Good Shepherd) looks for an entry pass. Top middle, Fr. Dan Morris connects on a free throw; moving down the middle, the opening tip went to the Blackshirts; Andrew Dubill (St. Thomas Aquinas) defends around the rim.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the Topeka event, Monday, April 17, 2023, 7:00 PM, at Hayden High School. There will be more fun and excitement as new teams are formed and will again compete for a win—not only at sport but also for vocations to the priesthood and religious life!

We hope to see you there!