St. Thomas More Society OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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Anthony D. Phillips, Immediate Past President

Regis Servus Dei Prius

November 12, 2019

Dear Members:

Thank you to those who joined us at last month's Red Mass. It was a pleasure to meet many members in person and to see other familiar faces as we celebrated the Mass, our profession, and our award recipient, Judge Jeffrey Brand. Judge Brand provided a lovely (and lively) presentation on his career and how it has been influenced by Jesuit teachings. Our homilist, Archbishop Bernard Hebda of Minneapolis/St. Paul, also provided guidance on practicing law with grace and fortitude. As a former lawyer himself, his homily was informed and thought-provoking. The Red Mass is always a highlight of the year, and this year's event was no different.

This year's Christmas luncheon will take place somewhat earlier in the month of December than usual. As such, we will forego our November luncheon and instead focus on nominations for our 2020 Executive Board and our annual essay contest. I wish you a nice Thanksgiving, and I look forward to seeing you at our Christmas luncheon.

Christmas Luncheon

The Christmas luncheon is our final luncheon of the year and filled with many joyous activities. First, we will enjoy Christmas carols sung by the De Marillac Academy choir beginning at 11:30am accompanied by an open bar. Those who wish may also contribute a gift for the Secret Santa program and/or Toys for Tots drive as described below. Lunch will follow with presentation of the St. Thomas More essay contest winner and introduction of our 2020 Executive Board.

Date: Thursday, December 5, 2019, 11:30am

Location: The Family Club, 545 Powell Street, San Francisco

Cost: \$55 (lawyers with 10+ years of practice, \$45 (lawyers with <10 years of practice), \$25 (law students and clergy)

Members can pay for the luncheon in person or at our website here.

Secret Santa Program

We will once again partner with De Marillac Academy to provide Christmas gifts to the school's students and families. De Marillac Academy provides free Catholic education to low-income families in the neighborhood, and our contributions can greatly aid the school's parents. Gift cards or gifts valued around \$50 are a common option.

Please email me at <u>amelia.m.lancaster@gmail.com</u> if you would like to participate.

Toys for Tots

In addition to our Secret Santa Program we will also host a Toys for Tots drive in partnership with XX. A donation bin at the luncheon will collect gifts for children of all ages. Please consider bringing a small (or large) gift to help a family in need.

2020 St. Thomas More Society Board

We welcome nominations for the 2020 Executive Board, which will expand from 12 to 15 members. Executive Board members participate in monthly board meetings and help organize all Society events. We are seeking nominations for 10 members in addition to the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Please contact me if you are interested in joining the Board or if you know someone who is.

Annual Dues

Please consider paying your annual dues prior to our Christmas luncheon, as dues help us award our St. Thomas More essay contest winners. You may pay your dues on our website <u>here</u>.

Please contact me with any questions, and I look forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas luncheon.

Sincerely yours,

Amelia Lancaster President