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ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

**AUGUST 2012**

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 8

Red Mass  
Sponsorship Details

The Oak and  
the Acorn  
**JOHN J. FLYNN III**

August Lunch  
Speaker  
**DAWN EDEN**



# ANNUAL RED MASS

The entire legal community is cordially invited to the St. Thomas More Society of Orange County's Annual Red Mass, scheduled for Monday, October 1, 6:00 p.m. The Most Reverend Tod David Brown, Bishop of Orange, will celebrate the Mass at Holy Family Cathedral.

With your help, we will join jurists, clergy, legal professionals, their families and friends and clergy from throughout Southern California in prayer and worship, featuring the de Aneglis Vocal Ensemble. Mass will be followed, as always, by a delicious catered buffet dinner, at no charge to those attending. All are welcome! We will once again offer sponsorships at the Gold (\$1000), Silver (\$500) and Bronze(\$250) levels. For those able to provide a higher level of support we also offer the Platinum (\$2500) sponsorship and a single Event (\$5000+) sponsorship.

Benefits of sponsorship, depending on the date confirmed, may include recognition in the Orange County Lawyer, OC Catholic, the Ad Veritatem newsletter, stthomasmore.net, event signage, mailed invitations, Mass worship aid, STMS meetings, and a sponsor plaque. The St. Thomas More Society of Orange County is a California Non-Profit Corporation (ID# 33-0915452) tax exempt per IRS code 501(3). Please consult your tax advisor. A receipt will be provided to all sponsors. Please mail your check, payable to St. Thomas More Society to: William E. Malecki, 74 Salton, Irvine, CA 92602. Please also indicate how you would like your sponsorship to be recognized. One or two lines are available; you may list your individual name and your firm name.



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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.

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.

#### 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

#### 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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# THE OAK AND THE ACORN

JOHN J. FLYNN III



Those who profess to be “spiritual” rather than “religious” usually throw in a disdainful reference to “organized” religion, implying that organization is in some way antagonistic to the Spirit. The tension between spirit and structure has been the subject of voluminous commentary; this writing will add little more than an isolated footnote.

Does the structure kill the Spirit? If it does, then the architecture kills the building. The tension is dynamic, rather than self-negating or self-defeating. It is the “antagonism” that channels the flow of water, or turns a pile of bricks into a building.

The same souls who claim no need of the Church’s methods and disciplines have no apparent difficulty accepting the disciplines required to practice medicine, law, architecture, plumbing, or any other vocation that depends on a methodology. We acknowledge the necessity of method for arts and sciences that involve the things of this world, but rebel against the suggestion that the eternal things warrant the same kind of labor and care. There is more to organized religion, though, than structure, rules and method. Even the most illuminating models and images provided by the

arts and sciences do not quite capture the nature of religious organization. “Organization,” as applied to the faith, also suggests qualities and properties that are recognized universally as good and beneficial: The unity and coherence of living systems, all the members related organically.

If the practice of faith is so simple, so free of the need for structure and method, why then do we so often fail? The answer is human weakness, our inbred selfishness, which can be overcome only by grace. And we are opened to grace only by the sacraments, the channels of grace that organize the living faith. To ask why the Church cannot be simpler is to ask why the oak cannot be more like the acorn. ♦

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONTH	DATE	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
August	Wed., Aug. 15, 12:00 p.m.	Lunch meeting. Author Dawn Eden will discuss her new book, “My Peace I Give You: Healing Sexual Wounds with the Help of the Saints.”	Jilio Ryan 14661 Franklin, #150 Tustin, California <a href="http://jilioryan.com">jilioryan.com</a>
	Sun., Aug. 26, 8:30-11:30 a.m.	Come to help cook and serve breakfast to the homeless of the community at Isaiah House. <a href="http://www.occatholicworker.org">www.occatholicworker.org</a>	Isaiah House 316 S. Cypress Avenue Santa Ana, CA 92701 (714) 835-6304
September	Wed., Sept. 19, 12:00 p.m.	Lunch meeting.	Jilio Ryan (same as above)
October	Mon., Oct 1	St. Thomas More Society Orange County Annual Red Mass; 6-7 p.m. Mass (Cathedral); 7-8 p.m. dinner buffet reception (Cathedral Hall). Contact: William E. Malecki, Esq. (714) 310-7745, or <a href="mailto:bemalecki@yahoo.com">bemalecki@yahoo.com</a>	Holy Family Cathedral

# AUGUST LUNCH MEETING

## INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER AND BESTSELLING AUTHOR DAWN EDEN



Dawn Eden, internationally known speaker and author of the bestselling *The Thrill of the Chaste*, shows how the lives of the saints have given her hope and aided her journey of spiritual healing after childhood sexual abuse. One in four American women and one in six American men report having been sexually abused during childhood and *My Peace I Give You: Healing Sexual Wounds with the Help of the Saints* provides a much-needed resource for spiritual healing from the isolating

effects of these wounds.

Dawn uses her own story as a backdrop to introduce numerous holy people—like Laura Vicuña, Thomas Aquinas and Bernard of Clairvaux—who suffered sexual abuse or sexual inappropriateness, as well as saints such as Ignatius of Loyola who suffered other forms of mistreatment and abandonment. Readers seeking wholeness will discover saints with wounds like their own, whose stories bear witness to the transforming power of grace. Dawn explores different dimensions of divine love—sheltering, compassionate, purifying, etc.—to help those sexually

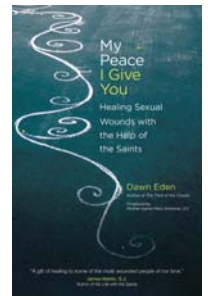
wounded in childhood understand their identity in the abiding love of Christ.

Born into a Jewish family in New York City, Dawn lost her faith as a teenager and became agnostic. During her twenties, in the 1990s, she was a rock historian, interviewing artists such as Elton John, Brian Wilson, and Del Shannon. She went on to work on the editorial staff for New York City newspapers, including the *New York Post* and the *Daily News*.

When Dawn was thirty-one, she experienced a dramatic conversion to Christianity that ultimately led her to enter the Catholic Church. Her first book, *The Thrill of the Chaste* (2006), became a surprise hit, published in four languages and earning her speaking invitations throughout North America, as well as in England, Ireland, Poland, and at World Youth Day Sydney. (She holds the honor of being the only chastity speaker ever to have been invited back to speak for a second time at Georgetown University.)

In her new book *My Peace I Give You*, which carries an Imprimatur from Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Dawn offers a Catholic spirituality of healing for adult victims of childhood sexual abuse. She holds a master's degree in theology from the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception at Dominican House of Studies in Washington, D.C., and is currently continuing her studies toward a doctorate.

*Ms. Eden will be speaking to the St. Thomas More Society on Wed., Aug. 15 at 12:00 p.m. at Jilio-Ryan Hunter & Olsen.* ♦



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