

# Steeple Talk

Volume 11, No. 7

October 1, 2017

## News from the STA Mass communities:

**7:15 Daily Mass:** New copies of the Stewardship Prayer are now available for the assembly to use to recite the prayer after Mass each morning.

**7:30 Sunday Mass:** Early-morning folks like this convenient Mass time.

**8:45 Sunday Mass:** On the 4th Sunday of the month, attendees are encouraged to put on a nametag when they arrive at church—helping each to know the other!

**10:30 Sunday Mass:** Music leader Paul Prochaska has composed some new music that is being sung at this Mass.

**12:00 Sunday Mass:** The St. Ann Choir is seeking new singers for the Fall, including paid section leaders. Contact Prof. Mahrt for audition at mahrt@stanford.edu.

**12:15 Daily Mass:** Confessions are heard at 11:30 a.m. on Saturdays before this Mass begins.

## STA Site Committee plans:

**Monthly Meeting:**  
1st Wednesday of the month

**Next regular Site meeting:**  
Wednesday, October 4, 2017,  
7:30 pm, Thomas House Library

### Agenda (tentative):

- ◆ Friday Fish Fest Oct. 13
- ◆ Spring garage sale
- ◆ Furnishings
- ◆ Garden grooming

**Monthly newsletter:**  
Sunday before first Wednesday

**Editor:** Kay Williams, 650-270-4188, kaywill@pacbell.net

## Fish Fest is back Friday, Oct. 13:



All are welcome to the STA Friday Fish Fest on **Friday, October 13, at 6:00 pm at the Thomas House** (adjacent to St. Thomas Aquinas Church) at 745 Waverley St., Palo Alto.

Due to the success of the past three Fish Fests, Fr. Matt has authorized us to purchase a convection oven for cooking the fish. We need a rolling cart that we can use to transport the oven. The ones we found online are pretty pricey. Does anyone have a cart that they would be willing to donate to our project?

Come prepared to enjoy fish and chips, tasty Asian coleslaw, beer and wine in an informal setting, getting to know STA

Mass attendees and others from Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Albert's (nametags make it easy to strike up a conversation). Sponsored by the STA Site Committee, a \$5 donation would be appreciated but not required. You are welcome to bring a dish or dessert to share. **RSVP to Helen Baumann, 650-327-9236, hbbaumann@aol.**

## Garden grooming Sat. Oct 14:

All are welcome who are able and willing to help Vicki Sullivan and her husband Larry spread compost over the garden beds around the church and the Thomas House between 9:30 and 12:30 on Saturday, October 14.



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Many hands make light work, and if your body is less than able, come anyway to help staff the water table and guide those who are wielding the shovels and pushing the wheelbarrows.

These twice-yearly ministrations under Vicki's leadership have helped keep the STA garden beds verdant and healthy. Please contact Vicki to let her know you can help: 650-327-5339, vickisullivan@comcast.net.

## STA site activities:

### Newcomers:

On the first Sunday of the month, a parish volunteer stands by a table on the curb outside of church, welcoming newcomers at each Mass and inviting them to sign up as a parishioner. On Sept. 3, the following persons signed up (agreeing to public acknowledgement):

**10:30 am Mass:**  
Carrie Peterson, Palo Alto

**12:00 pm Mass:**  
Gregory & Mollie Miller, Palo Alto

### Thomas House Library:

Volunteer to keep the Thomas House library open a couple of hours a week. Contact Ted Baer at baer@sbcglobal.net, 650-690-6732.

### Bibles for loan in church:

Recently there has been one Bible remaining on the book stand in the back of church, and this morning (Sept. 27) there were none. It is nice if people do need to keep them but we need a replenished supply for use in the church. Bring donated bibles to the

Thomas House Library, with a note telling us how to designate it in a bookplate: gift of, in memory of, etc.

### Bishop Robert Barron videos on "Pivotal Players in the Catholic Church":

This series of videos shown over the summer by Fr. Matt are available through the STA Parish website: www.paloaltocatholic.net. Now you can watch them in the comfort of your own home.

**NEWSLETTER OF THE ST. THOMAS  
AQUINAS CHURCH SITE COMMITTEE**

751 Waverley Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

**St. Thomas Aquinas Site Committee:**

Ted Baer	Bob Barron	Helen Baumann
Jan Dedek	Judy Foley	Anna Jaklitsch
Nora Lundin	Bill Mahrt	Bob March
Vicki Sullivan	Kay Williams	and occasional others

**Mission Statement:** The Site Committee for St. Thomas Aquinas Church works to build community across the site's six Mass communities and within the larger parish: 1) by facilitating communication among Mass communities, the Thomas House tenants and other users, and the larger parish; 2) by sponsoring and organizing site-specific community building activities; and 3) by exercising responsible stewardship of our historic downtown facilities.

Site committee meetings are (usually) held the 1st Wednesday of the month in the Library of the Thomas House. All are welcome, but if you cannot attend, send questions or suggestions to Kay Williams, (650) 270-4188, kaywill@pacbell.net.

## Parish pathways:

### *Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary – October 7:*

Since this feast falls on a Saturday this year, a special bilingual Rosary and Mass beginning at 9:30 am will be held. This is a wonderful opportunity for our entire parish to join together in prayer and hospitality. A reception hosted by our Hispanic community will follow that Mass in the OLR Hall.

### *October 7-8: Knights of Columbus Annual Collection for People With Intellectual Disabilities:*

Members of the Knights of Columbus will be waiting outside after each Mass with their yellow cans to collect donations. In 2015, we raised \$4,090.61 and in 2016, \$4,200.00. The goal per the Knights of Columbus Council is \$4,000.00. The proceeds were evenly distributed to the following organizations in Palo Alto: Abilities United & Achieve Kids. The Knights of Columbus are really

thankful and ask for your support again this year.

### *Maryknoll priests here Oct. 8:*

We will welcome three Maryknoll Fathers to our parish Masses on October 8 when they will share their message of God's love with us.

The Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers partner with local churches to bring compassion, relief, and the message of God's love to the poor on the fringes of society. Pope Francis challenges the Catholic Church to create a culture of mission, one in which all Christians respond to their baptismal call to be "Missionary Disciples." Maryknoll answers this call to mission in the poorest regions of Asia, Africa, and Latin America, and invite and enable others to answer the call across the US. They create clinics and hospitals, agricultural and vocational training, feed and care for vulnerable children, provide economic empowerment, AIDS ministry, disaster relief, etc.

## From the church steps:

### *CROP Hunger Walk, Sun., Oct. 8:*

A St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Team has been created to support the CROP HUNGER WALK, on Sunday, October 8 at Nealon Park, 800 Middle Ave., MP. Walk with us, make a donation or both! Festivities begin at 1 pm; walks start at 2 pm. Walkers may choose a .6-mile, 2-mile or 5-mile walk and enjoy live bands, food, and games. Thanks to our parishioners who raised \$1,140 last year! CROP Hunger Walk is sponsored by Church World Service, a cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations. CROP Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs. An important note: One-quarter of funds raised by us will be contributed to the Ecumenical Hunger Program in East Palo Alto for distribution to the needy in our local community.

**For information, call Paul Chestnut, Human Concerns Committee, 650-426-8499 or email pchestnut@comcast.net.**

### *Spirituality Tuesday Assemblies:*

**All talks are held in the Hospitality Center at St. Albert the Great Church, 1095 Channing Ave., Palo Alto, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Refreshments served.**

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### **October 3<sup>rd</sup>: Immigration Issues: The impact of a changing political climate. With Father Jon Pedigo.**

Father Jon is a warm and engaging speaker and has been an advocate for immigrants and an active educator. He has worked unceasingly on behalf of projects for peace and justice, engaging parishes and the wider community. What progress has been made? Has there been an impact from the changing political climate? What is going on in our Diocese? Bishop McGrath has recently appointed Father Pedigo to Catholic Charities where he has assumed the role of Director for Advocacy and Community Engagement.

### **October 10<sup>th</sup>: Saint Francis of Assisi: True and lasting reform for every age; a video presentation with Fr. Matt**

Rebuild my Church! That's the mission Christ gave to Saint Francis and it's the perennial mission of the Church in every age of its life. The life of Saint Francis demonstrates that Christ intends the foundations of true and lasting reform to be built on the solid rock that is the radical witness of the saints.

### **October 17th: Reformation: revolution or reform? Part 1: the background, the effects and the reforms; with guest speaker Fr. Jose Rubio.**

### **October 24: Reformation: revolution or reform? Part 2: the life of Martin Luther and his church today; with a Lutheran minister.**