

Junipero Serra

On November 24, 1713, in Mallorca, Spain, a man filled with the Holy Spirit was born. His name was Junipero Serra. At the age of 16, Father Serra entered the Franciscan Order of the Catholic Church and spent his time teaching and learning. That changed in the year 1750 when he became a missionary in the New World. Father Serra taught the natives of the land about God's love. The gifts of courage and knowledge guided Junipero Serra throughout his life.

Courage gives a person the inner strength to do what's right. Since receiving courage at Confirmation, it plays as large role in my life. Courage helps me choose Christ-like words that show the I am a Christian. Using words that reflect the life of Christ can be difficult in this world when acting unkind is considered cool. Junipero Serra showed valor when he decided to evangelize in the New World.

Junipero Serra also illustrated the gift of knowledge. Knowledge allows a person to know God and determine the difference between right and wrong. Father Serra demonstrated knowledge by choosing to teach the natives about God. Knowledge assists me in knowing God better. It encourages me to understand what God wants of me.

To conclude, I may not be able to travel to different countries to teach about Christ like Junipero Serra, but acting lovingly, I can share God's love in my community. Courage and knowledge will help me use my faith and act as Junipero Serra did.