



ORDINANDI
DINNER 2019



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 the Blessed Mary
ever Virgin, St. Joseph her spouse
Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints
an increase of labourers for your Church
fellow labourers with Christ
to spend and consume themselves for souls
through the same Jesus Christ Your Son
Who lives and reigns with You
in the unity of the Holy Spirit
one God forever and ever. Amen.



**“I have chosen you
out of the world”**

John 15:19



March 5, 2019

To Serrans across the Archdiocese of Toronto,

I wish to extend heartfelt congratulations on another immensely successful Ordinandi Dinner. To all those who work tirelessly throughout the year both on this event and so many other initiatives, be assured of my sincere appreciation for all that you do.

The theme of “vocations” is one of the pillars of our Archdiocesan Pastoral Plan. Each one of us is called to pray for vocations and encourage others to discern how God is calling them to serve. In this way, Serrans lead by example and it is evident that your efforts have made a profound impact on the journey of those discerning a call to the priesthood or religious life.

Please be assured of my gratitude for your magnificent efforts to foster a culture of vocations across the Archdiocese of Toronto. May God continue to bless you now and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

+ Thomas Card. Collins

Thomas Cardinal Collins
Archbishop of Toronto

Ordinandi Dinner Platinum Sponsor:
Catholic Cemeteries & Funeral Services, Archdiocese of Toronto

Ordinandi Youth Event Platinum Sponsor:
Novalis, Joseph Sinasac, Publisher

Gold Sponsors:
Luisa and Mario Biscardi, Toronto Central Serra
Ralph and Rose Chiodo, Active Green+Ross and Toronto Central Serra
(Sponsor of the Breviaries)
Bev David in memory of Howard David, deceased Serran
(Sponsor of the Youth Program)
Glen Day, Heritage Funeral Centre, Toronto
Silvio DeGasperi, TACC Developments Inc.

Benefactors:

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- Garry Beach, President, Durham Region Serra
- Joan Beaulieu, Toronto Downtown Serra
- Catholic Women's League, Toronto Archdiocesan Council
- Catholic Women's League, Nativity of Our Lord Council, Etobicoke
- Catholic Women's League, St. Mary of the People Parish, Oshawa
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- Knights of Columbus, Toronto Council 1388, Toronto
- The Loretto Sisters of Toronto
- Manalo sisters in memory of Remi Manalo St. Louis and Mila Manalo
- Fr. Larry Marcille, Blessed Sacrament Parish, Toronto
- Fr. Patrick O'Dea, St. Edward the Confessor Parish, Toronto
- Dennis Wahking, President, Markham-Scarborough Serra
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- Pina and Vince Primucci, Toronto Central Serra
- Connie and Argentino Sanita, Toronto Central Serra
- Imelda Santos
- Werner and Erika Scheliga
- Pat Tremamunno, Inox Industries Inc. and Toronto Central Serra

Celebration Program

- March 5, 2019 -

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Moira McQueen

6:15 p.m. Please be seated

6:30 p.m. Welcome

6:40 p.m. Blessing by His Eminence
Thomas Cardinal Collins

- Introduction of Honoured Guests
- Priests celebrating their 50th & 60th Anniversary of Ordination
- Presentation of Spiritual Bouquet
Ann D'Souza, President,
Toronto Archdiocesan Council of
The Catholic Women's League

Class of 2019

The Ordinandi from:
St. Augustine's Seminary
Redemptoris Mater Seminary

Tonight's Menu

Spiced Olives, Brie Cheese, Hummus and Pate served with Pita Points

Penne Rigate with Basil Scented
Tomato Sauce and Grated Parmigiano

Pan Seared Chicken Supreme, Red Wine and Mushroom Sauce

Oven Roasted Yukon Gold Potatoes and a Medley of Fresh Vegetables

Center Plate of Fine Pastries

Coffee and Tea

*For your dining pleasure a bottle of Red Wine and White Wine has been
provided to your table through the generosity of **Cilento Wines**.*

Additional wine may be purchased at the bar.



Serra international is formally recognized by the Holy See as the global lay apostolate for vocations in the Catholic Church. It is a volunteer organization of 20,000 Catholic men and women of all ages, races, occupations and backgrounds with over 1109 clubs in 46 different countries.

The Serra Mission:

- To foster and promote vocations to the ministerial priesthood in the Catholic Church as a particular vocation to service, and to support priests in their sacred ministry.
- To encourage and affirm vocations to consecrated religious life in the Catholic Church; and
- To assist its members to recognize and respond in their own lives to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit.



**Become a promoter of Vocations
You are invited to join SERRA
Learn the many ways to participate
and encourage Vocations**

Assure the Holy Presence of Jesus in our lives and for future generations

Toronto Downtown Serra Club

University of St. Michael's College, **Toronto**
Dane MacCarthy, President | d.macarthy@bell.net

Toronto West Serra Club

Canadiana Restaurant, Six Points Plaza, **Etobicoke**
Gary MacDonald, President | garymac@look.ca

Toronto Central Serra Club

Basilicata Cultural Society, 28 Roytec Rd. Unit 15, **Woodbridge**
Pat Tremamunno, President | pat@inoxindustries.com

Durham Region Serra Club

St. Joseph the Worker Parish, **Oshawa**
Gary Beach, President | safeguard1@outlook.com

Markham Scarborough Serra Club

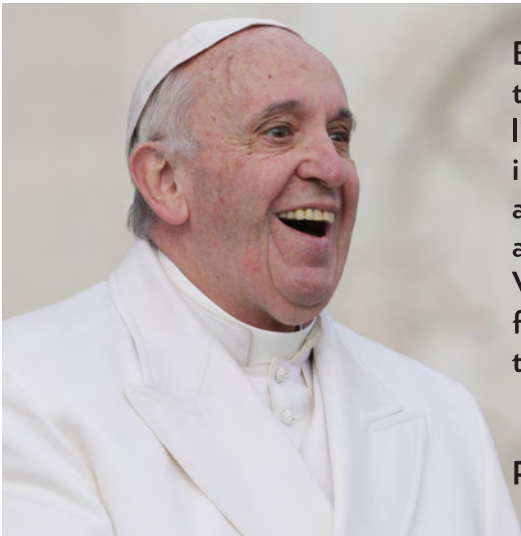
St. Barnabas Parish, 10 Washburn Way, **Scarborough**
Dennis Wahking, President | dennisw@decolabels.com

Serra Club of North Peel Region

St. Mary's Church, 66 Main St. S., **Brampton**
Teresa Buonafede, Founding President | tbuonafede@look.ca

For further information, please visit www.serracanada.com

Vocations, Vocations, Vocations



Behind and before every vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life there is always strong and intense prayer from someone: a grandmother, a grandfather, a mother, a father, a community ... Vocations are born in prayer and from prayer: and only in prayer can they persevere and bear fruit.

Pope Francis

2019 Ordinandi Dinner Committee

Chair of the Executive Committee: Celeste Iacobelli

Program Chair: Jerry Hayes

Finance Chair: Mario Biscardi

Youth Event Chair: Anne Brisbois-Abbott

Reception Chair: Anthony Mangione

Executive Committee:

Celeste Iacobelli, Fr. Chris Lemieux, Fr. John Mark Missio, Anthony Mangione, Mario Biscardi and Jerry Hayes.

Ordinandi Dinner Committee:

Garry Beach, George Damiani, Tony Ecolani, John Gennaro, Patrick Hearn, Dane MacCarthy, Gary MacDonald, Evelyn Manalo, Maria-Luz Manalo, Ann Mangione, Dr. Moira McQueen, Philomena Menezes, Emanuel Pires, Felisa & Fran Pulumbarit, Imelda Santos, Fr. Tomasz Skibinski, Pat Tremamunno, Carole Zedic-Osier

Special Guests:

- His Eminence Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto
- Most Reverend John A. Boissonneau, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto
- Most Reverend Wayne Kirkpatrick, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto
- Most Reverend Bishop Vincent Nguyen, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto
- Most Reverend Bishop Robert Kasun, Auxiliary Bishop of Toronto
- Archbishop Emeritus Lawrence J. Saldanha
- Fr. Cristino Bouvette, Vocation Director, Calgary
- Michael Bragg, President, Serra International Foundation
- Fr. Pierre Champoux, Vocation Director, Ottawa
- Ms. Ann D'Souza, President, Catholic Women's League, Toronto Archdiocesan Council
- John Gennaro, Past President, Serra International
- Dan Grady, Past President, Serra International
- Rev. Edwin Gonsalves, Rector, St. Augustine's Seminary
- Dan Heffernan, Ontario State Deputy, Knights of Columbus
- Dennis Leiber, Past President, Serra International
- Rev. Chris Lemieux, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto
- Fr. John Perdue, Vocation Director, Peterborough Diocese
- Rev. Tomasz Skibinski, Rector, Redemptoris Mater Seminary



The Ordinandi Youth Event

Serra International and Serra Foundation of Canada are committed to increasing vocations awareness among our youth. The Ordinandi Youth Event (OYE) is held specifically for Catholic high school students from across the Archdiocese of Toronto in collaboration with the six Catholic school boards and several independent Catholic schools. It is held in the morning on the same day as the Ordinandi Dinner and in the same venue. Over the past five years, since its inception, the **OYE** has been bringing together some 800 Catholic high school students chosen by their Chaplains from the 6 Catholic school boards and several independent Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Toronto to participate in an event that highlights the call to vocation and their Catholic faith.



OUR 2019 ORDINANDI



Mr. JiHwan Cho, 32, was born and raised in Korea. He played soccer until middle school and wanted to do this for a living; but when he was in high school, his desire to live for others became greater and he started to think about priesthood. In 2005, he joined the major seminary for Suwon Diocese right after high school. After seven years of formation, and before getting ordained as a deacon, he decided to take some time to discern a vocation to a religious order. After one year of discernment, he came to Canada to join the Archdiocese of Toronto. Eventually, he joined the archdiocese and is completing his studies at St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto. He is eagerly looking to serve the people of God as a Priest.



Rev. Mr. Renan Roberto Costa, 31, born and raised in Pitangueiras, a small town in the interior of the state of Sao Paulo in Brazil, was the first born of two children. He graduated and specialized in Human Resources, in the area which he worked for a French Bank in Brazil before entering the Seminary. He entered the Neocatechumenal Way when he was 16 years old, where he first felt and discerned the call to the priesthood. It was precisely in 2010 when he was sent to Italy to a retreat where he was picked by random and sent to Toronto in Canada. As a Seminarian at the Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary of Toronto, he graduated in Philosophy at the Oratory of Saint Philip Neri. He did missionary work in Winnipeg for a year, and finally studied Theology at Saint Augustine's Seminary. He is looking forward to faithfully and freely serving the people of the Archdiocese of Toronto and being a sign of God's faithfulness and mercy in this generation.

OUR 2019 ORDINANDI



Rev. Mr. Eduardo de Oliveira Paixão, 29, was born and raised in Salto, São Paulo, Brazil. He is the second of three boys. Growing up in a Catholic family he was brought to Mass every Sunday. He recalls that at eight years old he would tell his pastor that one day he would become a priest. The loss of his father in 1998 was a huge shock in his life that left himself questioning whether or not God was present in his life. Encouraged by his mother and friends, in 2004 he joined the Neocatechumenal Way in his home parish, and as the time passed he began to rediscover the love of God in his life and his family. Finishing high school in 2006 he again felt the call to the priesthood; he was then sent by his catechists from the Neocatechumenal Way to do some experience of missionary work in the south of Brazil and also in the Amazon. He entered the Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary in 2012 and now looks forward to serving the people of the Archdiocese of Toronto.



Rev. Mr. Gregory Merkley, 30, was born in Kitchener, Ontario into a family not actively practicing any religion. Despite attending Catholic school he eventually became a practical atheist, arguing there was no evidence for God's existence. During university, he was drawn towards the faith by a faithful young woman he was dating. He began going to Church again, asking the priest all his tough questions. Not only did he find excellent answers to all his questions, but most importantly, he experienced the peace and joy that can only come by a personal relationship with Jesus. An "Alpha" retreat weekend helped him to fully commit his life to God no matter what the cost, but he resisted what seemed to be a call to the priesthood. Several years of prayer, Eucharistic Adoration, spiritual direction and many parish involvements passed. After a Come-and-See weekend, he felt that God was now calling him to join the seminary. Grateful to God for the gift of his vocation and the joy it has given him, Rev. Mr. Merkley looks forward to serving the people of God in the Diocese of Hamilton.

OUR 2019 ORDINANDI



Rev. Mr. Mauricio Gilo Sanjines Calatayud, 36, was born in La Paz Bolivia. He is a seminarian at the Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary. He comes from a family of 7 siblings, he is the oldest boy and has an older sister. All his family is in Bolivia and, although his parents did not accept his vocation at the beginning, they are now very grateful to the Lord for his Diaconate and Priestly Ordination. The first time he felt the call to the priesthood was at the World Youth Day in Paris 1997; he was in High School, at that time. In his 5th year of University, he left his studies to do missionary work in different cities around his country. Then, he entered the Seminary. He belongs to the Neocatechumenal Way, and after attending a retreat in Italy, his name was drawn by lots and he was sent to the seminary in Toronto, he never expected to come to Canada. Looking back, he sees how God has always been guiding and calling him. Looking forward, he sees his priesthood as a vocation to serve the People of God in the Archdiocese of Toronto and anywhere in the world.



Rev. Mr John Michael Schnurr, 33, grew up on a dairy farm near Formosa, Ontario. He is the second of eight children, and he and his siblings were homeschooled for both elementary and high school. Although he considered the priesthood as a teenager, it was not something that he felt called to pursue. After high school, he studied for 4 years at Seneca college in the aviation program, and graduated with a commercial pilot licence in 2009. He worked as a flight instructor in Hanover, Ontario for a year and a half, and then moved to Winnipeg to fly for a small charter airline. It was during this time that he again felt God calling, and began the application process to seminary. In 2013 he quit his job and entered formation at St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto. He still flies occasionally, and is looking forward to serving the people of God as a priest in the Diocese of Hamilton.

OUR 2019 ORDINANDI



Mr. Vang Tran, 33, was born and raised in Vietnam, and baptized as Joseph after the patron saint of Vietnam. He has two sisters, who are both nuns, and three brothers. In his second year of university, one of his classmates invited him to attend a seminary program for young men that talked about the priestly vocation. He was very impressed with that visit and continued to participate in that program in his later years of university. After graduating, he applied to be a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Hanoi. He began his seminary studies in 2010 at St. Joseph's Seminary of Hanoi completing the Spiritual Year, Philosophy training, and Internship Year. He was sent by his Archbishop in late 2014 to study Theology at St. Augustine's Seminary of Toronto, Canada. With the generous support of the Archdiocese of Toronto, he will complete the Theology program. He will return to Vietnam in the coming summer to serve the Lord and His people there.



Rev. Mr. Joseph Vivek Trindade, 53, was born in Calcutta, India, but has lived most of his life in Mumbai, India. His parents are deceased, and he has two older sisters. Due to his father's Govt. postings he went through 6 school changes between two cities (Mumbai and Calcutta). He finished school with the Christian Brothers and his B.Sc degree with the Jesuits both in Mumbai. He had a powerful St-Philip-Neri-like God experience in 1988 while working as a copywriter. Life thereafter was never the same. He soon quit advertising, and after 3 years of informal 'formation' plunged headlong into voluntary ministry first in Mumbai (full time), then Dubai (while working) and then in Mumbai again (while caring for his mother). Vivek worked with Emirates in Dubai for 11 years. He quit his job in 2005 to look after his mother in India for the last 7 years of her life. He came to Canada to visit his sister after his mother passed. It is here at a 'Come and See' Weekend that that the Lord called him to the priesthood. He is committed to doing the Will of God no matter the cost.

OUR 2019 ORDINANDI



Rev. Mr. João Gilberto Veras Ferreira, 34, was born on June 24th, the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist; He was raised in Brasilia, the Capital of Brazil. He has two loving parents, Gilberto and Maria Ferreira, as well two young sisters Glaucy and Glaucyele. One of his passions while growing up was soccer, and he played semi-professional soccer for four years. Even though it was something that gave him joy, he felt many times that something was missing in his life. His vocation story began to deepen more about 15 years ago when he joined the Neocatechumenal Way community in his home parish; he was very much moved by their witness of faith and great example of love for God and for the Church. In 2009 he entered the Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary of Brasilia, and in 2011 he transferred to the Redemptoris Mater Missionary Seminary in Toronto. He is eager to help God's people, and he believes that Jesus is calling him to do even more for His people in the sacramental priesthood.



Vocations, Witness to the Truth

"A vocation is a fruit that ripens in a well-cultivated field of mutual love that becomes mutual service, in the context of an authentic ecclesial life. No vocation is born of itself or lives for itself. A vocation flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people, in the experience of fraternal love."

- POPE FRANCIS FOR THE 51ST WORLD
DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The Office of Vocations Website

The Vocations Office for the Archdiocese of Toronto has been given a facelift. Connect online at www.vocationstoronto.ca with the vocations office for information on Come and See Weekends, high school retreats, formation information and resources to help in your discernment.

Vocation Prayer for Discernment

God, I know You love me and have great plans for me. But sometimes I am overwhelmed by the thought of my future. Show me how to walk forward one day at a time. May I take heart while I search openly, learn about all the choices, listen to others for advice, and pay attention to my own feelings. By doing these things, May I hear Your call to a lifestyle and a career that will let me love as only I can, and let me serve others with the special gifts that you have given me. *Amen*

 OFFICE OF VOCATIONS
ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

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WHAT IS A VOCATION?

God has made each of us in His image and likeness. When He created you, He willed in you a specific purpose that can bring you fulfillment and profound joy. A vocation is the particular way that God calls you to live out your life.

[Read more](#)



FR. CHRIS LEMIEUX
DIRECTOR OF VOCATIONS







***Living with Christ* offers our prayers
and congratulations to the 2019 ordinandi**

Rev. Mr. Mauricio Sanjines Calatayud

Mr. JiHwan Cho

Rev. Mr. Renan Costa

Rev. Mr. João Veras Ferreira

Rev. Mr. Gregory Merkley

Rev. Mr. Eduardo de Oliveira Paixao

Rev. Mr. John Schnurr

Mr. Vang Tran

Rev. Mr. Vivek Trindade

**To show our appreciation, we are providing a year's
complimentary subscription to each man.**

Canada's companion to praying and living the Eucharist

**Living
with
Christ**



NOVALIS

***Congratulations to those priests celebrating their
50th & 60th Anniversary of their Priestly Ordination***

50th Anniversary

Rev. Gerald F. Dunn

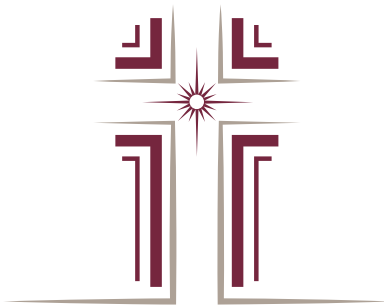
Rev. Mose Gasparini

Rev. Florentine A. Rajaratnam

60th Anniversary

Rev. Edward P. Ewczynski

Rev. Msgr. Expedito S.V. Joano C.H.H.



CATHOLIC & CEMETERIES
FUNERAL SERVICES
ARCHDIOCESE OF TORONTO

**“Well done my good and faithful servant,
come and share your Master’s happiness!”**

Lord God, You chose our brothers to serve Your people as priests and to share the joys and burdens of their lives. Look with mercy on them and give them the reward of their labours, the fullness of life promised to those who preach Your Holy Gospel.

In loving memory of our beloved priests who have gone to their eternal home.

Rev. Marshal A. Beriault

Rev. Msgr. Terence F. D’Souza C.H.H.

Rev. Charles F. Reeves

Rev. Garnet F. Sauve

Rev. Francis Voorwerk



2019 Ordinandi Class

l to r - Rev. Mr. Mauricio Sanjines, Mr. Vang Tran, Mr. JiHwan Cho, Rev. Mr. Eduardo Paixão,
Rev. Mr. Renan Costa, Rev. Mr. Joseph Vivek Trindade, Rev. Mr. John Schnurr,
Rev. Mr. João Ferreira, Rev. Mr. Gregory Merkley

