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of San Francisco

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April 29, 2004

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the Easter Season! Hot on the heels of Lent we are having our first social of the year – tonight, in fact, at McArthur Park restaurant at 6:00 p.m., only hours away from when this letter is being written (and sent to those on the email list in time, hopefully, to serve as a reminder). We hope you could make it. It is the first time we are participating in an event with our brethren from the STMS at USF Law School.

At our lunch this month we were again graced with a speaker from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley. Professor Gina Hens-Piazza gave a very thoughtful talk about scripture interpretation from the point of view of those not normally part of the mainstream. For example, although in the big picture Sampson is regarded as a biblical hero, upon reflection it isn't surprising that an American Indian, cognizant of the land deprivations of his ancestors, would focus more on Samson's taking away of the lands of those he conquered than Samson's victories. It wasn't so much a denigration of Sampson as it was a reflection on the need to focus on the less well-known biblical participants and their roles in God's plan that have largely been ignored.

Richard Spohn, a former president of the Society, will speak at our luncheon on May 20th at the Banker's Club on the 52nd floor of the Bank of America Building, 555 California Street. Drawing on his experiences in Latin America while initiating programs for war-placed indigenous women, health care education program for women, and dialogue and conflict resolution for top management and labor leaders, his topic will be "Close Counters with the Enlightenment: A Working Sabbatical in Guatemala." Please fill out and return the bottom of this letter to Hugh Donohoe by May 18, 2004. If you have questions, Hugh can be reached at (415) 274-6320 or hdonohoe@ropers.com.

We now have 85 members receiving the newsletter by email and 104 by hard copy. Perhaps we can get under 100 by the next newsletter. Just notify me by email.

This is the last reminder to send in your 2004 dues. A culled list will form the basis for the next newsletter. Please contact Hugh as noted above. If you still have the dues envelope sent in January, please correct Hugh's zip code to read 94105.

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, June 24th. The (okay, I'll say it) hated Dodgers come to town and we have 25 tickets in an upper reserve section on the third base side of SBC Park. Ducats are a mere \$25 apiece, and the start time of 4:05 p.m. is ideal for those who can leave the office a little early and want to get home at a decent hour. If you're interested, please email Stacy Stecher at sstecher@tobinlaw.com or call her at (415) 433-1400. (Ecumenical as we are, you can come even if you're a Dodger fan.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 20 – Richard Spohn, former president of the Society, will speak on “Close Encounters with the Enlightenment: A Working Sabbatical in Guatemala.”

June 17 – Father Brian Joyce, pastor of Christ the King Parish in the East Bay, a very dynamic speaker with a national reputation, on (as of press time) “*The Da Vinci Code* and Scripture”.

September 16 – Bishop Allen Vigneron, formerly of Detroit, on his new ministry as Bishop of Oakland.

September 18 – Sacred Spaces Tour with Jean Molesky-Poz from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

October 21 – Red Mass at Sts. Peter & Paul Church followed by dinner.

November 18 – Pastors’ lunch; Dr. Brian Swimme, cosmologist, will speak.

December 8 – Christmas lunch

Sincerely,



Stephen G. Walker
President

Hugh A. Donohoe
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Please reserve _____ places at \$30 per person (\$15 for law students) for the Society luncheon on May 20, 2004. My check, payable to The St. Thomas More Society, for _____ is enclosed.

Member name _____

Phone Number _____ e-mail _____

I'd like to sponsor a law student, today's speaker, or our chaplain.
Enclosed is an additional \$ _____

Please reserve by May 18, 2004