

St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco

www.stthomasmore-sf.org

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Regis Servus Dei Prius

October 6, 2015

Dear Members and Friends of the Society:

Happy new year!

October traditionally marks the beginning of the legal year and with it the annual Red Mass. The mass, which traces its earliest roots to Paris, has been taken place since at least 1248. For centuries the Red Mass was celebrated in the exquisite chapel of the Order of Advocates, La Sainte Chapelle, built by King Louis IX of France who is better known today as St. Louis – even though he was never a Cardinal. In certain provinces of France, the Red Mass was celebrated in honor of St. Ives, then the patron saint of lawyers, who was born in Brittany in 1253 and was canonized in 1347. In England, the custom dates to approximately 1310 during the reign of Edward I, a tradition that continues more than 700 years later, as you can see from these photos taken last week at the Red Mass in Westminster Cathedral, London.
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/catholicwestminster/21834129936/in/photostream/>. The Red Mass was first celebrated in the United States in 1928 at St. Andrew's Church in New York City, near the courthouses of Foley Square.

In England, the entire Bench and Bar attended the Red Mass together at the opening of each term of Court. Since the priest celebrant wore red robes, the judges of the High Court in the time of Edward I, who were all doctors of the law, conformed to the ecclesiastical tradition and also wore red robes, a practice that is still honored today as you can see from the photo below. While American lawyers don't don red robes (or wigs), the priests continue to wear red vestments to symbolize the Holy Spirit's descent upon the Apostles at Pentecost.



Although the San Francisco Red Mass doesn't date back to the Middle Ages, we do have our own history, as can be seen from this photo from the 1942 Red Mass taken in front of Old St. Mary's Cathedral.



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We continue this wonderful centuries-old tradition on October 22, when we will celebrate the Red Mass at Ss. Peter and Paul Church, 666 Filbert Street, at 5:30 p.m. Please join us for the high point of our year as we pray for blessing and guidance for judges, attorneys, law school professors, law students, government officials, and all others involved in the legal and justice systems, and indeed for all who seek justice.

At the conclusion of the mass, we will present the annual St. Thomas More Award, which is bestowed annually upon a member of our community who exemplifies the Society's goal of practicing the ideals of service and sacrifice in the pursuit of justice as reflected in the life and death of St. Thomas More. This year's award will be presented to Judge Kevin V. Ryan (ret.). A celebratory dinner will follow nearby at the Italian Athletic Social Club, 1630 Stockton Street. An invitation and reservation form are attached to this newsletter. We look forward to having you join us for this festive kick-off to our legal new year.

September Lunch Re-Cap

Those who attended our September lunch were treated to a very special presentation by Deputy California Attorney General Louis Karlin, a noted scholar, speaker, and author of numerous works about Thomas More, who discussed the Thomas More of fact and fiction in a search for the real man – Patron or Pretender? Lou's depth of knowledge and love of subject made for a very entertaining and educational program. He also left us with a reading list for those interested in reading more about our patron. A copy of the list, which includes a discount to his latest book, *Thomas More: Why Patron of Statesmen?*, is attached to this newsletter.

Because of this month's Red Mass, there is no lunch in October. Our next lunch will be Thursday, November 19, when our speaker will be renowned historian Charles Fracchia. The November lunch is also traditionally our Pastor Lunch, so please invite your pastor to join us.

Theology on Tap

Join us for Theology on Tap with Rev. Donal Godfrey, S.J., on November 11 at 5:30 at Coblenz, Patch, Duffy & Bass, LLP, One Montgomery Tower (entry on Kearny Street), Suite 3000. Libations will be served along with a discussion of "Pope Francis in the U.S." RSVP to Andres Orphanopoulos at orphanopoulos@gmail.com.

Mass at San Quentin

Members and friends of the Society are invited to join the congregation at San Quentin State Penitentiary for 10:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays. The prison allows up to 10 visitors each Sunday, and advance clearance is required. If you are interested in attending, please contact Rev. George Williams, S.J., the prison's Catholic Chaplain, at least two weeks in advance. You will need to provide him with the full name, date of birth, social security number, and driver's license number for each visitor. You can reach Fr. Williams at george.williams.cdcr@ca.gov.

Mentor Program

With law students returning to school and newly minted lawyers embarking on their careers, this is a great time to get involved with our Mentor Program, which matches law students and younger lawyers with more experienced attorneys who share practice and other interests. If you would like to participate as a mentor or mentee, please indicate your interest on the Membership Application or contact Laura Vartain Horn at lvartain@gmail.com.

Oakland Diocese Pro Bono Legal Clinic

The Diocese of Oakland has started a pro bono legal clinic to serve the poor and needy in Oakland. At 5:00 p.m. on December 8, mass will be offered at the Christ the Light Cathedral in Oakland to celebrate the launch of the legal clinic. Bishop Michael Barber, S.J., who has taken a personal interest in the success of the clinic, will be the celebrant. He chose December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and the beginning of Pope Francis's Year of Mercy, to launch the clinic. This will be a great opportunity to learn about the clinic and celebrate mass at the cathedral. If you are interested in attending the mass or getting involved in the clinic, please contact Nico Herrera at 917-774-3511 or at nico@herreralegal.com.

Chaplin's Corner

“The Road to De-Mask Us”

I recently attended a conference on helping troubled marriages. The conference was sponsored by Retrouvaille, an international Catholic ministry that provides a lifeline for couples who live in the disappointment and pain of a hurting marriage. The cornerstone of this important ministry is an intense weekend experience that helps married couples to communicate more effectively.

On Friday night of the weekend experience, presenters call attention to a protective behavior we all use to cover up our insecurities and anxieties. Very early in life, we discover that by exhibiting certain behaviors we are able to earn affection and acceptance from others. As these behaviors become ingrained, they develop into “masks” we wear in order to win approval and become the principal way we interact with other people. But so often these masks are used, most of the time unconsciously, to manipulate others. When this happens, we keep ourselves from relating openly and honestly with those around us. Masks also can result in setting impossible goals for ourselves, and the failure to fulfill those goals reinforces our already poor self-image.

One of the most insidious masks attorneys wear is that of “Super-Lawyer” -- the eminently competent, unflappable, single-mindedly zealous attorney known for his or her superior legal skills and winning results. I remember starting my legal career as a young lawyer at O'Melveny & Myers. Although the firm provided much support and a generous learning curve, I quickly came to understand that, in the law, imperfection could not be tolerated because the slightest error could cost a client a great deal of money. To win the approval of my superiors, the mask of “Super-Lawyer” therefore was inevitable.

I would never suggest that attorneys should provide anything less than fully competent representation. But the level of perfection that seems to be required in legal work can easily become unmanageable, leading to substance abuse, impatience, and other self-defeating behaviors. It also can spill over into our personal lives, resulting in unsatisfying relationships and self-loathing behavior.

Chapter 9 of the Acts of the Apostles recounts the story of Saint Paul's conversion that led him to stop persecuting Christians and become a follower of Christ. Paul was traveling from Jerusalem on the road to Damascus when he saw a blinding light, heard the voice of Jesus, and reformed his way of life. One of the most meaningful conversions we can experience as attorneys is to remove our Super-Lawyer masks and admit that we are human, that we are not perfect, and that, ultimately, we are not in control.

Indeed, Christian discipleship is not about perfection or success. Just look at the life of Christ. He was born to poor parents in a cold and dark cave outside the city. He became a refugee in a foreign country when his parents learned that Herod wanted to kill him. He was brought up in a working class family and labored by the sweat of his brow. He spent his life as an itinerant preacher with no place to lay his head, proclaiming the gospel to everyone he met, most of whom rejected him. In his final hours, he stooped down like a servant to wash his disciples' feet and then mounted the cross and died. In the eyes of the world, Jesus was an utter failure.

As we mark the beginning of the judicial term this month with the Red Mass on October 22, let us remember that our own patron saint also died an inglorious death and that we need only to be faithful to our Catholic beliefs and values in order to be truly successful in life. To the extent we are willing to admit our dependency on God and others, acknowledge our imperfections, ask for forgiveness, seek comfort in friends and spouses, and pray to God for help in everything, then we can begin to start down that same Road to De-Mask Us on which Saint Paul found his life's work and genuine peace.

■ Father Roger Gustafson, Chaplain

2015 Dues

The 2015 Membership Form is attached to this letter and may be used to pay your dues and to update membership records. Annual dues for 2015 are \$75.00 for attorneys with five years or more of practice and \$25.00 for retired attorneys and those with fewer than five years of practice. Law student membership is free. Your dues are essential to the Society and enable us to fund events, attract quality speakers, and award scholarships, so please get them in. You can make your dues payment through PayPal or Venmo by following the links provided above.

We are continuing our efforts to attract new members, particularly among younger lawyers, and we encourage you to help us recruit new members to join the Society. Feel free to start by forwarding this newsletter to someone you think may be interested in joining.

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Remember that lunch is free for prospective members, so bring along a colleague, a friend, a parishioner, or even opposing counsel to our next lunch.

* * *

We welcome your input, so if you have any questions, comments, or ideas for the Society, please feel free to contact any member of the Executive Committee.

Your good servant,



Timothy P. Crudo
President

**ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO
2015 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

*Use this form to pay your annual dues and update your membership record.
New members may use this form to join the Society.*

Name: _____

Firm, Company, Court, or School: _____

Area(s) of Practice: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Parish: _____

Year Admitted to Bar: _____ **Retired from Practice?** _____

Law Student? _____ **Note: Law students membership is free.**

Would you like to participate in our Mentor Program as a mentor or mentee? _____

Please accompany this application with your dues payment. Annual dues for 2015 are \$75.00 for attorneys with five years or more of practice and \$25.00 for retired attorneys and those with fewer than five years of practice. Law student membership is free. Please make checks payable to St. Thomas More Society.

Return form and check to:
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North Coast Land Holdings LLC
2350 Kerner Boulevard, Suite 360
San Rafael, California 94901
Phone 650-224-1129 | Fax 415-461-5946
orphanopoulos@gmail.com

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Regis Servus Dei Prius

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

THE 2015 RED MASS

Saints Peter & Paul Church
666 Filbert Street
San Francisco
Thursday, October 22, 2015
5:30 p.m.

Sponsored by

THE ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Honoring 2015 St. Thomas More Award Recipient

JUDGE KEVIN V. RYAN (RET.)

Reception and Dinner to follow
The San Francisco Italian Athletic Club
1630 Stockton Street
San Francisco
7:00 p.m.
Reservation Form Enclosed

A response is requested by Monday, October 19, 2015

JUDGE KEVIN V. RYAN (RET.)

Raised in San Francisco by immigrant parents, Judge Kevin V. Ryan (ret.) attended St. Ignatius College Preparatory, where he was a recognized scholar-athlete and captain of both the varsity football and track teams. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in History from Dartmouth College in 1980 and his Juris Doctor in 1984 from the University of San Francisco School of Law.

Judge Ryan's legal career began as a prosecutor with the Alameda County District Attorney's Office. While in the District Attorney's office, he handled a variety of cases, including homicides and violent gang prosecutions. He was serving as a member of the Violent Gang Suppression Unit when Governor Pete Wilson appointed him in 1996 to serve as a Judge on the San Francisco Municipal Court. In 1998 he was honored as the Municipal Trial Judge of the Year by the San Francisco Trial Lawyers' Association. That same year the Irish-Israeli-Italian Society of San Francisco recognized him for "Outstanding Service to the Community." The following year he was elevated to the San Francisco Superior Court, where he served until 2002.

Judge Ryan was serving as the Presiding Judge of the Criminal Division of the San Francisco Superior Court when President Bush appointed him to serve as the 48th United States Attorney for the Northern District of California. He served as the highest federal prosecutor in the Northern District, which stretches from Monterey to the Oregon-California border, from 2002 through 2007, where he oversaw the investigation and litigation of all criminal and civil cases brought and defended in the district on behalf of the United States. In that role he supervised over 100 Assistant U.S. Attorneys in San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose who handled everything from white collar and organized crime to civil rights violations, environmental crimes, and national security matters. He also served on the President's national Corporate Fraud Task Force and the Department of Justice's Task Force on Intellectual Property as well as the Executive Board of the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force.

In 2008, Judge Ryan was appointed by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom to serve as his Deputy Chief of Staff and as the Director of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice. He joined the administration during a period of troubling crime trends in San Francisco, and he was specifically tasked with driving policies designed to reverse the trends. During his tenure, the City witnessed a dramatic turnaround in the homicides and other violent crimes.

After 25 years in public service, Judge Ryan left to practice law in the private sector. Even so, he continues to serve, including as an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of San Francisco School of Law, where he teaches a course on white-collar crime. He has also taught law at the National University Ireland, Galway, and at Cork University, Ireland. In addition he has served on the Board of Directors of the Schools of the Sacred Heart, the Board of Governors of the USF Law School Alumni Association, the Executive Committee of the USF Inn of Court, and the Board of the Northern California Chapter of the Special Olympics. He and Anne, his wife of 31 years, also serve the poor and the sick with the Knights of Malta. They are the proud parents of two adult children, Patrick and William, and are very active participants at both Saint Ignatius and St. Dominic parishes.

St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco

**2015 RED MASS
RECEPTION AND DINNER**

RESERVATION FORM

**HONORING JUDGE KEVIN V. RYAN (RET.)
RECIPIENT OF THE 2015 ST. THOMAS MORE AWARD**

Thursday, October 22, 2015
The San Francisco Italian Athletic Club
1630 Stockton Street, San Francisco

Please reserve ___ Banquet places at \$90 per person
Please reserve ___ Banquet places at \$45 per person (clergy and students)

Name: _____ Chicken _____ Salmon _____ Eggplant _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Names of others in your party for whom payment is submitted (use additional sheets if necessary):

_____ Chicken _____ Salmon _____ Eggplant _____

_____ Chicken _____ Salmon _____ Eggplant _____

Please return this form and a check payable to the St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco to:

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San Rafael, California 94901
Phone 650-224-1129 | Fax 415-461-5946
orphanopoulos@gmail.com

Payment may also be made via Paypal to stthomasmoresf@yahoo.com.

PLEASE RESPOND BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015

Thomas More Reading List

Primary Sources

A Thomas More Source Book, G.B. Wegemer & S.W. Smith, eds. (Catholic University of America, 2004)

Thomas More, *Four Last Things/The Supplication of Souls/A Dialogue on Conscience* Paperback (Scepter Pub. 2002) (Mary Gottschalk, ed.)

Thomas More, *The Sadness of Christ* (Yale Univ. Press trans. by Clarence Miller) (Scepter Pub. 1997)

The Last Letters of Thomas More, ed. Alvaro De Silva (William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2000)

Biographies

Peter Ackroyd, *The Life of Thomas More* (Nan A. Telese, 1998)

John Guy, *A Daughter's Love: Thomas More & His Dearest Meg* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2009)

John Roper, *Life of Sir Thomas More, Knight* (c 1556), reprinted in *TMSB*. A student version with notes, edited by G.B. Wegemer & S.W. Smith and published by the Center for Thomas More Studies is available at <http://thomasmorestudies.org/docs/Roper.pdf>

Gerard Wegemer, *Thomas More: A Portrait of Courage* (Scepter Pub. 2012)

Studies

The Cambridge Companion to Thomas More, ed. George M. Logan (Cambridge, 2011)

Louis L. Martz, *Thomas More: The Search for the Inner Man* (Yale, 1992)

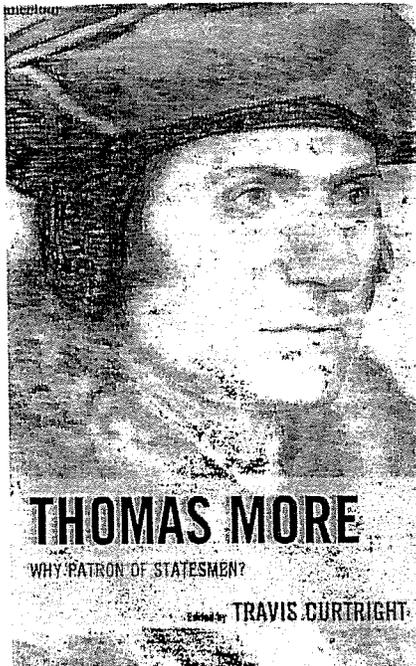
Gerard B. Wegemer, *Thomas More on Statesmanship* (Catholic Univ., 1998)

Thomas More's Trial by Jury: A Procedural and Legal Review with a Collection of Documents, H.A. Kelly, L.W. Karlin, G.B. Wegemer, eds. (Boydell Press, 2011) [paperback reissue, 2013]

Thomas More: Why Patron of Statesmen? ed. Travis Curtright (Lexington Books, September 15, 2015)



LEXINGTON BOOKS



THOMAS MORE

Why Patron of Statesmen?

Edited by Travis Curtright

One of the contributors to this book has written that “admiration draws the soul toward an example of human excellence; it is felt as a desire to be like the person admired”. This remarkable collection of essays offers a convincing and multifaceted view of Thomas More as the ideal Christian statesman. Through the study of both More’s writings and two famous works of fiction, *A Man for All Seasons* and *Wolf Hall*, this scholarly enterprise gives flesh to the *gubernator* in Thomas More, and validates his election as Patron of Statesmen.

—Marie-Claire Phelippeau, Editor of *Moreana*

ABOUT THE BOOK

The year 2015 marks the fifteenth anniversary of Thomas More’s becoming Patron Saint of Statesmen and Politicians. Yet during these years no serious answer has been given by a community of scholars as to why More would be the choice of over 40,000 leaders from ninety-five countries. What were More’s guiding principles of leadership and in what ways might they remain applicable? This collection of essays addresses these questions by investigating More through his writings, his political actions, and in recent artistic depictions.

CONTRIBUTORS

J. Brian Benestad, Travis Curtright, Samuel Gregg, Carson Holloway, Louis Karlin, Jeffrey S. Lehman, James V. Schall, S. J., Stephen W. Smith, James R. Stoner, Jr., Gerard B. Wegemer

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Travis Curtright is research fellow of the Center for Thomas More Studies at the University of Dallas and associate professor of humanities and literature at Ave Maria University.

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eBook: 9781498522274 September 2015 231 Pages Regular price: \$84.99/ After discount: \$59.49

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