



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

May 2022
Volume 3, Issue 5

www.jocoserra.org

Serran Sphere

MAY IS THE MONTH OF OUR MOTHER . . .

. . . AND THE MONTH OF ORDINATIONS!

In our club's regular Thursday evening Rosary for Vocations, Serrans pray the Rosary meditating on the Luminous Mysteries. The Fifth Luminous Mystery, the Institution of the Eucharist, has a prayer intention specifically for vocations to the priesthood. At the end of the meditation, we read these words:

With Mary, mother of priests, we pray that all those with a vocation to the priesthood will answer the call to serve as Christ's ministers of the New Covenant; and that those among them whom God has chosen as bishops will receive abundant grace to fulfill their vocation to shepherd the Church of God.

What better month than May to celebrate ordinations to the transitional diaconate and the priesthood?

Ordinations, Transitional Diaconate

Three men will be ordained to the diaconate at Christ the King Church in Topeka, KS, on Saturday, May 21, 2022, at 10:30 AM. They are (from left) Colm Larkin, George Rhodes, and Timothy Skoch.



The diaconate ordination liturgy will be open to the public. The event will be livestreamed here: <https://livestream.com/archkck/transitional-ordinations>

Ordinations, Sacred Order of Priesthood

Two men will be ordained to the priesthood at Cathedral of St. Peter in Kansas City, KS, on Saturday, May 28, 2022, at 10:30 AM. They are (from left) Rev. Mr. Andrew Gaffney and Rev. Mr. Su-deep Kodigandla.



The priesthood ordination liturgy will be open to the public. The event will be livestreamed here: <https://livestream.com/archkck/ordinations>

Let us intensify our prayers for these men as they approach sacred orders.



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MEETING/EVENT DATES:

- 5/3/2022—General Monthly Membership meeting, 5:30 PM, Mass and 6:30 PM Cinco de Mayo Fiesta, **Curé of Ars Church**
- 5/23/2022—JOCO Serra Board Meeting , 7 PM, **St. Isadore Room, Holy Spirit Church**
- 6/2/2022—General Monthly Membership Meeting, 6:30 PM, **Curé of Ars Church**



MEET DAN MAURO

Dan Mauro is the son of Frank and Christy Mauro and the third of four children. The family belongs to Holy Spirit parish, where Dan attended grade school. He finished high school at St. James Academy, the environment to which he credits the development of his faith life. “It wasn’t really until going to St. James that the faith became real for me,” he said. “Before that, it was just something I took for granted.”

He related that, in the early years of high school, through the invitation of his sister, he read the theology of St. Louis de Montfort and decided to consecrate his life to the Blessed Virgin Mary. “This was a real “game-changer” and the beginning of my coming to know God’s will,” Mauro observed. He noted another “big development”: falling in love with the Eucharist through the habit of going to daily Mass.

The oldest of the Mauro children is Dan’s only sister, Sr. Mary of Jesus, a contemplative religious sister with the [Servants of the Lord and the Virgin Matará](#) (the “Servidoras”) and lives in Brooklyn, NY at the Monastery of St. Edith Stein. Dan has one older brother, Jonathan, who lives and works in KC and one younger brother, Sam, who is a freshman at Benedictine College. The family patriarch, Frank Mauro, works in medical sales; Dan’s mother, Christy Mauro, is a nurse now working part of the week as a volunteer at Catholic Charities.

“A priest was talking about how many young people are leaving the church. . . My heart was pierced with sorrow for all those people. . . I heard God inviting me to be a priest . . . a shepherd of His people . . . to lead them back to Him.” ~Dan Mauro

SEMINARIAN BIRTHDAYS April/May

Daniel Schmidt	-April 25
Timothy Skoch	-April 30
John Donart	-May 2
Dan Mauro	-May 10

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

Check us out on the web @ <https://www.jocoserra.org>

Saturday, 5/7/2022

Blisters for Sisters

The annual *Blisters for Sisters* event has been replaced with delivery of meals to area religious sisters and prayer for all religious sisters at 4:00 PM Mass at Church of the Visitation in KCMO, according to Jon Haden, President of the KCMO Serra Club. See the website calendar for details!

Dan wrestled with the question of discernment in high school, but it wasn’t until college that things began to come together. “In my freshman year at Benedictine College, I started taking time to pray each day. I would ask God what His plan was for my life and take time in silence to listen,” Dan reflected.

In January of that year (2017), Mauro was at a FOCUS conference for Catholic college students called SEEK. During this conference, a priest was talking about how many young people are leaving the Catholic Church and losing their faith. “I think the number was somewhere near 90%,” he recalled. “I had heard similar numbers before, but this time, something different happened. My heart was pierced with sorrow for all those people. I thought about how much God had taken care of me, and how fulfilling a life lived with Him is, and how sad it is that so many were being led away from all those blessings which I had experienced.”

In this moment of sorrow for God’s lost sheep, Dan heard God speak. “I heard him inviting me to be a priest.” Dan had thought about being a priest before, “but I was pretty sure I was going to get married.” God had another plan, and, in that prayerful exchange, it became clear to him: “God was inviting me to be a shepherd of His people and to lead them back to Him. I was filled with joy and excitement.”

Since that 2017 FOCUS experience, Mauro has been going through studies to prepare for his ultimate response to God’s call. He finished his undergraduate degree in Philosophy in 2020 and is now working on a master’s degree in Theology. He is currently a Theology II student at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis, MO. “I have 3 more years of school including a Pastoral Year so, God willing, I will be ordained a priest in 2025,” he said.

In his spare time, Dan enjoys hiking and camping, and sports that involve the use of a racquet. He also enjoys team sports. An extension of his education, he also enjoys studying theology, particularly Scripture and St. Thomas’ *Summa*. “I also enjoy studying languages and reading classical literature,” he mused.

A final comment to his readers: “Please pray for me as I continue my journey; it is very blessed, but not easy, so I greatly appreciate the assistance of the prayers of the spiritual army of the Serrans!”

Sunday, 5/8/2022 World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Join in the worldwide prayer effort for vocations on Sunday, May 8, 2022. Check out these [great prayers for vocations](#) to aid in the prayer effort, both your private prayer and prayer with your family.

See the [website](#) for more details.



**Trivia Night—
An Ordination Celebration!**

In what is quickly becoming a diocesan-wide favorite event celebrating ordination week, Trivia Night returns, Wednesday, May 25, 2022, from 6:30-9:00 pm. Join us in a **virtual celebration** for the two men who will be ordained to the priesthood, Rev. Mr. Andrew Gaffney, and Rev. Mr. Sudeep Kodigandla.

The evening will feature the following highlights:

- Virtual trivia game
- Sneak peak of the video “I Will Give You Shepherds”
- 50/50 raffle
- Prizes between each round and for the top two trivia teams.

Teams of up to eight (8) players will compete for prizes each round, and for one of two prizes for the top two teams at the end of the evening.

Are you looking for a little inside help for your trivia game? Bid on one of our seminarians to join your team, in-person, for the event! Seminarian participation is limited to one (1) seminarian per team. The seminarian auction will close at the end of the day Friday, May 20.

All proceeds directly benefit our seminarians and the ongoing mission of the Vocation Office. Start those brain and reflex exercises now! Don't miss the fun!

All proceeds directly benefit our seminarians and the ongoing mission of the Vocation Office. Check the website for details and bidding on seminarian team members.



CINCO DE MAYO

MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2022, 5:30 PM @ CURÉ OF ARS
MASS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
6:30 PM CATERED FAJITA FIESTA
(WITH MARGARITAS)
\$25 / ADULT — CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER ARE FREE
REGISTER FOR THE EVENT HERE:
[JOCO Serra General Membership Meeting](#)

CLICK ON THE GREEN “REGISTER NOW” BUTTON
REGISTRATIONS CLOSE TUESDAY, MAY 3, AT MIDNIGHT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**SERRA CLUB
OF JOHNSON COUNTY**

**2022
Officers**

President
John Weber

President Elect
Dale Romme

**Immediate Past
President**
Doug Leibbrandt

Secretary
Judy Rielley

Treasurer
Chuck Lillis

Vice Presidents

Vocations

Membership
Joane Wilkerson

Programs
Larry Ryan

Communications
Michael Skoch

Trustees
Len Chmelka
Ray Zielinski
George Len

District Governor
John Caton

Friday, June 10

Pitching for Priests

7:00 PM

Legends Field



See the website for updates!

Date	Agenda	Location
May 3 Tuesday	First Tuesday Holy Hour for Vocations 6 PM	Cure of Ars Church Leawood, KS
May 5 Thursday	JOCO Serra General Membership Monthly Meeting 5:30 PM	Mass at 5:30 PM in Church Catered Dinner to Follow Cure of Ars Church Leawood, KS
May 6 Friday	First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations 11 AM	Holy Spirit Church Overland Park, KS
May 7 Saturday	Blisters for Sisters Sisters' Appreciation Event 4 PM Mass	NEW VENUE! Visitation Parish 5141 Main Street, KCMO
May 8 Sunday	World Day of Prayer for Vocations	See p. 2 for details.
May 12 Thursday	JOCO Serra Rosary for Vocations 7:30 PM	Virtual Rosary Luminous Mysteries Zoom link—Website Calendar
May 19 Thursday	JOCO Serra Rosary for Vocations 7:30 PM	Virtual Rosary Luminous Mysteries Zoom link—Website Calendar
May 21 Saturday	Transitional Diaconate Ordination 10:30 AM	Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS 12615 Parallel Pkwy Kansas City, KS
May 23 Monday	JOCO Serra Board Meeting 7 PM	Cornerstone Companies Leawood, KS
May 25 Wednesday	Trivia Night 6:30-9 PM	An Ordination Celebration! VIRTUAL EVENT
May 26 Thursday	Priesthood Ordinations Archdiocese of Kansas City, KS 10:30 AM	Cathedral of St Peter 409 North 15th Street Kansas City, KS
May 26 Thursday	JOCO Serra Rosary For Vocations 7:30 PM	Virtual Rosary Luminous Mysteries Zoom link—Website Calendar
June 2 Thursday	JOCO Serra General Membership Monthly Meeting 6:30 PM	Cure of Ars Church Leawood, KS
June 9 Thursday	JOCO Serra Rosary for Vocations 7:30 PM	Virtual Rosary Luminous Mysteries Zoom link—Website Calendar

THE MASTER'S CUP



Monday, August 1, 2022, is the date set for the second annual **Master's Cup** golf invitational event at Ironhorse Golf Club in Leawood, KS. According to Fr. Dan Morris, Vocations Director for the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, this event promises to be bigger and better than the inaugural event of 2021, which was a rousing success itself!



Billed as an opportunity to come together around the game of golf, a meal, and The Master Himself, the **Master's Cup** brings priests, seminarians, religious, and the lay faithful together in support of priestly and religious vocations in the Archdiocese.

Registrations will soon be open through the website of the Serra Club of Johnson County. Look for an email announcement to follow. Organizers have begun to recruit sponsors and teams, assuring the success of this year's event.

On the day of the 9-hole event, registration begins at 0700 AM, with a shotgun start at 0800 AM. Golfers and non-golfing guests will gather for lunch at 12:00 PM, where our guest speakers will be father-son duo and former Kansas State football players, **Stan and Landry Weber**. With their playing days now behind them, the gentlemen will talk about a life of faith lived in a world of sports. Come, hear Stan's story of raising four children with his wife, Nancy, while striving to be an authentic Catholic family. Landry will share his embrace of the gift of his faith (especially during college), eventually hearing and responding to a call to enter seminary and discern the priesthood. With practical spiritual advice for all, this year's **Master's Cup** promises to inspire all who attend—but especially fathers and

sons—to take that next step in their relationship with Jesus Christ!

The luncheon will conclude with the presentation of the Heart-to-Heart Scholarships, which are scholarships to help ease the financial constraints often associated with answering a call to the priesthood and consecrated religious life. All net proceeds from this event go to support the [Heart-to-Heart Scholarship Fund](#).

Join us for a great mid-summer outing at Ironhorse Golf Club!



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