

St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco

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www.stthomasmore-sf.org

Address Correspondence To:

J. Dennis McQuaid
Hanson Bridgett LLP
425 Market Street
26th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
Telephone: (415) 995-5066
Facsimile: (415) 995-3567
dmcquaid@hansonbridgett.com

Chaplain Msgr. Labib Kobti

May 12, 2010

Dear Members,

At our April luncheon, through the efforts of Board member **Tom Hockel**, we had as our speaker the noted theologian Father Joseph Fessio, S.J. Father Fessio focused his talk on the recent media regarding the clergy abuse scandal, especially in the light of all the recent adverse publicity against Pope Benedict XVI. We had a lively and informative discussion and were fortunate to hear Father Fessio's insights on this controversial and troubling subject.

Following shortly after the April luncheon, we continued the discussion of dealing with the publicity about clergy abuse and the difficulty it presents to the faithful at a lively Theology on Tap discussion led by **Dean Jeff Brand** and **Father Donal Godfrey**. Their subject was: "Faith perspectives on the current crisis in the Vatican regarding criticism over the Church's handling of clergy abuse."

COMING EVENTS

May Luncheon: We are privileged to have as our speaker Bishop Salvatore J. Cordileone of the Diocese of Oakland who will share with us his experience as an assistant at the Supreme Tribunal of the Apostolic Signatura, the Church's highest canonical court in the Vatican and its important role in the governance of the Church. The luncheon will be held at noon on Thursday, May 27th, at the Family Club, corner of Bush and Powell Streets. **Please take advantage of this opportunity to meet this dynamic new Bishop of Oakland and make your reservation using the attached reservation form. Bishop Cordileone's vitae is attached.**

Please remember that if you know of a prospective member, you may bring such prospect to our luncheon as your guest at no charge.

Future Speakers and Events:

- June 17 Father Jay Matthews of St. Benedict's Parish in Oakland, a Catholic historian who will focus on the role the Catholic African-American community in the Civil Rights movement. MCLE credit will be available for this presentation.
- August 8 Special Red Mass at 9 a.m. and Reception following at St. Mary's Cathedral during the ABA Convention (contact Adrian Driscoll for information @ adriscoll@ropers.com).
- Sept. 23 Bishop William Justice, Auxiliary Bishop of San Francisco - at luncheon honoring our past St. Thomas More Award winners and Past Presidents.

- Oct. 21 Save the Date for our Annual Red Mass and Dinner.
- Nov. 15 This will be a special luncheon on Monday (rather than Thursday to accommodate our speaker) at our annual Pastors Luncheon where every member is encouraged to invite your pastor or other parish priests as our guests. Our speaker will be the noted scholar and writer, Sister Sandra Schneiders of the Jesuit School of Theology at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, who will address the role of and issues facing women religious in the United States today. This luncheon promises to be another highlight of our year.

In closing, I want to acknowledge how fortunate we are to have the dedication and hard work of the current Executive Committee of the St. Thomas More Society. Each is contributing significantly to the exciting programs we are having. Please thank them when you see them:

- Past President **Greg Schopf** who arranged for the program with Bishop Cordileone.
- Vice President **Adrian Driscoll** who is planning the special Red Mass at the ABA convention.
- Vice President **Justice Martin Jenkins** and **Justice Robert Dondero** who are coordinating the September past Presidents and Awardees luncheon with Bishop Justice.
- Treasurer **Tom Hockel**.
- Secretary **Bob Zaletel**.

Board members:

- Jeff Brand** who has prepared our outstanding Theology on Tap programs;
- Matt Graham** and **Tom Llewellyn** who organized our Day of Recollection at the Cathedral of Christ the Light;
- Tim Crudo** who initiated our service project at the St. Anthony's Dining Room;
- Isabelle Ord** who is in charge of our annual Red Mass and dinner in October
- Our chaplain, **Monsignor Labib Kobti** of St. Thomas More Parish in San Francisco who always leads us in thoughtful prayers such as the following:

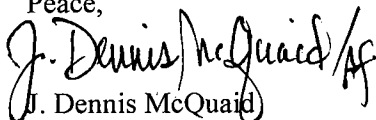
Prayer to St. Thomas More

Thomas More, counselor of law and statesman of integrity, merry martyr and most human of saints:

Pray that, for the glory of God and in the pursuit of His justice, I may be trustworthy with confidences, keen in study, accurate in analysis, correct in conclusion, able in argument, loyal to clients, honest with all, courteous to adversaries, ever attentive to conscience. Sit with me at my desk and listen with me to my clients' tales. Read with me in my library and stand always beside me so that today I shall not, to win a point, lose my soul.

Pray that my family may find in me what yours found in you: friendship and courage, cheerfulness and charity, diligence in duties, counsel in adversity, patience in pain-their good servant, and God's first. Amen.

Peace,



J. Dennis McQuaid
President
St. Thomas More Society

Attachments: Bishop Cordileone Vitae
Membership Form
RSVP - May Luncheon