

# ad. veritatem

ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

MAY 2018

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 2

Editor's Note:  
We Need  
Your Help



RED  
MASS



Wells of Life  
Spring Fundraiser



THE CANONIZATION OF Paul VI later this year reminds us of the submarine history of papal holiness: at the beginning of the church's history, that saintliness was evident above the water line. Then it seemed to submerge out of view. And now it has resurfaced. The story of its disappearance and return may tell us something about attorney ethics.

But, first, the history of the papal saints. For the first 300 years of church history, every single pope was sainted; 52 of the first 54 pontiffs are venerated as saints. Accordingly, making popes saints was the norm—at the beginning. Then there was a great drop-off in papal sainthood recognition.

By the time we get to the Middle Ages, very few popes are made saints. Before the 20th Century, only four popes were who reigned after the turn of the second millennium were canonized. But, following the First Vatican Council, we see a forceful comeback, and nearly every pope who reigned after 1850 is in some stage of the canonization process, including two blessed and three already-canonized saints.

So, what happened? One might simplify and say that, during Medieval times, the papacy was captured by politics and palace intrigue, while, after the capture of Rome by the Kingdom of Italy and the loss of the papal estates, the Holy Fathers were freed to be holy fathers, which is to say, spiritual and moral leaders without a lot of the complications of earthly power which their station had formerly entailed.

Here is the connection to attorney conduct: ethics and civility standards free attorneys to focus on their core competency, which is to provide legal advice to clients based on the law and the best interests of those clients, without

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### IDEALS OF ST. THOMAS MORE

The legal profession is a high calling with corresponding responsibilities to society. The principal objective of every lawyer is to promote and seek justice. Catholic Lawyers pursue the truth in both their spiritual and professional lives. The duty of a Catholic lawyer is to remain faithful to Jesus Christ, His Church and its teachings at all times despite the personal consequences.

### THE OBJECTIVES OF STMS

- encouraging its members to live a Christian life and apply the principles and ideals exemplified by St. Thomas More in their lives and encourage same in the legal profession.
- promoting and foster high ethical principals in the legal profession generally and, in particular, in the community of Catholic lawyers.
- assisting in the spiritual growth of its members.
- encouraging interfaith understanding and brotherhood.
- sponsoring the annual Red Mass for elected and appointed officials and members of the legal profession.

### MEMBERSHIP IN STMS

Each member of the Society is committed to:

- strive to live an exemplary Christian life and apply the principles and ideals exemplified by St. Thomas More in their daily lives and encourage same in the legal profession.
- attend monthly meeting of the Society and provide personal support to the St. Thomas More Society.
- attend and support the Red Mass.

### LAWYER'S PRAYER

Give me the grace, Good Lord,  
to set the world at naught;  
to set my mind fast upon thee  
and not to hang upon the blast of men's  
mouths;  
to be content to be solitary;  
not to long for worldly company  
but utterly to cast off the world  
and rid my mind of the business  
thereof.  
- ST. THOMAS MORE

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# Editor's Note:

## a personal request—for your help



You will have no doubt noticed the irregular schedule with which *Ad Veritatem* has been published this year. As Harry Truman famously said, “the buck stops here.” As editor of our newsletter, I am responsible for getting it out in a timely manner and I have failed to do that, and I apologize.

Over the years, there has always been a bit of fluctuation in the AV publication schedule—a skipped month here and there, a decline in the depth of articles that may have extended over a few months, etc. But a multi month absence is unusual, and something we hope would never occur.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the papal message for World Day of Communications, inaugurated by Blessed Paul VI in 1978. On that occasion, the soon-to-be-saint said, in part:

The first expectation of “recipients” [of social communications] which should be looked at and evaluated is the possibility for two-way exchange ... [A]ll “recipients” feel the need to be able to express in some way their own opinion and to offer their own personal ideas and proposals. Now, in order to ensure such a dialogue, to promote a two-way exchange and to focus it on the more important problems, the “communicators” will need to establish a continuous and stimulating contact with society and to bring the “recipients” to the point where they are active participants.

The next requirement is for the truth. To be given the truth is a fundamental right of the person, rooted in human nature itself, and closely connected with that right to belong and participate, which present day evolution tends to guarantee to every member of society. This aspiration, this demand for the truth, has a direct bearing on the media of information, from which the recipients have a right to expect up-to-date briefing, honesty, objective research and presentation, respect for the hierarchy of values and, where stage and screen are concerned, a truthful image of man, whether as an individual or as a part of a determined social context.

Starting from Pope Paul’s second point, the truth is

that our situation is not altogether unforeseen. We had contemplated in our leadership discussions within STMS that there has been a change in the nature of the STMS activities within the last few years, which have produced visible changes in our group’s activities, including our social events and *Ad Veritatem*. The “graying” of our membership, the changing demographics in change membership, and even the advent of new forms of communications which favor social networks like Twitter and Facebook have all taken their toll. Know that we are aware of these phenomena and are discussing dramatic adaptations to our organization to keep pace.

As to the first point, the STMS needs—and seeks—your help and input. We want—we need—the communication that the AV is trying to put forward to be a two-way street. We need your contributions, by way of articles, suggestions for articles, letters to the editor, advertisements. We also seek your advice and opinions about the job we’re doing. We need to hear when we have made a mistake. But we also need to hear when we have done something right.

We leave off with the Blessed Paul VI:

Christians, and particularly young people, must bear in mind that to use the communications media wisely is, in the last analysis, a matter of personal responsibility, and that from the choice they make, the holiness of their lives will depend, as also the integrity of their faith and the riches of their culture .. Yes, the Church must instruct them and give them every help, but it cannot supply any substitute for their personal consistent decision [to participate].



## IN GOOD FAITH

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

deceptiveness, self-dealing, and so forth.

When the popes are freed from having to raise and maintain armies, their power does not wane. Contrary to Stalin's famous quæritur, "How many [military] divisions does the pope have?," the popes' power does not stem from conventional military considerations. In fact, every pope for the past fifty years has continually shed the trappings

the messiness of worldly entanglements, including the attorney's own bias, gamesmanship, sharp tactics,

of power: whether it is Paul VI giving away the papal tiara, John Paul I giving up the coronation ceremony, John Paul II declining to use the sedia gestatoria, or Benedict XVI replacing the crown on the papal shield with a bishop's miter, we have seen that these gestures only make the popes' spiritual force attain light saber strength/focus.

Similarly, to the extent lawyers give up every unethical cheap trick in the book, we will find ourselves fulfilling the promise of the Preamble of the OCBA's Civility Guidelines, which state that "Civility allows for zealous representation, reduces clients' costs, better advances clients' interests, reduces stress, increases professional satisfaction, and promotes effective conflict resolution."

Blessed (and soon-to-be Saint) Paul VI, pray for us! ♦



### ONE MINUTE WITH FRANCIS

The Pope's Prayer Intention for May 2018 is: "That the lay faithful may fulfill their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today."

### *A Wi-Fi Password for the Spirit*

Chatting one day with a young man, I asked him what sort of things made him unhappy. He said to me: "When my cell phone battery runs down or I lose my internet connection". I asked him: "Why?" He answered: "Father, it's simple; I miss out on everything that's going on, I am shut off from the world, stuck. In those moments, I jump up and run to find a charger or a Wi-Fi network and a password to reconnect".

That reply taught me something. It made me think that the same thing can happen with our faith. We are all enthusiasts, faith is renewed, be it through a retreat, a homily, a meeting, a Pope's visit; faith grows. But after a while on the journey or after an initial spurt, there are moments when, without even realizing it, our "bandwidth" begins to fade, slowly, and that enthusiasm, that desire to stay connected to Jesus begins to also fade, and we start to lose our connection, our power; then we become unhappy and we lose our faith, we feel depressed and listless, and we start to view everything in a bad light.

Without a connection, a connection to Jesus, we end up drowning our thoughts and ideas, our dreams and our faith, and, naturally, we get frustrated and annoyed.

Saint Alberto Hurtado had a golden rule, a rule for setting his heart ablaze with the fire that keeps joy alive. Hurtado's password to reconnect and keep the signal was quite simple. Hurtado asks himself, and this is the password: "What would Christ do in my place?" Key this in: "What would Christ do in my place?" At school, at university, when outdoors, when at home, among friends, at work, when taunted: "What would Christ do in my place?" When you go dancing, when you are playing or watching sports: "What would Christ do in my place?" This is the password, the power source that charges our hearts, ignites our faith and makes the sparkle in our eyes never fade.

*(By His Holiness Pope Francis, January 17, 2018, Address to Young People at the National Shrine of Maipú at Santiago, Chile)*



# RED MASS

St. Thomas More Society of Orange County is pleased to announce that the 30th Annual Red Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 pm on Monday, October 1, 2018 at the Christ Cathedral – Arboretum, 13280 Chapman in Avenue Garden Grove. The liturgy will be followed by a reception on the Christ Cathedral Campus.

Each year, the Annual Red Mass brings together the legal community of Orange County in joyful faith, fellowship, and worship, to seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and receive God's grace to strengthen our resolve as we face the ever-increasing challenges of our times.

The tradition of the Red Mass dates to the Middle Ages, when the first recorded Red Mass was celebrated at the Cathedral of Notre Dame. In the United States there is also a rich tradition, though

obviously of more recent vintage. The most celebrated tradition is in New York (though an earlier celebration has been held in Detroit), dating back to 1928.

At that 1928 Mass, Patrick Cardinal Hayes encapsulated the grandeur of the Red Mass. "In Catholic countries the great Crucifix is suspended high," Cardinal Hayes preached. "It is impressive. It speaks—every wound in the body of Christ speaks, appeals to judge and to advocate, and also pours out mercy upon the guilty. And while we cannot have that symbol in our courts in our own beloved land, at the same time every Catholic lawyer ought to have it in his heart. Yea, in his mind, in his conduct; and if such a high ideal of your profession is before you—oh what a minister of justice you will be!"

See you at The Red Mass!

## A Brief Chronology of the Red Mass:

- 1243 - Pope Innocent IV invokes counsel of the Holy Spirit over the judicature
- 1245 - first recorded Red Mass celebrated in the Cathedral of Paris
- 1310 - first celebrated in England
- 1877 - first Red Mass in the United States celebrated in Detroit (Saints Peter and Paul Church)
- 1896 - Red Mass first celebrated in Québec City, Canada
- 1924 - Red Mass first celebrated in Toronto, Canada
- 1928 - Red Mass first celebrated in New York (Church of St. Andrew)
- 1941 - Red Mass first celebrated in Boston (Immaculate Conception Church by Boston College)
- 1944 - Red Mass first celebrated in Montreal, Canada
- 1944 - Red Mass first celebrated in Sydney, Australia
- 1952 - Red Mass first celebrated for U.S. Supreme Court in Washington, D.C.
- 1952 - Red Mass first celebrated in New Orleans
- 1953 - Red Mass first celebrated in San Antonio, TX
- 1982 - Red Mass first celebrated in Los Angeles
- 1988 - Red Mass first celebrated in Orange County
- 1993 - Red Mass first celebrated in Cameron/Starr Counties, TX
- 2000 - Red Mass first celebrated in Laredo, TX
- 2011 - Red Mass first celebrated in Mexico (Durango)
- March 2018 - Red Mass first celebrated in Barcelona, Spain

## We need your help!

Please prayerfully consider helping us cover our expenses incurred in bringing you this annual sacred tradition by becoming a Red Mass Sponsor. Click here for more information about Annual Red Mass and sponsorship opportunities:

[HTTP://WWW.STTHOMASMORE.NET/DONATE](http://www.stthomasmore.net/donate)

# WELLS OF LIFE RUN4WATER

April 22 event even helps  
builds water wells in Africa

**BY MICHAEL OLSON**



Wells of Life held its 2018 Run4Water Fundraiser earlier this year, with a goal of funding 40 new wells in Uganda for 40 villages, schools or churches that don't currently have access to a clean water source. An STMS team joined the Fundraiser page this year. It participated in a 5K/1K run/walk on April 22, 2018, raising \$2,650, according to results posted on the fundraiser's web page.

The goal this year was to donate a well in memory of Archbishop Oscar Romero. If you don't know his story, read more here: <http://www.romerotruster.org.uk/who-was-romero>. A great man who--thanks to support from the STMS--will be celebrated in a Ugandan village with a well bearing his name.

Wells of Life was founded in 2009 with one specific purpose: to bring clean water to rural Ugandan communities in desperate need. Since then, it has been tackling the water crisis one well at a time, in a collaborative effort between compassionate donors and our evermore capable drilling, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) and sustainability operation. Each one of its

wells, at a cost of \$6,000, provides life-changing water to ~1,000 people.

In early 2018 Wells of Life drilled their 320th well, serving approximately 320,000 people. The well operation has expanded rapidly in the last three years from 40 wells in 2015, 60 in 2016, 80 in 2017 and likely 100 in 2018. They've also officially partnered with the Ugandan government to provide political and financial support in their operation. They've also purchased land for their Ugandan Headquarters and Training Center, which will be the hub of the operation with office space, warehouse space, training spaced for WASH and well drilling courses, dormitories to house mission trips, apartments to house donors and volunteers, buildings for textiles and other industries, and a community space to bring the community together.

Many St. Thomas More Society of OC members have donated to past wells for Wells of Life.

Here are just a few:

**Bishop Tod Brown Well #116 (2015)**

**Murphy Wells #141 & #142 (2015)**

**Belz Well #181 (2016)**

**Bishop Vann Well #207 (2016)**

**Retreat Well #285 (2017)**

We are confident that the support, so rewarding for contributors and vital for beneficiaries, will continue.

For more information on the cause please call or e-mail Nick Jordan (949-584-6166/[nick@wellsolife.org](mailto:nick@wellsolife.org)) or Mike Olson (949-467-4097/[mike@wellsolife.org](mailto:mike@wellsolife.org)). ♦