

St. Thomas More Society
of San Francisco
www.stthomasmore-sf.org

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Regis Servus Dei Prius
May 15, 2018

Dear Members and Friends:

I hope this finds you all well and looking forward to the Summer.

Many thanks to all who attended our April Luncheon at De Marillac Academy and especially to our speaker, the Hon. David DeAlba whose story resonated so profoundly with the students. It is always gratifying to see how popular the annual De Marillac lunch has become with our members and how enjoyable it is for the students. The De Marillac staff asked me to pass along their thanks, which you will find in the attached email from Alex Goldberg.

Alex's email includes links with information about how to get involved at De Marillac. Please also feel free to reach out to myself or **Phil Kearney** at STMS to learn more - Phil is organizing legal-themed field trips for the students later in the year, another popular aspect of our partnership with DMA.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the seven new members that attended the April Luncheon and special thanks to our four existing members who invited them along.

April's large contingent of Murphy Pearson guests put Tip Mazzucco and Bryan Saalfeld atop the New Member Derby standings with three guests each. Keep inviting and cajoling your friends and colleagues to join us - there is still everything to play for between now and December! Remember - new members and guests always enjoy their first lunch free.

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MAY LUNCHEON

This month's lunch will take place on **Thursday, May 24** at noon at the offices of **Farella Braun & Martel**, 235 Montgomery Street, 17th Floor. Many thanks to Karen Kimmey and her colleagues for hosting us. Speaker details to follow.

The cost for this month's lunch is once again **\$25**. Students and new members eat free and all members are strongly encouraged to bring a guest.

RSVP: <http://www.stthomasmore-sf.org/upcoming-events/payments/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Catholic Charities West Loaves & Fishes Gala. St. Thomas More Society members are also invited to attend the annual Loaves & Fishes Gala hosted by Catholic Charities West on May 24 at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco. The Gala will honor Kathleen Cardinal of Children's Hospital Medical Center and CPMC. Live music will be performed by Ethan Bortnick.

Tickets can be purchased here:

<http://catholiccharitiessf.org/loavesandfishes/>

2018 DUES

The Society depends on membership dues to fund all of its activities. Dues are \$100 for practitioners with over five years' experience and \$75 for those with fewer. Law students are free.

Annual dues can be paid at the Luncheon or online – please do so!

<http://www.stthomasmore-sf.org/how-to-join/>

Feel free to contact me or Treasurer Bryan Saalfeld with questions about dues or whether your membership is current.

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Finally, I came across the following prayer of St. Thomas More's and thought I would share it with you all - apparently Pope Francis himself prays it daily!

Prayer for Good Humor

Grant me, O Lord, good digestion, and also something to digest.

Grant me a healthy body, and the necessary good humor to maintain it.

Grant me a simple soul that knows to treasure all that is good and that doesn't frighten easily at the sight of evil, but rather finds the means to put things back in their place.

Give me a soul that knows not boredom, grumblings, sighs and laments, nor excess of stress, because of that obstructing thing called "I."

Grant me, O Lord, a sense of good humor.

Allow me the grace to be able to take a joke to discover in life a bit of joy, and to be able to share it with others.

Amen. As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions for the Society – I look forward to seeing you all soon.

God bless,

Tony

Anthony D. Phillips
President

Chaplain's Column: Get Ready For A Bold Move

In last month's article, I wrote that spiritual growth results from a series of difficult choices to step out boldly rather than retreat to familiar corners and to make bold moves rather than always taking the safe course. Genuine disciples of Christ do not let fear stop them from making the bold move that God is asking them to make. Instead, they embrace the uncertainty of change, the pain of suffering, the risk of sharing, and the inconvenience of real commitment, in order to make bold moves on behalf of the Lord.

In fact, the disciples of Jesus started making incredibly bold moves after he died. They defied the powers-that-be who warned them not to preach about Jesus. They faced angry mobs and hostile powers almost everywhere they went. But they persevered, and from twelve frightened, confused men hiding behind locked doors came billions of believers throughout the ages in every corner of the world.

God is preparing you for some kind of spiritual greatness. Always at work in you, the Lord is making you ready for a bold move. A bold move could be any number of decisions, such as a new job or a geographical relocation, a healthier lifestyle or determination to overcome an addiction, a deeper commitment to a relationship or an openness to forgiving and reconciling with someone who has hurt you, a resolution to face your fears or to get help for some problem like anxiety or depression, or even a decision

to give back more through the ministry and mission of the Church.

Whatever it is, God wants to give you the confidence to help you make some changes that maybe you have been wanting to make for a while, perhaps breaking through a spiritual wall or pushing ahead in some important area in your life.

Whatever your bold move ultimately is, it usually begins with a kind of "gut" feeling or niggling suspicion that something big needs to change in your life or that there's something big that you're supposed be doing.

Here are a few things that you can do to get ready for a bold move in your life:

- Get rooted in a spiritual community or a small group of believers who will help you think through your next step and hold you accountable to take it, because staying connected to others will help you stay on course.
- Dust off the Bible and start reading it, as well as other spiritual books. Staying connected to Scripture and the teachings of the Church will help you find your way.
- Develop a spiritual infrastructure that really works. Daily spiritual habits keep us connected to God by helping us to focus on what is eternal.
- Let go of your past and make peace with yourself, so that you can stay

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connected with your future and move forward.

To learn more about these steps, you can listen to our Sunday messages on our church's website, www.stbrendanparish.org.

What is your bold move going to be? Prepare for it by staying connected to

God, to God's Word, and to God's Church so that you can let go of the past and move boldly into the future.

–Father Roger Gustafson, Chaplain