

ad. veritatem

ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

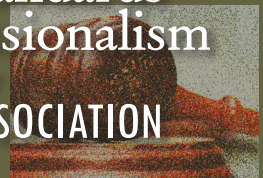
OCTOBER 2015

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 9

A House
of Glass
JOHN J. FLYNN III

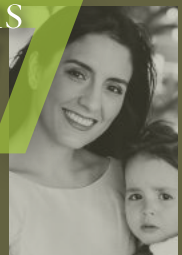


Adopted Standards
for Professionalism
and Civility
OC BAR ASSOCIATION



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7 Questions
ALMA MURRAY



OCTOBER MEETING



Speaker: Sr. Nadine McGuinness
Topic: Laudato Si
Day: Wednesday, October 21
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Location: Advanced Depositions
 17752 Sky Park Circle, Ste. 100
 Irvine, CA 92614

Sister Nadine McGuinness will speak on the timeliness for people of faith, for the Church, for concerned people around the world: of the encyclical, Laudato Si'.

Using a powerpoint slide show, she will enable participants to identify specifically from each part of the document where different "important principals, teachings, and exhortations" are to be found. She will seek to enable participants to read and respond to the Encyclical as Pope Francis has invited.

A Sister of St. Joseph of Orange, Sr. McGuinness has concentrated on teaching throughout her ministry, instructing high schoolers and elementary school students. She then completed her Master's Degree in Theology at USE.

After graduating, she became a consultant and program director for religious education of adolescents and adults teaching religion at the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and the Diocese of San Diego.

Following this, she was a national consultant for the Catholic education arm of a major publishing firm: writing textbooks and teachers manuals, teaching throughout the Midwest and south. Loyola Marymount later invited her to direct the Master's program in Religious Studies. She then completed the PhD program and graduated from the University of St. Michael's College, a member of the University of Toronto, Canada, with a focus on Catholic doctrine and systematic theology. Subsequently she has directed the formation program for the Diocese of San Bernardino, CA, developing basic and advanced programs for all in ministry throughout the diocese.

Presently, she is serving as theologian, catechist and retreat presenter through the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, CA.

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The St. Thomas More Society of Orange County is an independent organization sponsored by lawyers and judges who are practicing members of the Roman Catholic Church.

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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

EDITOR@STTHOMASMORE.NET



image [via](#)

JOHN J. FLYNN III

The vocation of the Christian is to become a transparency, so that the Christ who lives in us becomes visible to all those who lay eyes on us. Or, our vocation is to be sculpted, by the heavy blows of obedience, method, discipline and suffering, into the image of the Crucified One, the image grounded (so we hope) in the reality of our daily living. In other words, the vocation of the Christian is conversion.

This transparency is the vocation, too, of the Church, whose members too often obscure or even conceal the face of the Lord. And the concealment does not happen by lapses only in the externalities of the faith, but by inward resistance to the great and necessary pain of conversion, no mere change of mind, but a true crucifixion of the will. So, in the practice of faith, we develop so many refractory yet comforting habits of word, mind and body, nearly always without full awareness.

Then, the habit having formed and taken us captive, we find it nearly impossible to relinquish the satisfactions they provide, nearly always to our spiritual detriment, and therefore to the detriment of the evangelical mission of the Church, who is Christ living in the world. The Church by its nature can only attract; it repels for two reasons: The sins of the faithless and the sins of the faithful.

So the Church must become a transparency, a house of glass, showing Christ to the world, revealing the Lord's very heart. And in no glass house may a stone ever be thrown. The stones long ago fell to the ground, let go by fingers that held the stones tight until the great moment of paralyzing recognition, when the eyes beheld, first, a sinner to be stoned, and then their own guilt, written in the dirt by the Son of God. ♦

As addressed in the August and September issues of *Ad Veritatem*, authentic Catholic lawyers have a spiritual and professional duty to observe civility in the practice of law. What would such mandated civility

look like in our day to day law practice? The Orange County Bar Association has adopted specific standards which are excerpted below. For God's sake, we should meet and exceed these "secular" guidelines.

OC BAR ASSOCIATION: Adopted Standards for Professionalism and Civility



image via

PREAMBLE

The legal profession is a noble pursuit that once commanded the respect of all citizens. Recently, the profession's reputation has suffered in the eyes of many. To reverse this trend, and regain the confidence of a weary public, we hereby re-commit ourselves to the goals and ideals we set out to foster when we first determined to become lawyers"... specific excerpts:

1. Counsel should interact with adversaries in a professional and civil manner by:

1. Acting professionally towards other counsel at all times;
2. Acting courteously toward opposing counsel's secretaries, clerks, and other office staff, and never taking out frustration with opposing counsel on such individuals;
3. Honoring commitments, whether oral or in writing;

4. Not evading an adversary's attempts to communicate (whether by telephone, letter, email, or other means), and responding to such attempts at the earliest reasonable opportunity;
5. Extending courtesies to opposing counsel, including reasonable requests for extensions of time, whenever possible without prejudicing the client's interests;
6. Never ascribing a position to opposing counsel for the purpose of creating a false record;
7. Serving papers on opposing counsel personally or by facsimile, even if allowed by mail, when opposing counsel requests it or when service by mail would prejudice the opposing party; and
8. Seeking fair resolution of ex parte procedures by not intentionally setting hearings in a way that would prejudice the other side's ability to attend, by providing the adversary more than the bare minimum notice of ex parte hearings, and by serving ex parte papers by facsimile sufficiently in advance of the hearing.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

OC BAR ASSOCIATION: ADOPTED STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONALISM AND CIVILITY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

2. Counsel should facilitate the civil and professional exchange of information through written discovery by:

1. Responding to non-objectionable discovery in a forthright and timely manner;
2. Never serving discovery for the purpose of harassing or generating expense for an adversary;
3. Making all efforts to tailor discovery to information or materials actually needed for trial preparation; and
4. Taking all reasonable and good faith steps to resolve discovery disputes without the need for a discovery motion.

3. Counsel should act appropriately in depositions by:

1. Not engaging in obstructionist, abusive, or rude tactics;
2. Limiting objections to those that are well founded and necessary to preserve for trial;
3. Making reasonable efforts to accommodate the schedules of both opposing counsel and the witness when scheduling depositions;
4. Respecting the priority of a deposition noticed for a date reasonably near in time, unless an earlier deposition is necessary to meet legitimate scheduling concerns; and
5. Not attempting to delay a deposition unless it is necessary to meet real schedule conflicts, and in such case notifying opposing counsel as soon as possible after learning of the conflict...

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1. How did you come to the Legal profession?

I knew I wanted to be a lawyer since I was in elementary school. I could not have articulated it in these terms as a child but the legal profession seemed the most erudite, influential and honorable.

2. Who had the most profound impact on the development of your Christian faith?

Pope Saint John Paul II. While studying abroad in Rome, I attended the First European Day of University Students in 2003. Pope John Paul II addressed the students and also recited the rosary with us. He exhorted young Christians, "to proclaim and bear witness to Christ and, in His Name, to be builders of unity in diversity, of freedom in truth, of peace in justice."

3. What is your favorite book?

This is a hard question to answer; I have so many. Within the legal genre, my favorite book is *Law and Revolution* by Harold J. Berman. It traces the roots

of modern Western legal institutions to the 11th century Papal Revolution. For spiritual reading, Fr. Jacques Phillipe's books are both profound and accessible.

4. Who is your favorite saint?

Without a doubt, Pope Saint John Paul II. He is truly a witness to hope.

5. Do you have a favorite verse or story from scripture?

Psalm 91 is beautiful.

7 QUESTIONS

with

Alma Murray



6. What do you appreciate most about the faith?

The faith transmits God's love for us and elevates human dignity.

7. What advice can you give to a young lawyer on living the Catholic faith in the legal profession?

Do not be afraid to embody your Christian principles. In the words attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, "Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words."

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