

Steeple Talk

Volume 6, No. 7

September 9, 2012

News from the STA Mass communities:

7:15 Daily Mass: Fr. Gene Konkel is facing serious health issues; please pray for him.

7:30 Sunday Mass: This early Mass is popular with folks who like to get a quick start on their Sunday activities.

8:45 Sunday Mass: Today is "Grands" Day at this Mass, celebrating grandparents and their grandchildren.

10:30 Sunday Mass: After a refreshment dry spell, the 10:30 group has once again restored having refreshments after Mass. Attendance has been sparse. Charlotte Gross hopes that this will improve.

12:00 Sunday Mass: Sunday, September 2, the Gregorian Mass was celebrated by Fr. Francisco Nahoe, O.F.M. Conv. Fr. Francisco celebrated this Mass regularly until about two years ago, when he was designated rector of St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral in Reno, Nevada, thus changing states and status, but keeping patron saint. Fr. Francisco preached a fascinating sermon on Jesus and the Pharisees and, of course, sang the Mass beautifully

12:15 Daily Mass: Downtown workers are frequently in attendance at this Mass..

Did you miss the Italian dinner?



Antipasti plate



Bartender Joe Kinsella



St. Thomas Aquinas Church



Spaghetti on the table



Ted Baer & Christina Anaya—
over-the-top cook & decorator



Carl Bunje & Dick Placone



Lorraine Dabney & friend

You could have been there, too. Don't miss the 3rd Annual Italian Dinner in 2013!

STA Site Committee plans:

Monthly Meeting:

2nd Thursday of the month

Next regular Site meeting:

Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012
7:30 pm, Thomas House Library

Agenda (tentative):

- Italian Dinner re-cap
- Kitchen improvements
- Library update

Monthly newsletter:

Sunday before 2nd Thursday

Editor: Kay Williams, 650-328-2781, kaywill@pacbell.net

Thomas House update:

August 4 dinner:

The 85 folks who trooped into the Thomas House on August 4 at 5:00 pm were treated to an evening of excellent cuisine, service and warm camaraderie. The Second Annual STA Italian Dinner was a jolly venue for showcasing the outstanding homemade pasta and polenta sauces crafted by Ted Baer and Rudy Bahr, the debut of handicapped table reservations on the main floor of the Thomas House, and the Italian décor

staged by Christina Anaya. Anna Jaklitsch was in charge of gathering the antipasti ingredients and the spumoni ice cream for dessert. Helen Baumann sold tickets and Kay Williams did publicity. Bob Barron tended bar and provided his family members as servers.

The only hiccup was the number of no-shows, leaving the committee with an abundance of leftover bread-

sticks, pasta and polenta and tomato sauces. A few canny folk brought their own containers to take food back to family members for whom tickets had been purchased but who could not attend. No spumoni was left, however!

Next year the committee hopes to increase actual attendance (or cook less food) and attract a larger clean-up committee!

**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
Philip Boudart	Lorraine Dabney	Judy Foley
Anna Jaklitsch	Bill Mahrt	Bob March
Mike McMahon	Bea Peterson	Patti Robison
Mario Veloro	Kay Williams	and occasional others

Mission Statement: The Site Committee for St. Thomas Aquinas Church works to encourage community-building within our six individual Mass communities, among our Mass communities, and within the larger parish community. We do this by enhancing our liturgies, exercising responsible stewardship of our facilities, and working to improve communications at all levels of our parish community.

Site committee meetings are (usually) held the 2nd Thursday 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, 328-2781, kaywill@pacbell.net.

Parish pathways:

Spirituality Tuesday Assembly, September 11:

Key Moments in the History of the Catholic Church, hosted by Fr. Matt Stanley; at St. Albert's Hospitality Room, 7-8:30 p.m.: The *EPIC* series continues with the true story of the Crusades. How many were there and what was the motivation? Learn about El Sid against the Moors in Spain, the formation of the Order of Knight's Templar and the Crusades against Saladin in Jerusalem. Against this backdrop we see the rise of the Mendicant Orders: St Francis, St. Clare and St. Dominic and the scholastic period of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Albert the Great.

Parish picnic September 16:

Our annual parish picnic will be held Sunday, September 16, from 11:30 until 3:00 at Our Lady of the Rosary on Cowper St. The Knights of Columbus will be barbecuing again! For the potluck, if your last name begins with A-P,

please bring a salad or side dish; if Q-Z, please bring a dessert. Refreshments are provided. There will be games and crafts for the children throughout the day. In addition, enjoy the 25th Anniversary Raffle drawing, the Dermody Center Open House, and the Totally Free Market. Please see the poster in the vestibule for more picnic information.

Donate shoes Sept. 23:

A parish-wide shoe collection, sponsored by the parish Human Concerns Committee, will be held on Sun., Sept 23 at all Masses at OLR, SAG and STA. Needed are new, used and worn-out shoes for Soles4Souls' world-wide distribution to people in need of crisis relief as well as to support their micro-enterprise efforts in impoverished areas. Please tightly tie each pair with the laces or a thick rubber band. If you wish to contribute \$1-\$2/pair toward our shipping costs to a national warehouse, please place your donation in the shoe collection box.

From the church steps:

Harvesting apples at STA:

The apples that are ripening on the tree in the Memorial Garden are ready for harvesting. Helen Baumann and Mary Sullivan have started the reaping, and apples will be available for distribution at Mass on Sunday. Enjoy them at your leisure!

Garden activity:

The gardening spirit was in evidence on First Friday morning this month, when Helen Baumann and friends did some deadheading of day lilies and roses.

CA Ballot propositions October 7:

Plan to spend an hour after the 8:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday, October 7, when representatives from the League of Women Voters will set up in the Thomas House basement hall and unwrap the batting around the 11 propositions on which we will be voting November 6. The discussion will start at 10:00 and last about one hour.

Climate Crisis and Solutions Sept. 14:

Gary Latshaw, PhD, from the Climate Reality Project will speak, followed by Q&A; Networking with local organizations to take action is anticipated. Come:

Friday, September 14, 2012, 7:30 PM, Elizabeth Seton School Auditorium

1095 Channing Avenue, Palo Alto.

Open to the Public at no cost.

Dr. Latshaw, a retired physicist, received his PhD in physics from Stanford University. He will explain the rationale of the science behind the crisis, describe potential local and national impacts, and offer solutions which must be implemented soon for the benefit of future generations. Come learn what you can do and how to take action.

Thomas House Library:

On August 28 Philip Warman and Ted Baer worked at the TH library and had an inadequate "open" sign out front...literally,

the opening of the Thomas House library. No one stopped in.

On August 30 Philip and Ted were again working from 11:30 -1:15 with a better sign out front. A couple in their mid-twenties came in and spent about 10 minutes learning about the library and browsing. Shortly after they left, a single woman, also probably in her mid-twenties, came by. She was very interested in the library too and pressed Ted for its hours, which had not been established at that point. Everyone took one of the catalogued list of holdings.

The library schedule is tentatively set for Thursdays from 11:30 till 1:00 or so. With a little more experience, Ted will begin searching for librarians/library attendants. Contact him if you can help: tabaer@sbcglobal.net, (650) 321-6179.