

The Serra Erie WAVE

Written to Affirm Vocations in Erie

Volume 23

Serra Club of Erie, Pennsylvania Newsletter

Issue 8



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Religious Sister of the Year

Sister Patricia Whalen, RSM

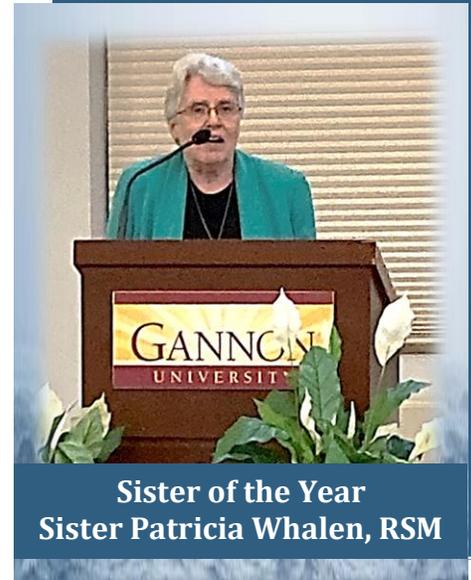
The 2021 annual award for Religious Sister of the Year goes to a very energetic lady, Sister Patricia Whalen, RSM. Sister has made a full and rich gift of her time and life. She will celebrate her 60th Jubilee in 2022.

Sr. Patricia taught elementary school within the Erie Catholic School system and taught in the Education Department of Mercyhurst College. While teaching at Mercyhurst she supervised the Cadet Teacher Program from 1970 through the conclusion of the program in 1999. Her experience at Mercyhurst University includes work as Assistant Academic Dean for three years and Registrar for nineteen years.

Sr. Patricia has also served on numerous boards and committees for the Sisters of Mercy Ministries. She has served as Vice President of the Sisters of Mercy Erie Regional community and is now on the Leadership Team of the Mercy Community called NyPaW (New York Pennsylvania West). The NyPaW Community includes the cities of Rochester, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, and Erie.

Her education began at Mercyhurst College where she earned her bachelor's degree, she also has a master's degree in Education from the University of Pittsburgh, a post-baccalaureate certificate from John Carroll University in Cleveland, and a certificate in Theology, Spirituality and Scripture from Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington.

To find out more about the full and rich gift of her time and life, visit our website to read our blog post by clicking on the Read More button.



Sister of the Year
Sister Patricia Whalen, RSM

[Read More](#)

Prayer Partner Birthdays

Prayer Partner	Month	Day
Barbara Giehl	September	03
Cory Pius	September	09
Benjamin Dagher	September	22
Luke Dagher	September	22
Kathy McCarthy	September	26

Board Notes

- ❖ Our Annual Jubilarian Luncheon, originally scheduled for Wednesday September 15, 2021, has been cancelled. This was disappointing, but necessary due to Covid-related concerns for those attending.
- ❖ There will be a General Meeting on Monday September 13, 2021, at 12:00pm. Sr. Lisa Mary McCartney, RSM, Ph.D. will be our speaker on the topic, "Seeds of Vocation in Story and Presence." This meeting will be in-person at the Erie Club and available via Zoom.
- ❖ This is a reminder that there has been an increase in the cost for lunch at the Erie Club. Therefore, the cost for General Meeting luncheons is now \$15.00.
- ❖ The Membership Sub-Committee met via Zoom on August 31st. The meeting was thought-provoking and productive.
- ❖ The board would like to encourage all our Serra Members to participate in the Serra MEETS webinars. The Serra MEETS article on page 3 provides details. You may also click on the Serra MEETS button under the Related Links section.

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Month	Day	Time
Serra MEETS	Zoom	September	11	12:00pm
Fr. Edwin Leonard / Former Vocation Director for Diocese of Dallas				
General Meeting	Erie Club / Zoom	September	13	12:00pm
Sr. Lisa Mary McCartney / Seeds of Vocation in Story and Presence				
Board Meeting	Erie Club	September	21	12:00pm
General Meeting	Erie Club / Zoom	October	04	12:00pm
Serra Convention	Chicago, IL.	October	7 th through the 10 th	

Chaplains' Report

- ❖ Seven seminarians moved in at St. Mark Seminary on Sunday August 27, 2021.
- ❖ Diaconate Ordination will be at St. Mark Seminary on Saturday April 23, 2022, at 10:30am.
- ❖ Ordination to the priesthood will be at St. Patrick on Friday May 27, 2022, at 7:00pm. Serrans usher this event.

Serra Club of Erie Board Members

Dennis Deiner
President

Tom Guelcher
President Elect

Stephanie Domitrovich
Immediate Past President
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Dave Wayman
VP of Communications
and Special Events

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Serra Club and Related Links

Serra Erie

Diocese of Erie

Erie Vocations

Serra USA

Serra MEETS

Serra International

The Serran Magazine

Pope's World Prayer Network

The Holy See Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) addresses the challenges facing humanity and assists the mission of the Church. Their vision is to pray and work to meet the challenges of the world identified by the Pope. The Pope's intentions are keys for our prayers and mission.



**"Let us ask for the grace to see differently."
~ Pope Francis**

On the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network website, his September reflection states, "I rejoice in today's young people who have invited me to see differently. Many question how we relate to Creation. They seek freedom from habits of consumption and make sacrifices that open them to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. (LS,49). They exemplify Pope

Francis' description of the Christian life marked by moderation and the capacity to be happy with little." To enjoy the Pope's full reflection and Prayer of the Month visit our website to read our blog post by clicking on the Read More button.

[Read More](#)

Message from the President



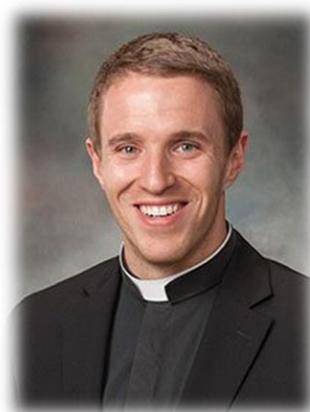
The cancellation of and hesitancy to propose in-person events is a formidable obstacle to accomplishing our goals. Please keep in mind that Covid can't defeat prayer! Prayer may not be as exciting as a gala fundraiser, commemorative picnic, or highly attended Mass by the Bishop, but prayer is just as important. As a Serra Member there are countless ways in which you can continue to share God's love and spread encouragement to others during these difficult times. Keep the faith, walk the mission, and pray, pray, pray!

[Visit Our Serra Erie Website](#)

Serra MEETS: Serra, Now More Than Ever!

**Speaker: Father Edwin Leonard
Former Vocation Director of the Diocese of Dallas**

The next Serra MEETS webinar takes place via Zoom on Saturday September 11, 2021. This month's speaker, Father Edwin Leonard, is currently the Vice President of the NCDVD. Fr. Leonard is a young, dynamic, and joy-filled priest who is just the sort of person who would inspire young men and draw them into discernment of a vocation. If you would like to familiarize yourself with Fr. Leonard prior to the webinar you can watch a 5-minute YouTube video by clicking on the Watch Video button.



[Watch Video](#)

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network

In the Beginning...

Our story begins on December 3, 1844, on the feast of St. Francis Xavier, at the novitiate for Jesuit students in Vals-prés-le-Puy (central region of France). Their spiritual father, Father Gautrelet, SJ, held a meeting with the students to express dissatisfaction with an attitude developing among them. The problem was that they were more motivated by the idea of setting off for faraway missions in India than by having to learn theology.

He urged them to concentrate more on their studies. But, when he was commenting on St. Francis Xavier's missionary adventure in the homily for that feast-day's Mass, he unintentionally aroused the young students' enthusiasm by describing how a life entirely given to study could be very effective in the apostolate: "If each one infuses his labours with the spirit of prayer and makes them an offering; if several jointly direct themselves in the same way, there would be a convergence of power capable of lifting up mountains!"

"Be missionaries already through your prayer, by the offering of your daily life. Your mission is here and now, in your studies and the little things of every day. In fulfilling it through being open to the will of God, you are already apostles who are helping the entire Church. Pray for the people you will meet tomorrow," he told them.



From that moment on, what was called the "Apostleship of Prayer" spread like wildfire, first in the surrounding country villages where the young Jesuits passed on this way of praying rooted in daily life, then throughout the world. By 1849, the Apostleship of Prayer was recognized by Pope Pius IX, and in 1890, Leo XIII entrusted to it his monthly prayer intentions.

To finish learning about the historic and inspiring start of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network click on the Read More button.

[Read More](#)

September General Meeting

Speaker: Sister Lisa Mary McCartney, RSM

Topic: Seeds of Vocation in Story and Presence

Sr. Lisa Mary McCartney is scheduled to speak at our September General Meeting. The meeting will be held as a luncheon at the Erie Club on Monday September 13, 2021. For those unable to attend, the meeting will be available via Zoom. You won't want to miss this!



Saint Junipero Serra Quotes

"I pray God may preserve your health and life many years."

"We found on our journey, as well as in the place where we stopped, that they treated us with as much confidence and good-will as if they had known us all their lives."

"For I trust that God will give me the strength to reach San Diego, as He has given me the strength to come so far."

"All my life I have wanted to be a missionary. I have wanted to carry the gospel message to those who have never heard of God and the kingdom He has prepared for them."

Saint Junipero Serra



**"Always Forward,
Never Back."**