

# Steeple Talk

Volume 12, No. 3

June 3, 2018

## News from the STA Mass communities: :

**7:15 Daily Mass:** New sacristans from among those attending this Mass have been tapped: Ruth Chippendale and Fran McVittie.

**7:30 Sunday Mass:** Bea Peterson, Gerard Wen and Gina Craig are sacristans and music coordinators who keep the backstage Mass tasks covered.

**8:45 Sunday Mass:** Blessings on men and fathers on Father's Day, blessing of Fr. Jack Izzo on his final day celebrating this Mass, and acknowledgement of liturgical ministers on Pentecost made May a month of blessings!

**10:30 Sunday Mass:** Paul Prochaska is the lead music minister and welcomes singers/musicians who would like to join him. Find him after Mass.

**12:00 Sunday Mass:** Prof. Bill Mahrt leads the St. Ann Choir and the congregation in Gregorian chant every Sunday at this Mass.

**12:15 Daily Mass:** The church is open from the 7:15 Mass until after this 12:15 daily Mass.

## Friday Fish Fest June 15 at 6 pm:



Fish Fest!  
Tasty breaded fish filets and the ever-tangy

Asian cole slaw served at the Thomas House on Friday, June 15, at 6 p.m. Who can resist? Many thanks to people who generously bring snacks and desserts to share as well. All this for only \$5 per person, plus \$2 for a beer or generous glass of wine.

Join fellow pew-mates and friends who take advantage of this satisfying meal, chat and laugh together, enjoying the liberation from deciding "what's for dinner?"

**IMPORTANT TO RSVP:**  
Helen Baumann, 650-327-9236, hbbaumann@aol.com, or Kay Williams, 650-270-4188, kaywill@pacbell.net.

## Garden Grooming Saturday June 9:

Save Saturday morning, June 9, from 9:30 until noon (or any portion thereof) to get your hands dirty in the St. Thomas Aquinas church garden beds.

Vicki Sullivan will be leading the troops to refresh the flowers and shrubs that surround our church. We will be weeding, dead heading, spreading compost and mulch, and planting azaleas and hydrangeas from Easter.

There are jobs for everyone! Please come! (Bring your garden gloves...)

## A festive Fête:

Many thanks to the volunteers who mixed and handed out cup after cup of lemonade to the crowds watching the annual May Fête Parade on Saturday, May 5 as it marched down Waverley St. to Heritage Park.



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

Kudos to Gladys Low, Terry Atkinson, Anna Jaklitsch, Helen Baumann, Chris Mardesich of STAYouth, Kay Williams and grandson Nico Cortez, Bill Mahrt (who played the organ during the church open house) for making it another lively and happy parade day at STA!



## STA Site Committee plans:

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

**Next regular Site meeting:**  
Wednesday, June 6, 2018,  
7:30 pm, Thomas House Library

### Agenda (tentative):

- ◆ PSC Report
- ◆ Fish Fest June 15
- ◆ Interior Committee report
- ◆ Church exterior: stairs, etc.

**Monthly newsletter:**  
Sunday before Wednesday meeting

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

## STA site activities:

### In-house tech help:

Kory Trebbin is an STA Mass goer who is available to fix your computer, at reasonable rates. He did a great job on the computer in the Thomas House office, bringing it back to life and securing it as well. Contact him for your laptop or desktop computer woes:  
(408) 637-1092,  
koryspeak@aol.com.

### Thanks but no thanks:

It has been 4 years since the renovation of the Thomas House was completed. Furnishing the house with donated furniture and rugs, stocking the kitchen, buying folding chairs took another year.

And now the Thomas House is full! **Please do not "donate" anything else:** we have baskets, utensils, linens, religious pictures and statues, etc. in abundance. Space is at a premium. If we need something special, we'll ask!

### Shredder in the Thomas House office:

We now have, in the Thomas House Library office, a working paper shredder available for everyone to use. The very simple instructions are posted right next to the shredder. Please feel free to use it any time that the House is open, whether you have two sheets or two hundred sheets to destroy. Bring your own paper bag to remove your shreddings?

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

751 Waverley Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

**St. Thomas Aquinas Site Committee:**

**Ted Baer      Helen Baumann      Lorraine Dabney**  
**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:**

**Question from Fr. Matt:**

As pastor Fr. Matt Stanley prepares to turn over our parish to his successor, Fr. Stasys Mikalonis, on July 1, he has asked the Pastoral Stewardship Council the following: "Whenever there is a change in leadership in any organization, a helpful exercise to new leadership is to identify: what you would like to change and what you would not like to change? I ask you to think about that question and consult with your constituents, so that we might discuss your reflections over the next couple of months."

The STA Site Committee will be discussing this question at its June 6 meeting. What would be your answer or thoughts? You are the "constituents" of the STA Site Committee and might have a little -- or a lot--to say. This is your chance!

If so, please contact Kay Williams at kaywill@pacbell.net, 650-270-4188.

**From Fr. Mikalonis:**

"...I come across many of you who don't know or are recently learning that Bishop McGrath asked me to become the new pastor of our St. Thomas Aquinas parish.



To me, it was an unexpected surprise... After having completed 4 years here it wouldn't be strange to be moved as a vicar. But [I was told] "You are staying....as the pastor; do you accept?"...

Now that I have had time to reflect and receive support...I want to thank God for this nice opportunity to stay in a community that I love, admire and respect... During 13 years of being a parochial vicar (four here in Palo Alto)...I have had the chance to grow as a human being and also as a priest. ...Please be patient, pray for me, communicate with me. I'm super open to dialogue and to the exchange of ideas. I'm also very confident about my talents and the gifts that God gave me. Christ is my priority and you in Christ."

--Fr. Estanislao ("Stasys") Mikalonis

**From the church steps:**

**Early Music Singers' Concert, June 6:**

The music of Josquin Des Prez will be presented in concert by the Stanford Early Music Singers, under the direction of Prof. William Mahrt, on Wednesday evening, June 6, at the Stanford Memorial Church, 7:30 p.m. Free admission.

Prof. Mahrt leads the St. Ann Choir every Sunday at Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas Church sung by choir and congregation, 12:00 noon. Also, every Sunday, the St. Ann Choir sings Vespers in Gregorian Chant, with occasional polyphonic music, at St. Ann Chapel in Palo Alto, 6:15 p.m.

**Parking at STA:**

There are 15 off-street parking spaces in a gravel lot behind the Homer House. Access is provided by a driveway from Homer Street directly behind the church. The concrete driveway has 4 handicapped parking spaces on the left and the gravel parking lot is down a slight slope past the carport on the right.

Also, on Sunday, we may park in the Waverley Surgery Center parking lot just a few yards up Waverley St. towards downtown, on the same side of the street as the church. Turn into the lot and go down the slope to the lower level parking area.

