



## Serra Club of Kansas City in Kansas



### **OUR MISSION**

The Serra Club KCK is an organization of Catholic men who vigorously respond to the call to promote and support vocations to the ministerial priesthood and consecrated life in the Catholic Church.

### **OUR PATRON, SAINT JUNÍPERO SERRA**

As a Spanish priest and friar of the Franciscan Order, St. Junípero Serra lived a holy life and is credited with establishing missions in California 250 years ago.

### **SERRA WORLDWIDE**

Serra USA was formed in 1935 by a group of lay people. There are over 400 clubs in the U.S and over 13,000 members in 46 countries. Serra International, approved by the Vatican, is a lay vocation organization for the Catholic Church.

### **WHAT WE DO**

Together with the Archdiocesan Vocation Office, Parishes, and the other Metro Serra Clubs, we work to increase and preserve vocations through focused activities and prayer. We assist members to recognize and respond to God's call to holiness in their personal life.

***“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few” (Mt 9:37)***

## GET INVOLVED

### **Serra Club of Kansas City in Kansas:**

- Was chartered in 1970
- Is one of the largest Serra Clubs in the United States
- Invites you to be our guest at any of our meetings
- Welcomes you to pray with us

*At a time when the Catholic Church is critically short priests and religious women and men, we invite you to join Serra and take part in the important work of encouraging and supporting vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated religious life.*

### **Serra Prayer for Vocations**

O God, who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You, through the intercession of Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, Saint Joseph, her spouse, Saint Junípero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of laborers for your Church, fellow laborers, with Christ, to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

### **Serra KCK Communications & Website**

The Serra KCK website is our formal communication method. It is continuously updated by our Vice Presidents of Communications. News of the club's activities, the planning calendar, president's message, links to other organization's websites relevant to our mission are posted. A prayer list, other information and notes are all available for easy access. Check it out at <https://www.serrakck.org>.

## **Luncheon Meetings**

Luncheons and general membership meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Shawnee, Kansas. The meetings begin with prayer and provide an excellent opportunity for fellowship with other club members. Guests are always welcomed; prayer requests are announced and future activities are reviewed. Dynamic speakers are chosen and invited to provide reflections and information on topics pertaining to the mission of Serra KCK. Our meetings conclude with a prayer for the perseverance of vocations.

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Essay Contest**

Each year all 6<sup>th</sup> grade Catholic School students in Johnson and Wyandotte counties submit an essay on the importance of priests, deacons and nuns to the Catholic Church. Serra KCK then invites first and runner-up prizewinners, their parents, teacher, school principal and the Archdiocesan Superintendent of Catholic Schools to attend these presentations at a Wednesday luncheon. We give a cash award to each student and his or her school.



## **Memorial Mass and Dinner**

A Memorial Mass and Dinner is held in November for Serrans to honor the memory and service of our deceased Serrans with a special Mass with our Chaplain, followed by a social hour and dinner. Their widows are our guests for the evening.

## **Seminarian and Parent/Family Send Off**

Each year, we gather the Seminarian, their Parent/Family and Serran for Mass, Dinner and Send Off. This is a special Archdiocesan Mass where we gather and celebrate Mass together, pray and socialization with one another. The event is held before the seminarians leave for their pilgrimage with the Archbishop and prior to leaving for their respective seminary. Serrans sponsor the evening through our Seminarian Support Fund.

## **Ordination and Profession of Vows**

As Serrans, we have a unique opportunity to attend the ordination of priests. We also attend the ordination of transitional and permanent deacons, and the profession of first and permanent vows of sisters located in the Archdiocese. Serra KCK assists the priests, deacons and consecrated religious sisters with monetary stipends when appropriate.

## **Retreats**

To deepen one's faith, silence retreats held at Conception Abbey in Conception, Missouri. Registration and travel to these retreats are promoted by our Serra Club. These silence retreats are open to everyone, not just Serrans, but our club encourages all our members to attend at least one retreat yearly to deepen the Serran's prayer and faith life.

## **The Master's Cup Annual Golf & Luncheon**

August 2021 was the inaugural Master's Cup Annual Golf & Luncheon event at Iron Horse Golf Club in Leawood, KS. This was an opportunity for discerners, seminarians, priests, and religious, plus lay faithful to come together to foster and support vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated religious life. All proceeds benefited the Heart to Heart Scholarship Fund for vocations.



## **Adopt a Seminarian**

Every Serran is asked to “adopt” one of our seminarians from our Archdiocese. The Serran writes to him during the year and if possible visits him when possible. We encourage helping the seminarian with a lunch or dinner. Over time, Serrans establish lasting relationships with their adopted seminarian.

## **Religious Sisters Appreciation Day**

August is the time to show our appreciation for our Religious Sisters. Together with the Metro KC Serra Clubs, our club invites all the Sisters in our area to a day of recognition and celebration of their importance to the Catholic Church. After a Prayer Service, we serve a delicious dinner and provide an opportunity for the Sisters to network and socialize. Generous donations received for this event allow us to give the sisters a monetary gift to support their religious congregation's vocation activities and charities. Congregations can request funds obtained and remaining after this event for sisters in formation.



## Visits to Seminaries

One or more Archdiocesan Serra Clubs arrange visits to various seminaries enrolling our seminarians. This provides us a unique opportunity to learn more about the seminary and seminarian life. It also gives us an opportunity to share a meal and fellowship with them, plus learn more about their progress and plans.



## Other Activities for Priest, Seminarians & Discerners

**Runnin' with the Revs** is an all-star basketball game drawing priests, seminarians, 8<sup>th</sup> grade and high school students closer together in a fun filled sporting event. Serrans always help organize this classic basketball game. In the past, many fans filled the bleachers and voluntary donations were used to support the Seminarian Scholarship Fund.



**Pitching For Priests** has been an event where Serrans participate to support and foster the priesthood. Legends Field in Kansas City, Kansas has been the site for priests from the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas, to match their softball skills with the priests from the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. It is an enjoyable family event to gather and support our priests.

