

# St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco

[www.stthomasmore-sf.org](http://www.stthomasmore-sf.org)

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*Regis Servus Dei Prius*

March 10, 2015

Dear Members and Friends of the Society:

Lent is well underway, and we hope to see you at a number of upcoming events.

## February Luncheon Re-Cap

The speaker at our February lunch was Fr. Thomas Massaro, S.J., Dean and Professor of Moral Theology at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, who addressed “Theological Education and Ministerial Formation Today: Challenges and Opportunities.” We also bade a fond farewell to our long-time Chaplain, Msgr. Labib Kobti. See below for more information about Msgr. Kobti.

## March Luncheon

For March, we have a special speaker and a special date. The Honorable Philip Grant, Consul General of Ireland, will take time out of his very busy schedule this month to be with us on Friday, March 27. Please note that we will not be meeting on our usual Thursday calendar. Wear green and come join us at The Family Club for this special guest.

The Lunch Reservation Form is attached to this letter, and you should already have received an Evite for the luncheon. You can RSVP through Evite or return the Lunch Reservation Form to our Treasurer, Andes Orphanopoulos. We ask that you make your reservations in advance, with payment if possible, as this permits an accurate headcount for lunch and greatly assists with our planning. Note that Evite now gives you the option to pay using PayPal. If you don't have a PayPal account, you can set one up in minutes. If you RSVP

but later determine you cannot attend, please let us know at least 48 hours in advance so we can cancel your lunch order. Please join us – and bring a prospective new member (for free).

Please note that we are modestly increasing the charge for lunch. We have been able to maintain our rates for several years, but the Family Club is raising our per person charge due to increased costs. Our new rates are \$52 for those with 10 years or more in practice, \$42 for those with fewer than 10 years in practice, and \$25 for law students and clergy. We hope that you'll agree that this remains a bargain for the food, fellowship, and interesting speakers provided at our monthly lunches.

### **Brown Bag Lenten Series**

Our Lenten brown-bag series on the Passion Narratives continues through March 25. Set aside an hour during your week to pause and reflect on Jesus' passion and death as Don Carroll leads a small-group discussion of the four Gospels. The sessions are held each Wednesday through March 25 at Kelly, Hockel & Klein, 44 Montgomery, Suite 1500, San Francisco. The sessions begin at noon, so bring your lunch. They will end promptly at 1:00 p.m. The program is free, and you may attend as many sessions as you wish.

### **Panel Presentation: Raising Kids Catholic in Today's Society**

Please join the Society for a panel discussion on Raising Kid's Catholic in Today's Society. Chinhayi Cadet will moderate the panel of Julia Dowd, USF's Director of Ministry; Meagan Pryor Lorentz, the Director of the Ignatian Spiritual Life Center and Children's Faith Formation Coordinator at St. Agnes; and Scott Halluck, a teacher at St. Ignatius College Preparatory. The panel, all of whom are parents, will discuss the issues and challenges of raising children Catholic in today's San Francisco. The panel will be held on April 30, 2015, at 5:30 p.m., at DLA Piper LLP, 555 Mission Street, Suite 2400, San Francisco.

### **Farewell Msgr. Kobti**

We were saddened recently to learn that Msgr. Kobti, our long-serving Chaplin, has been re-assigned to southern California. The former pastor of St. Thomas More parish in San Francisco and a leader of the Middle Eastern Catholic community, Msgr. Kobti provided faithful service and guidance to us during his many years as our Chaplin, and we will miss his friendly and inspiring words whenever we gather together for our monthly lunches. He was a steadfast reminder, both in word and deed, of our patron saint's admonition to be God's servant first. Msgr. Kobti goes with our heartfelt blessing and best wishes for good health and happiness in his new home among new friends.

### **Congratulations to Alemany Award Winner John Christian**

St. Thomas More Society member John Christian, KM, of Weintraub Tobin is this year's winner of the Alemany Award, awarded by the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology at the Graduate Theological Union to those individuals who make significant contributions to the life of the Church. The award will be presented on Saturday, May 9, with a 5:30 p.m. mass at

the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption in San Francisco followed by dinner and a reception at 6:30 p.m. Proceeds from the gala benefit the Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology and Dominican education. For ticket information, please visit [www.dspt.edu/events/detail/the-2015-alemany-awards-benefit-gala](http://www.dspt.edu/events/detail/the-2015-alemany-awards-benefit-gala).

### **Congratulations to Scholarship Winner Bianca Paraguya**

Bianca Paraguya, a third-year law student at the University of San Francisco School of Law, is the winner of the 2015 St. Thomas More Society of San Francisco Scholarship. Bianca is a 2011 graduate of UCLA and an alumna of the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, and she currently volunteers with a number of organizations, including the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank and the St. Ignatius Church Shelter Meal Program. She is the Co-President of the USF Women's Law Association and the President of the Pilipino American Law Society as well as a member of USF's St. Thomas More Society. Applications were submitted this year from students at USF, Hastings College of the Law, and Golden Gate University School of Law. Bianca will be honored at our March lunch.

### **Service Project with De Marillac Academy**

Our Service Project with De Marillac Academy offers a variety of opportunities to work with De Marillac and its students, from regular tutoring and reading, to inviting the kids to tour your work place, to participating in the enrichment class that our members will be leading in the spring semester – or create a volunteer opportunity that fits with your interests and schedule. Join your fellow members in what promises to be a fun and enriching experience. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Tony Phillips at [adphillips@dons.usfca.edu](mailto:adphillips@dons.usfca.edu).

### **Mentor Program**

Our Mentor Program 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. You can also contact Laura Vartain Horn at [lvartain@gmail.com](mailto:lvartain@gmail.com) if you have questions about the program or would like to participate.

### **2015 Dues**

The 2015 Membership Form is attached to this letter and may be used to pay your dues and to update membership records. We lowered our membership rates in 2014 and will maintain those rates this year. 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.

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.

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

\* \* \*

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.

Sincerely yours,



Timothy P. Crudo  
President

**ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY MARCH 2015 LUNCHEON RESERVATION**  
**The Family Club**  
**545 Powell Street at Bush Street**

*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  
March 27, 2015, at The Family Club.

Please reserve \_\_\_ place(s) at \$52 per person (10 years or more in practice).

Please reserve \_\_\_ place(s) at \$42 per person (fewer than 10 years in practice).

Please reserve \_\_\_ place(s) at \$25 per person (law students and clergy).

There is no charge for pastors or 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 member as a Guest of the Society (no charge):

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor one or more law students or members of the clergy at \$25 per person and include \$\_\_\_ in my check for this purpose.

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. The Society is charged for no-shows, so 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 Boulevard, Suite 360  
San Rafael, California 94901  
Phone 650-224-1129 | Fax 415-461-5946  
orphanopoulos@gmail.com

**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:*  
**Andres Orphanopoulos**  
**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**