

St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco

www.stthomasmore-sf.org

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Immediate Past President

Address Correspondence To:

Karen Kimmey
Farella Braun + Martel LLP
235 Montgomery Street, 17th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 954-4407
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Regis Servus Dei Prius

September 11, 2017

Dear Members and Friends of the Society:

We are happy to be back from our summer break and to kick off a Fall season full of activities and opportunities to engage with the Society. We have several great events coming up, including our biggest event of the year – the annual Red Mass. Please mark your calendars and be sure to join us!

September Luncheon with Joseph Russoniello

Please join us for our lunch on **September 21** with Joseph Russoniello. Mr. Russoniello served his first term as the United States Attorney for the Northern District of California from 1982 to 1990, having been appointed by Ronald Reagan. He was then nominated by President George W. Bush for a second term, which he served from 2007-2010. In that role, Mr. Russoniello personally prosecuted a number of high profile criminal cases, and oversaw landmark cases in the areas of trade secret theft, espionage, fraud and numerous white collar criminal cases. Mr. Russoniello is also a past recipient of our St. Thomas More Award. He will speak to us about “Law Enforcement in California in the ‘Age of Trump’ . . . What We Need to Know.” *We are pleased to announce that MCLE Credit will be offered for this event!*

Please note the changed location and the lower cost for this event. In response to feedback from the surveys, we’re trying some new approaches, as well as offering some lower cost events. Let us know what you think!

Please RSVP either by submitting the attached form, responding by Evite, or simply emailing our treasurer, Andres Orphanopoulos at orphanopoulos@gmail.com. Please also reach out to friends and colleagues who you think might be interested in this topic. All are welcome.

Date: Thursday, September 21; 12:00 noon

Place: Farella, Braun + Martel, 235 Montgomery Street, 17th Floor,
San Francisco (cross-street Bush)

Cost: \$25

Speaker: Joseph Russoniello

Red Mass

Please reserve the date now for our annual Red Mass. *The Mass will be held on October 12 at 5:30 p.m., at Saints Peter & Paul Church in North Beach.* The Red Mass originated in Europe during the High Middle Ages, and is offered for judges, lawyers, law students and government officials to request guidance from the Holy Spirit for all who seek justice. Archbishop Cordileone will be among the celebrants, and our homilist will be Fr. Pius Pietrzyk, O.P., who is the Chair of the Pastoral Studies Department at St. Patrick Seminary and University and is also a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School. This is the largest event we sponsor each year – bringing together the entire Catholic legal community. You do not want to miss it. It is followed by a celebratory dinner at the Italian Athletic Club in North Beach.

We are also pleased to announce that the recipient of this year's St. Thomas More Award is Judge Suzanne R. Bolanos of the San Francisco Superior Court. Judge Bolanos has been a model of judicial excellence, as well as community service, and it will be a joy to celebrate her.

No reservation is necessary to attend the Red Mass. Please come and bring friends, family and colleagues. If you are able to attend the dinner, please RSVP by October 5, 2017. A reservation form is enclosed. You can also pay for the dinner online at <http://www.stthomasmore-sf.org/>.

The Future of The Priesthood

The Society is pleased to be partnering with the Irish American Bar Association to host a conversation on the future of the priesthood, and specifically the possibility of marriage for Catholic priests in the age of Pope Francis. The event will be a conversation between STMS member, Phil Kearney, and Father John Coleman, SJ., and it will provide a historical, procedural and practical perspective on this issue. Refreshments will be served after the one-hour presentation.

Date: Thursday, October 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Location: USF's downtown campus, 101 Howard Street (at Spear), San Francisco

Pro Bono Opportunity

Father Isaiah Mary Molano, O.P. of St. Dominic's Church is looking for a lawyer to provide some legal assistance to the St. Francis Xavier Missionary Society (XLMS). XLMS is a group of lay Catholics who do corporal and spiritual acts of mercy in Hong Kong, India and China. The group is looking for a lawyer who knows nonprofit law and would be willing to serve as a resource. Please let me know if you are interested or if you know of someone else whom you would recommend.

Catholic Bar Association Conference

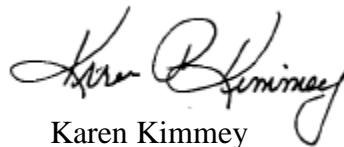
The Catholic Bar Association is a community of legal professionals that educates, organizes and inspires its members to faithfully uphold and bear witness to the Catholic Faith in the study and practice of the law. The Association will be holding its annual conference on November 2-4 in Kansas City. The lineup of speakers includes law professors, clergy and others addressing a variety of interesting topics. If anyone is interested in learning more about the event, please let me know and I will send you a copy of the information packet.

Membership

If you have not yet done so, please submit your membership dues for 2017. You can do so at our website or by completing the attached membership form. We rely on dues for all our great programs. Please contact Andres Orphanopoulos if you are not sure whether or not you have paid for 2017. We are dependent upon membership dues for all of the events we offer, as well as our law school scholarships.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions for the Society.

Blessings,



Karen Kimmey
President

Pay It Forward

“Pay it forward” has become a common term in American parlance ever since the Hollywood film by the same name was released in 2000. It’s the story of a young boy, who attempts to make the world a better place after his teacher gives him that chance.

The movie chronicles twelve-year old Trevor McKinney’s launch of a goodwill movement known as “pay it forward.” Trevor’s social studies teacher, Eugene Simonet, gives the class an assignment to devise and put into action a plan that will change the world for the better. Trevor’s plan is a charitable program based on the networking of good deeds. He calls his plan “pay it forward,” which means the recipient of a favor does a favor for three others rather than paying the favor back.

Trevor’s vision is that the uplifting actions continue along a branching tree of good deeds, spreading across the whole world. Indeed, the movie sparked a number of pay-it-forward movements. In my hometown of Atlanta, for example, a Christian radio station, “104.7 The Fish,” created the “Drive Thru Difference.” Customers in a drive-through line at a fast food restaurant are encouraged to pay for the food of the person waiting in line behind them. “You never know what type of difference you could make in the lives of those around you,” the station’s website urges. “The person working at the restaurant sees you making a difference, and the person behind you may even decide to do the same thing for the person behind them.”

Over a four-week period this month in the Sunday gospel readings, Jesus addresses the human proclivity to make judgments

about other people, to refuse to forgive them, to hold on to resentment and jealousy, and to become just a little too self-righteous. Last week’s topic was fraternal correction. Jesus realized that gathering a sinful people in his name would be a daunting task. Fights would break out, conflicts develop, and divisions follow. Because of that, he designed a very clear system for conflict management.

This Sunday, Jesus basically sets forth a pay-it-forward program of forgiveness. In the parable he tells, the audience rightfully is scandalized by the actions of an unforgiving servant, who was forgiven an enormous debt by the king but then refused to pay forward the mercy he received and forgive someone who owed him a much smaller debt.

We all know that we should forgive each other. Yet, one of the most common confessions I hear is lack of forgiveness. Perhaps the incongruence is best explained by an assumption that forgiveness is something we choose to extend magnanimously, when it suits us. Forgiveness, we tend to think, is a free act of generosity towards the one who has offended us. We can decide whether to forgive or to condemn, to show mercy or to remain unmerciful, to move on or cling to resentment.

There is some truth, of course, to this perception. However, the last words of the parable should remind us that the mercy and forgiveness we seek from God is conditioned on our readiness to extend mercy and offer forgiveness. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* puts it, “[f]orgiveness is the fundamental

condition of the reconciliation of the children of God with their Father and of men with one another” (CCC n. 2844).

The general public sometimes describe lawyers in a rather derogatory manner, using adjectives like “aggressive,” “relentless,” “rabid,” “bulldoggish,” and “merciless.” Though obviously unfair descriptions, we are often perceived by the uneducated as seeking to exact a “pound of flesh.” In our profession, we therefore would do well to portray a corrective demeanor as often as possible. As *Catholic* lawyers, we should actively look for opportunities to express a forgiving, loving attitude in our work.

Indeed, forgiveness is an act of the will. “It is not in our power not to feel or to forget an offense; but the heart that offers itself to the Holy Spirit turns injury into compassion and purifies the memory in transforming the hurt into intercession” (CCC n. 2843). Today, pay forward God’s incredible mercy and forgiveness given to you through the atonement of Christ on the Cross.

ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 2017 LUNCHEON RESERVATION

FARELLA BRAUN + MARTEL LLP

235 Montgomery Street, 17th Floor, San Francisco

Please use this Form to reserve your spot at the luncheon and to make payment.

I plan to attend the St. Thomas More Society Luncheon at 12:00 noon on September 21, 2017, at Farella Braun + Martel LLP, 235 Montgomery Street, 17th Floor, San Francisco.

Please reserve _____ place(s) at \$25 per person.

There is no charge for first-time prospective members of the Society.

Member Name: _____

Member e-mail: _____

Names of other attendees for whom payment is submitted:

I am bringing the following potential members as a Guest of the Society (no charge):

The total amount of my enclosed check is \$_____.

Please make checks payable to the "St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco." If you RSVP and cannot attend, please let us know in advance. Cancellations on less than 48 hours cannot be reimbursed.

Please return this form and your check to our Treasurer:

Andres Orphanopoulos
North Coast Land Holdings, LLC
2350 Kerner Blvd, Suite 360
San Rafael, CA 94901
Telephone: (415) 461-2922
Facsimile: (415) 461-5946
[E-Mail: orphanopoulos@gmail.com](mailto:orphanopoulos@gmail.com)

**ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO
2017 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 or Court: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Parish: _____

Law Student? _____ **(No dues for law students in 2017)**

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

Please accompany this application with your current dues payment. Annual dues for 2017 are: \$100 for attorneys over five (5) years in practice; \$50 for attorneys retired from practice and attorneys with five (5) years or less in practice; and \$0 for law students. Please make checks payable to **St. Thomas More Society**.

Return this form and check to:

Andres Orphanopoulos
North Coast Land Holdings, LLC
2350 Kerner Blvd, Suite 360
San Rafael, CA 94901
Telephone: (415) 461-2922
Facsimile: (415) 461-5946
orphanopoulos@gmail.com

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Regis Servus Dei Prius

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

THE 2017 RED MASS

Saints Peter & Paul Church
666 Filbert Street
San Francisco
Tuesday, October 12, 2017
5:30 p.m.

Sponsored by

THE ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Honoring 2017 St. Thomas More Award Recipient

THE HON. SUZANNE R. BOLANOS

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 Wednesday, October 5, 2017

St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco

**2017 RED MASS
RECEPTION AND DINNER**

RESERVATION FORM

**HONORING THE HON. SUZANNE R. BOLANOS
RECIPIENT OF THE 2017 ST. THOMAS MORE AWARD**

Tuesday, October 12, 2017
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:

Andres Orphanopoulos
Treasurer, St. Thomas More Society
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

Payment may also be made via the website at: <http://www.stthomasmore-sf.org/>.

PLEASE RESPOND BY OCTOBER 5, 2017