

Steeple Talk

Volume 11, No. 3

June 4, 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: Jim Thalman has taken care of the sound system for years. He is retiring to Arizona and received a Stewardship Award from Fr. Hester.

8:45 Sunday Mass: Two musical groups take turns at this Mass: Larry Schemel and the Community Choir, and Taber Dullea singing and leading from the piano.

10:30 Sunday Mass: Charlotte Gross, sacristan, is sincerely inviting potential lectors or sacristans to step forward to help at this Mass. Don't be shy! Look for Charlotte after Mass—she is usually cleaning up the altar.

12:00 Sunday Mass: The St. Ann Choir will celebrate Corpus Christi by singing the *Missa Pange Lingua* by Josquin Des Prez together with the Gregorian chants for the feast; the liturgy will be completed with a procession and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

12:15 Daily Mass: The church is open all morning before this noon Mass, except on Saturdays.

Gardening June 10:

Garden Grooming:

Vicki Sullivan plans a STA Garden Grooming Party, Saturday, June 10th, 10 am till 12 noon. Many hands make light work. We will spread compost, do some dead-heading of spent flowers, and plant some of the Easter flowers that decorated the altar.

This has proven in the past to be a fun activity for children and grandchildren, as well as adults. There's nothing like pinching back dead flowers for a satisfying result. Please give us a bit of your time to beautify the gardens surrounding STA. An hour in the garden on a Saturday morning is a blessed activity!

Sign up after Mass June 4th. Or send Vicki an email at: vickisullivan@comcast.net.

Friday Fish Fest June 16:

Old-fashioned fish and chips at church:

The STA Site Committee is holding a Friday Fish Fest on June 16, at 6:00 pm in the Thomas House kitchen, dining room and living room. Menu will be fish and chips, coleslaw, beer and wine, and whatever else you might want to bring to share. Everyone is invited, giving us all the opportunity to meet one another, socialize and eat together.

Newcomers to the parish are especially invited to attend. The informal atmosphere, tasty food, and cheerful welcome will acquaint you with the parishioners of St. Thomas Aquinas parish.

We will collect a nominal



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

\$5.00 per person (adults) for the meal, but do not let that keep you away. The Site Committee wants to build connections among those who attend Mass at STA, both newbies and those who have been here much longer.

Help with set-up and clean-up? Contact Helen Baumann, hbbbaumann@aol.com or (650) 327-9236.

STA Site Committee plans:

Monthly Meeting:

1st Wednesday of the month

Next regular Site meeting:

Wednesday, June 7, 2017,
7:30 pm, Thomas House Library

Agenda (tentative):

- ◆ Front porch bench
- ◆ Garden planning
- ◆ Death Penalty forum
- ◆ 2017 Living Crèche

Monthly newsletter:

Sunday before first Wednesday

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

STA site activities:

May Day Parade:

And then there was the May Day Parade on Saturday, May 6! The church was open for visitors, Bill Mahrt was playing the organ all morning, lemonade was mixed and served to all thirsty paraders and parade watchers. Many thanks to Terry Atkinson, Helen Baumann, Anna Jaklitsch, Judi Swope, Kay Williams, and Lily Farrell from STAYouth for help and hospitality extended to parade-goers.

The parade route was shorter

this year, and the number of paraders was also diminished. The parade took just 35 minutes to pass the front of the church before the paraders poured into Heritage Park across the street.

We collected \$75 in donations from thirsty lemonade-drinkers, welcomed several people into the church for a look-around, and provided bathroom rest stops for several people. We reached out to the Palo Alto community and welcomed those interested..

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. No new parishioners were signed up in May.

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.

**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:

Volunteer Opportunity: Flower Help Needed

The flower arrangers at St. Thomas Aquinas Church are looking for a few folks to help out once per month to provide flower arrangements for the church. Please call Nora at 650- 494-2496, ext. 14 if you can take a turn to help them.

Volunteer Opportunity: Finance Advisory Council Seeks Members

The Parish Finance Advisory Council (FAC) is a consultative body to the pastor. It has the mission and duty of being good stewards— overseeing and advising the Pastor in regard to the treasure entrusted to him on behalf of us all. It meets every other month. Pastor Fr. Matt Stanley is on the lookout for a few new members. Qualities desired in members include being registered in the parish, willing to see the needs of the whole parish, not just one site, and working well in a

group. Please submit a brief letter to Fr. Matt at mstanley@dsj.org, by June 30.

Beginning Saturday, June 17: All Night Adoration on the Feast of Corpus Christi

Beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 17 through 8:30 am on Sunday, June 18, there will be an all-night adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Albert the Great Church. It would be a wonderful time of grace if you could spend at least one hour with our Lord on this great feast of the Body and Blood of Christ.

We will conclude adoration with Benediction at 8:30 a.m. before the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Please sign up and plan to come.

1. Sign-up online at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1m16Nxp5Ji5lgDaA7UQgO05SLdX34Y9m1kAY_zlDcPuM/edit#gid=0
2. or email Chris Lundin at clundin@stanford.edu.

From the church steps on May 6:



The May Day Parade had its share of dancing dragons (of interest to one little person), fire engines and marching bands. A technical marvel was the robot horse and buggy (see below) (more engaging in real life!).

