

# Steeple Talk

Volume 12, No. 1

April 1, 2018

## *News from the STA Mass communities:*

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

**7:30 Sunday Mass:** Fr. Sev Kuupuo of Ghana, currently in the Clinical Pastoral Education program at Stanford Hospital and resident in STA parish, celebrates this Mass on occasion.

**8:45 Sunday Mass:** Two separate choir groups alternate at this Mass: Larry Schemel's Community Choir and the Eke Family choir.

**10:30 Sunday Mass:** Paul Prochaska is the lead music minister and welcomes singers/musicians who could join him.

**12:00 Sunday Mass:** The St. Ann Choir leads Gregorian chant each Sunday at this Mass.

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

## **Fish Fest is back April 13 at 6 pm:**



Fish Fest! Remember how tasty those fish filets were-- once we figured out how to use our big portable oven? And the ever-tangy Asian cole slaw? (Many thanks to people who generously also brought snacks and desserts to share occasionally.) And all this for only \$5 per person, plus \$2 for a beer or generous glass of wine.

Come to the Thomas House at 6 pm on Friday, April 13, and 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, hbaumann@aol.com, or Kay Williams, 650-270-4188, kaywill@pacbell.net.

## **Video on Br. Roger of Taizé April 21:**

Have you participated in a Taizé prayer service in our parish or elsewhere? All who are interested in the Taizé Community, or are just curious, are invited to attend a showing of the video on the life of Taizé's founder, "Moments in the Life of Brother Roger," on Saturday, April 21, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm here in the Thomas House basement hall. A discussion after the film will be accompanied by wine and cheese.

The film (in French with subtitles) presents sixteen "moments" in the life of Br. Roger Schutz, from his childhood in a Swiss mountain village, via his settling at Taizé near the beginning of the Second World War, to his tragic death during an evening prayer. Br. Roger was a compelling personality, who was always ready to take risks for the rec-



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conciliation of Christians, for the younger generations, and for the poor.

The discussion will be facilitated by Anna Fernandez, a long-time member of the Taizé Community, originally from Rome and now a Marriage and Family therapist practicing on the Peninsula. She has attended many Taizé international meetings and pilgrimages, since first becoming acquainted with Taizé in 1981 in parish youth groups in Rome.

## **STA Site Committee plans:**

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

**Next regular Site meeting:**  
Wednesday, April 4, 2018,  
7:30 pm, Thomas House Library

### **Agenda (tentative):**

- ◆ PSC Report
- ◆ Interior Committee report
- ◆ Church exterior: stairs, etc.
- ◆ Hotel de Zink in July

**Monthly newsletter:**  
Sunday before Wednesday meeting

**Editor:** Kay Williams, 650-270-4188,  
kaywill@pacbell.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 March 4, the following persons registered:

**10:30 Mass:**  
Aymeri de la Riviere, Palo Alto  
Kristina Keller, Palo Alto  
David Loooris, Palo Alto

### **STA Site tech help:**

Thanks to the expertise of Kory Trebbin, the venerable computer in the Thomas House office is running again. He has spent several hours inside the computer unit; new parts ordered off eBay worked!. Kory is volunteering his time for the STA computer, but he is available to fix your computer, at reasonable rates. Contact him:  
(408) 637-1092,  
koryspeak@aol.com.

### **Library volunteers sought:**

Volunteer to keep the Thomas House library open a couple of hours a week as part of a team of at least two persons. The best time of day to welcome visitors is before and after the daily 12:15 pm Mass. It's a lovely place to be, especially if you like being surrounded by interesting books. Ted Baer arranges the volunteer schedule, so contact him at [tabaer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tabaer@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 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](mailto:kaywill@pacbell.net).

## Parish pathways:

### *Get ready for the Seton School annual golf tournament, May 14:*

Take advantage of the Early Bird registration fee before Monday, April 16. Play Golf at Stanford and empower children of low-income families to reach their full potential

- Exclusive Stanford golf venue
- Food, wine and beverages
- Awards + silent & live auction!

All golfers are welcome! Proceeds will directly support St. Elizabeth Seton School students. You do make a difference: St. Elizabeth Seton School has educated over 11,000 students, empowering each child to reach his/her full potential. With an impressive 70% of Seton students continuing onto college, we continue to provide a program centered on academic success, and strive to develop responsible and caring citizens.

Our children are from East Palo

Alto, east Menlo Park and surrounding neighborhoods. Admission to Seton School is provided regardless of a family's ability to pay. However, with a 28% tuition gap after contributions from generous benefactors – including the Daughters of Charity – this golf event is essential to helping us meet annual expenses. Join us for golf or at the afternoon reception. With your HELP we can provide an affordable, values-centered, private education for every child.

**Register now: [www.setonpaloalto.org](http://www.setonpaloalto.org).**

### *Hosting Hotel de Zink overnight guests:*

A possibility exists that STA Parish might be offering overnight accommodations to Hotel de Zink guests in July. Discussions have been held with the LifeMoves representative who manages the program about using Seton School auditorium in July. It is not clear that the Seton site will be needed; more information will be available soon. But the parish stands ready!

## From the church steps:

### *Church front stairs:*

The permit from the City of Palo Alto allowing us to proceed with the replacement of the front stairs has been reactivated and is in force. Ted Baer has stepped up to guide the process forward and will be reviewing bids from contractors, with the hope that the work can be done during a break in the schedule of weddings in the church in June and July.

### *League of Women Voters to present non-partisan analysis of CA ballot propositions, May 6, 10:15 a.m.:*

Californians go to the voting booth again this June, and there are several propositions on the ballot. The Merton Center is sponsoring a presentation by members of the local League of Women Voters to illuminate the various propositions, present the pro/con arguments, and answer questions: Sunday, May 6, 10:15 a.m. in the Thomas House living room.

### *Spirituality Tuesday Assemblies in April (both at 7:00 p.m., St. Albert the Great Hospitality Center):*

#### *April 10<sup>th</sup>: Gratitude Check with Deacon Dominick Peloso*

Deacon Dominick Peloso of the Church of Nativity will give a talk on: *Gratitude: The Most Necessary Prayer*. Those who are new or not very good at prayer rightly should start with giving thanks. That simple, yet powerful, prayer opens hearts of both God and man. It gives a right order to the greatness of this relationship. It melts the hardest heart in its humility.

Deacon Peloso will encourage us to live a life of being thankful, as we should be, for all the riches we enjoy, including the opportunities in crosses we carry. It begins at 7p.m. at St. Albert's Hospitality Center. A grateful heart is a magnet for miracles.

### *April 17<sup>th</sup>: An Inconvenient Sequel: presented by the Green Committee*

**An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power:** This compelling 2017 follow-up to *An Inconvenient Truth* shows that while the stakes have never been higher, the solutions to the climate crisis are still within our reach. This film follows former Vice President Al Gore around the world in his continuing mission to educate the next generation of climate champions and addresses the progress made so far.

### *Spiritual Care At Stanford:*

Stanford Medical Center/ Stanford Health Care is looking for bilingual volunteers to assist in their Catholic Holy Communion to the Sick in the Spiritual Care Department. Hours are flexible and training will be provided. **Contact Raksha Patel at [spiritual-care@stanfordhealthcare.org](mailto:spiritual-care@stanfordhealthcare.org) or 723-5101.**

