The Serra Club of Portland is partnering with the office of Vocations of our Archdiocese of Portland to bring the Vocation Monstrance blessed by Pope Saint John Paul II to our local churches. The goal is to build a culture of vocations" by inviting the faithful to pray for the increase of vocations to the priesthood, religious and consecrated life between May 11-June 24, 2025.

The monstrance is one of six that Pope John Paul II blessed on Nov. 24, 2004, for use during the special Year of the Eucharist that began Oct. 17, 2005 and concluded in October 2006 with a world Synod of Bishops with the Eucharist as its theme. One monstrance each was sent to North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia.

The Holy Father presented the North American Continent monstrance to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for this purpose. In turn, the USCCB entrusted the monstrance to the USA Council of Serra International with instructions to fulfill the Pope's request: to ensure that this monstrance be used in local parishes so that all Catholics far and wide would come together and pray for vocations. The first diocese to receive the monstrance was Portland, Maine in 2005.

According to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the monstrance traveled to more than 45 dioceses in the United States and Canada within one year. It was decided that it would continue to travel among U.S. and Canadian dioceses, even after the Year of the Eucharist concluded in October of 2005.

I was moved the first time I saw the JP II monstrance and prayed at the adoration at the Serra International Conference in Louisiana last August 2024. Since then, I prayed and hope, that one day, our club could share this blessed monstrance to our Archdiocese of Portland. "And now, we are very excited that our Archdiocese is going to have this monstrance" said Melliza Palazo, who is now the President Elect / VP for Vocation of Portland Serra Club.

You can partake in adoration with this special monstrance at the parishes listed below. For more details please visit www.serraportland.org or the participating parishes below.

May 9, Friday, Mt. Angel Abbey

May 11, Sunday, Ascension Parish from 2:30-3:30 PM- Fr. David Jasper

MAY 12, Monday, FROM 9:00-10:30 AM -St. Pius X - Fr. Sean Weeks

May 13, Tuesday, from 9:00 AM-4:00 PM -St. Anthony, Tigard—Fr. John Henderson

May 14, Wednesday- 8:00- 4:00 PM -St. Thomas More- Fr. Martin King

May 15, Holy Trinity, 6-7:00 PM- Fr. Bill Holtzinger

May 16, Friday, from 7-9:00 PM- (possible 24hrs. adoration-TBD)-St. Rose of Lima - Fr. Matt Libra

May 18, Sunday, 1:15-5:00PM, St. John the Baptist – Fr. John Marshall

- May 20, Tuesday, 2-4pm Holy Family- Fr. Rodel De Mesa
- May 20, Tuesday 6:30 PM, St. Juan Diego- Fr. Hans Muller
- May 21, Wednesday, 9:15 AM- 12:00 PM St. Pius X Serra Club of Portland
- May 22, Thursday, from 9:30-10:30 AM -St. Wenceslaus- Fr. Dave Gutman
- May 23, Friday, after the noon mass 5:00 PM, The Grotto Fr. Leo Hambur
- May 25, Sunday, Noon to 5:00 PM- St. Stephen Parish- Fr. Eric Andersen
- May 26, Monday, 6:00 8PM, St. Clare, Fr. Don Gutman
- May 27, Tuesday, St. Cecilia- Fr. Mike Walker
- May 28, Wednesday, 8am 4pm St. Thomas More, Fr. Martin King
- May 28, Wednesday, 6:30 PM –St. Patrick, Downtown, Fr. Tim Furlow
- May 29, Thursday, 8 AM- 6: 30 PM St. Mary's Cathedral, Msgr. Gerard O'Connor
- June 01, Sunday, Resurrection Parish Fr. Bill Moisant
- June 3, Tuesday, 1:00 5:00 pm, Immaculate Conception Church Stayton, Fr. Luan Nguyen
- June 5, Thursday, Saint Paul- Fr. Scott Baier
- June 5, Thursday, St. Mary Catholic Church, Mt. Angel from 7:30 PM -midnight- Fr. Ralph Recker
- June 6, Friday, from 8:30-7PM, Our Lady of the Lake- Fr. John Kearns
- June 7-9, St. Alice Parish Fr. Mark Bentz

June 10-14- Diocese of Salt Lake City for Priestly Ordination

THE MONSTRANCE WILL COME BACK TO PORTLAND

- June 19, from 11 AM -Noon Thursday, St. Edwards, Keiser- Father Gary Zerr
- June 20, St. Vincent, Salem- Fr. Manuel Becerra
- June 21-22, Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist- Bridal Veil, OR
- June 23, Monday from 10 am-3pm, Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center
- June 24, St. Pius X- Serra Club of Portland

JUNE 26, SERRA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, Kansas, MO

Updated May 19, 2025

What is Serra Club?

Serrans are men and women of all ages and from all walks of life: all dedicated to promoting and fostering religious vocations. Serra is the only lay Catholic apostolate officially aggregated to the Vatican, which means we are part of and under the direction of the Vatican. At all times a cardinal is assigned to Serra for oversight and direction. There are about 200 Serra clubs in the US and about 8,000 Serra members in the US. Serra clubs work with and for the Bishop and his Vocation Director to foster and promote religious vocations.

The Serra Organization began in 1935 in Seattle, Washington and has spread to over 400 clubs in 46 countries with over 13,000 members worldwide.

Serra International and the US Serra Council are both 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Info above from SERRA USA

For more information about the JP II Monstrance and Serra Club, email **Melliza Palazo @mellizap@icloud.com**