



Saint Croix Valley Serra Club

September-October 2011 Meetings

Saturday, September 10, 8 a.m.: Mass and meeting at Transfiguration.

Monday, September 19, Midway Serra Fall Steak Fry, 5 p.m.: Saint Paul Seminary. Prayer service followed by dinner. More information to follow.

Thursday, September 22, 6:30 p.m.: Convent of the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver

Serra ~ A Catholic Movement for Vocations

Vocation Activities at Transfiguration

Fr. Baer has designated the daily Masses and Holy Hour on Thursdays as special opportunities to pray for vocations at the parish. Daily Masses on Thursdays are 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., with a Holy Hour in between. The 6:30 a.m. Mass is ONLY on Thursdays. This would be a special time to pray together for vocations! Come for either Mass and/or Holy Hour, whatever time you can fit into your schedule. Thanks, Fr. Baer!

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## .Club Officers

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**Trustees: Tony and Joan DeWaele**

Now that fall is here we can get our club busy and active with our vocation mission. At our Saturday, Sept. 10 meeting we will plan our fall agenda. There will be many new seminarians to pray for, we can meet some of them when we host our seminarian buffet dinner. The annual steak fry is Monday, September 19 at St. Paul Seminary.

At our August 13 meeting Fr. Baer told our club of some vocation opportunities at Transfiguration: they are adding a 6:30 a.m. mass every Thursday followed by a holy hour for vocations from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., followed by the 8:00 a.m. mass. Every third Thursday will be a potluck after 8 a.m. mass to gather and work on vocation ideas and issues. All are welcome.

Our club received a letter from Fr. John Ubel at St. Agnes parish explaining a vocation pilgrimage he is leading to Italy. He is requesting clubs to consider a donation to this. We will share this at our meeting, and members can donate if able and willing. He offers that the students would be willing to visit clubs and share their experiences. Sounds like a great idea.

### **Region 8 Meeting and Retreat – November 18-20, 2011**

It is not too early to mark your calendars and make your reservation for the annual Serra Retreat and meeting at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo. Bishop Balke, past Bishop of Crookston for 31 years, is the Retreat Master. To register, please call Christ the King Retreat House at 763-682-1394. This retreat does fill up, so don't delay! ☺

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**SCV Serra Fall activities** will include the All Saints Day Treat Bags and the Club-hosted seminarian Buffet. Stay tuned for planning sessions

New Schedule for Team Vianney:

TEAM VIANNEY introduces a new format for 2011-2012!

Four big nights:  
October 20, 2011  
December 1, 2011  
February 2, 2012  
April 12, 2012

contact SJV for more info @ - 651-962-6825

## St. Thérèse of Lisieux's Prayer for Priests

*St. Thérèse's devotion to the Priesthood is to be found in all its fullness in a prayer which she used to say daily and which she learnt off by heart; this is all the more remarkable in view of her known distaste for lengthy set forms of prayer.*

'O Holy Father, may the torrents of love flowing from the sacred wounds of Thy Divine Son bring forth priests like unto the beloved disciple John who stood at the foot of the Cross; priests: who as a pledge of Thine own most tender love will lovingly give Thy Divine Son to the souls of men.

May Thy priests be faithful guardians of Thy Church, as John was of Mary, whom he received into his house. Taught by this loving Mother who suffered so much on Calvary, may they display a mother's care and thoughtfulness towards Thy children. May they teach souls to enter into close union with Thee through Mary who, as the Gate of Heaven, is specially the guardian of the treasures of Thy Divine Heart.

Give us priests who are on fire, and who are true children of Mary, priests who will give Jesus to souls with the same tenderness and care with which Mary carried the Little Child of Bethlehem.

Mother of sorrows and of love, out of compassion for Thy beloved Son, open in our hearts deep wells of love, so that we may console Him and give Him a generation of priests formed in thy school and having all the tender

thoughtfulness of thine own spotless love."

International Lay Fast for Priests – Saturday, October 22, Dawn until 3pm

*From the rising of the sun in the East to the setting of the sun in the West...we will pray for our priests.*

Every lay member of the Body of Christ is invited to join the global fasters from the Universal Church who want to lift up our priests (past, present and future) to Almighty God for their protection, divine sustenance and fidelity to the ministry of Holy Orders.

We fast from the time we get out of bed until the **3:00pm hour\*** – the time of Christ's death. We fast from whatever we can – food, TV, speech, computer, etc. We close our fast with a private prayer at 3:00 pm.

"...prayer united with fasting is the most powerful force in human history." Blessed John Paul II  
Blessed John Paul II taught us that during the Consecration, all time meets in the Eucharist. A mysterious "**oneness in time**" (Ecclesia de Eucharistia) happens and we are drawn into the mind and person of Christ present, on Calvary yet also mysteriously present at the Resurrection. Everyone who ever was and who has died in "the grace and friendship of God" (Article 988CCC) now lives in Christ. The Eucharist, brought to us by the priest, has immense power. It is the "**source and summit**" (Lumen Gentium) of our Catholic life.

St. Bridget of Sweden teaches us that at the moment of Consecration, numberless angels come down and surround and look upon the priest, bowing toward him in reverential awe as he holds high the body of Christ.

The priest lends his voice to Christ at the Consecration and the Lord becomes present to us. Without the priest, we would not have the Eucharist. Fasting is praying with the Body of Christ. Priests need the power of our prayers.

***Would that today you might fast so as to make your voice heard on high, this is the fasting that I wish***

***which will release those bound unjustly and untie the thongs of the yoke. It will set free the oppressed.***

***Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wounds shall quickly be healed; your vindication shall go before you and the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard. Then you shall call***

***and the Lord will answer, you shall cry for help and He will say: Here I am!***

***(adapted from Isaiah 59: 6 14)***

To read more on how the Lay Fast began seven years ago by Catholics in Boston:

<http://annaprae.com/blog4/>

For more information see:

[http://www.annaprae.com/layfast\\_2011.html](http://www.annaprae.com/layfast_2011.html)

\*Suggested 3pm concluding service: Eucharistic Adoration – ending at 3pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, World Mission Rosary for Our Priests, Closing Benediction, Prayer for Priests