

# St. Thomas More Society

## of San Francisco

www.stthomasmore-sf.org

January 8, 2008

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Dear Members and Friends:

The St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco wishes each of you a blessed and Happy New Year. A new year brings with it an opportunity to reflect upon the past, and so we take this opportunity to thank the Society's past presidents, whose names appear along the left margin, for their faithful service and dedication to the enduring values of our patron saint. The list of past presidents now includes Hugh Donohoe, whose thoughtful stewardship guided our Society throughout 2007. Hugh provided leadership with great distinction, and we thank him for his many years of service and continued support. We also say farewell to Stacy Stecher as a member of the Executive Committee. We will miss her enthusiasm and tireless work on behalf of the Society, but hope that she will continue to be active in the Society's monthly gatherings.

Your Board, including our newest members, Thomas Hogkel and Robert Zaletel, has been hard at work coordinating this year's events. 2008 will surely be an exciting year for us all. At this time, the many presidential candidates have been making their case for who among them is best equipped to guide our Nation and shape our policy choices. Perhaps like no other election before it, issues of religion, faith, and the intersection of morality and politics, have dominated the debate. Our Society, dedicated to the pursuit of "justice within Christian principles" in the name of St. Thomas More, is particularly suited for considered examinations of these issues.

It is in this vein that we are proud to have the **Honorable Carlos Bea** speak to the Society on the topic of "Faith and the Public Square" on Thursday, January 24, 2008 at the Carnelian Room, 555 California Street, 52<sup>nd</sup> Floor (please note, this is the fourth Thursday of the month, rather than the third). As you know, Judge Bea was our 2007 St. Thomas More Award recipient and has surely become one of our Nation's leading jurists. We are looking forward to the opportunity to hear from Judge Bea and hope we will see you on January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Membership renewals will also be sent shortly. We joyfully encourage you to renew your membership and invite your attorney colleagues to join. The St. Thomas More Society provides a unique opportunity for fellowship, camaraderie, and an examination of the vital and challenging ethical and

moral issues of our time. *Our membership has room for growth, particularly among newer attorneys.* Please consider bringing a colleague, associate, or friend to our January luncheon and encouraging their membership.

One of the important events we undertake each year is our annual Essay Contest, and we are pleased to congratulate our 2007 contest winner, Lisa Dimech of Saint Veronica School. We again had a record number of entrants, and Lisa's winning essay is available on our website at [http://www.stthomasmore-sf.org/about\\_essay.html](http://www.stthomasmore-sf.org/about_essay.html). Through your participation in the Society and contributions, we were able to provide nearly \$2,000 last year to deserving eighth graders and our schools. On behalf of the Society, thank you for your continued support.

Finally, we are pleased to announce that on March 7-9, 2008, the Jesuit Retreat Center will hold its 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Legal Retreat for Men & Women, which will consider the law as a ministry of reconciliation, encouraging and facilitating our living together in peace. Former Executive Committee member and St. Thomas More Award recipient, Hon. Joanne Parrilli (ret.), is among the retreat directors. Additional information may be found at [www.jrclosaltos.org](http://www.jrclosaltos.org), or by calling (650) 948-4491.

We look forward to an exciting and thought-provoking year.

In Peace,



Terrence J. Coleman

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### ST. THOMAS MORE JANUARY LUNCHEON RESERVATION

\_\_\_\_\_ I Plan to attend the St. Thomas More Luncheon, at Noon on January 24, 2008, at the Carnelian Room, 52<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Bank of America Building, 555 California Street, San Francisco, CA.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at **\$45** per person (over 10 years in practice) or **\$38** per person, (**\$20** for law students and clergy) for the Society luncheon. I would like to sponsor a law student, luncheon speaker or pastor for the additional amount included of \$\_\_\_\_\_. My check payable to St. Thomas More Society, for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please RSVP to: **Gregory E. Schopf**, Nixon Peabody LLP; One Embarcadero Center, Suite 1800, San Francisco, CA 94111; Tel: (415) 984-8314; Fax: (866) 741-1478; E-Mail [gschopf@nixonpeabody.com](mailto:gschopf@nixonpeabody.com)