



**The Serra Club of Arlington**  
*Minutes for Tuesday 03 May, 2022 | Luncheon Meeting*  
*The Portofino Restaurant | Arlington, Virginia*



**GUEST SPEAKER – CARMEN (CHINA) BRICENO, CONSECRATED VIRGIN**

Carmen (*Chee-na*) Briceño was consecrated into the Order of Virgins in 2009. She is dedicated to the work of evangelization by means of art and beauty through her store Sacred Print as well as through her speaking ministry which includes talks, workshops, print articles, and a weekly nationally broadcast radio program through Radio Maria Spanish. Her passion for mission has taken her all over the world to spread the Good News in both English and Spanish.

Highlights from Carmen Briceno presentation below are with respect to her experiences as a consecrated virgin and glorifying Christ with her talents, as follows:

- Home country of Venezuela. Father was a diplomat. Her name China is pronounced as “Chee-na.”
- Being from Venezuela, thought being “Christian” means that they were Catholic
- Priest, who was a friend, answered her many questions. E.g., Why do you pray to Mary? Met once a month. Asked, “Do you want to be a Saint?”
- God put passion in her heart and purified it. She is doing the Will of God.
- Began with a college flyer for vocations retreat. Asked to consider: “What are your passions?”, and “Ask God how you can use your passions for God’s glory.”
- Attended World Youth Day and was inspired by attendees from around the world that were excited.
- In 2020, marked 50 years since Pope Paul VI revived the ancient Order of Virgins. Consecrated virgins that now number approximately 5,000 and live in every part of the world. In the past, the virgins usually became martyred.
- Dominican sister – “is God calling you to be exclusively His?”
- Her wedding was August 2009. It should have been in Venezuela but given travel restrictions, her Venezuelan bishop traveled to the U.S. She wears a wedding ring and is not a nun, nor does she live in a convent. But is, and have always been, celibate.
- Travels the world to glorify God and serve others. Art centric with photographs and paintings.
- “Good questions lead to prayerful thought.” Mother – “How are you experiencing God today?”