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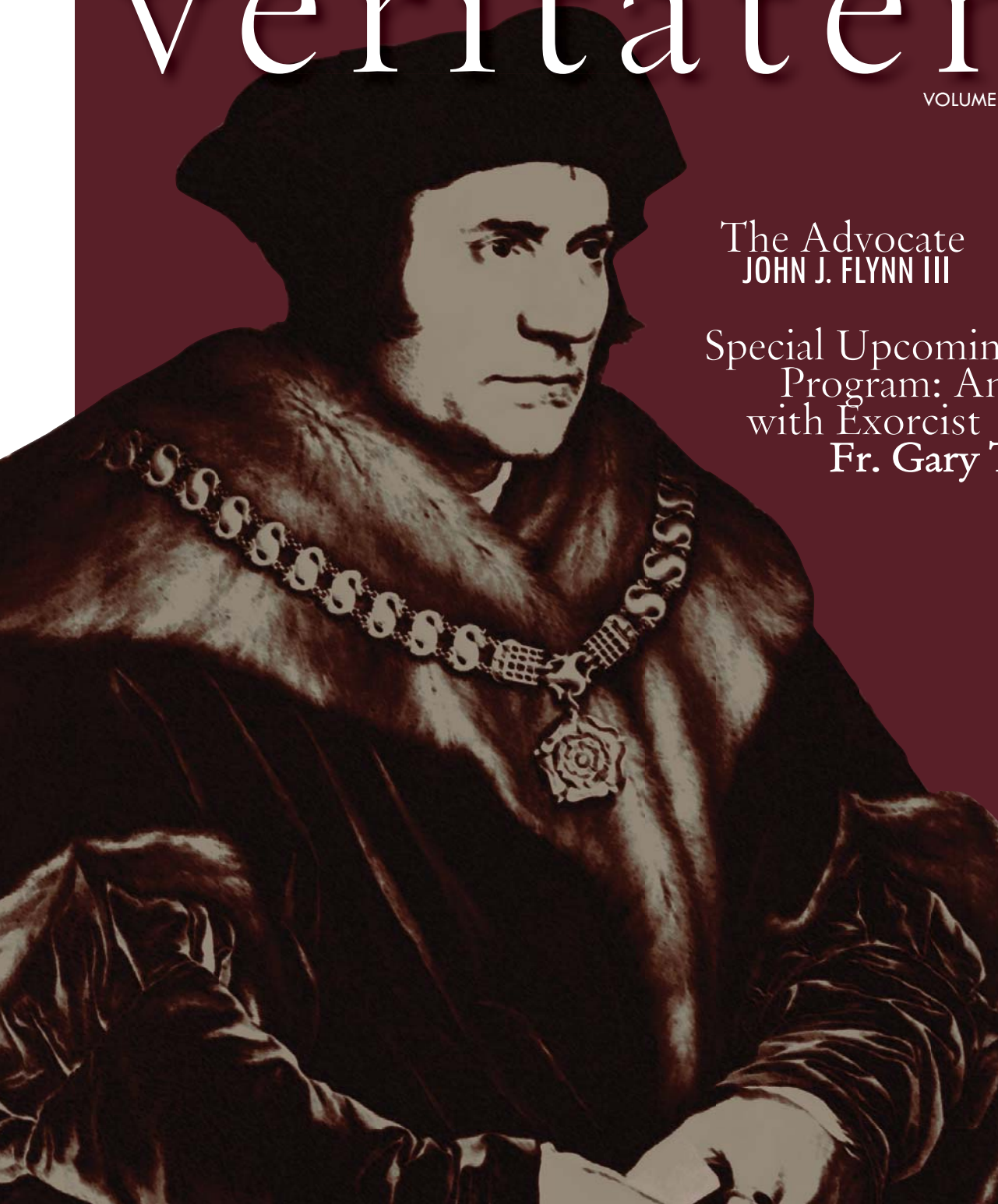
ST. THOMAS MORE SOCIETY OF ORANGE COUNTY

JUNE 2011

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 6

The Advocate
JOHN J. FLYNN III

Special Upcoming Dinner
Program: An Evening
with Exorcist
Fr. Gary Thomas



JUNE DINNER PROGRAM

FR. GARY THOMAS, EXORCIST FOR THE DIOCESE OF SAN JOSE: “EXORCISM AND THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY”

Since 2006, Father Gary Thomas has served the Catholic Church as the Exorcist for the Diocese of San Jose. He is the subject of a well-known book entitled the “The Rite: The Making of a Modern Exorcist,” by Matt Baglio, which inspired a 2010 movie starring Anthony Hopkins and Colin O’Donoghue. Publishers Weekly had this to say about the book: “For anyone seeking a serious and very human examination of this fascinating subject, one that surpasses the sensational, this is absorbing and enlightening reading.”

Father Gary grew up in South San Francisco, and is a graduate of Serra High School, University of San Francisco and St. Patrick’s Seminary. He was ordained in the Diocese of San Jose in 1983, and has served as parochial vicar for St.



Joseph of Cupertino, St. Nicholas and St. Thomas of Canterbury parishes. He served as Diocesan Vocation Director from 1986-1993, and Chaplain of St. Francis High School in Mountain View, from 1987-1992. He was Pastor of St. Nicholas Church (Los Altos) from 1993-2005, and now serves as Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Saratoga, California.

Do not miss this unique opportunity to hear Father Gary’s fascinating account of his training and experience as an exorcist, and to hear more about this important ministry of the Church. ♦

Special Dinner Program with Fr. Gary Thomas

Buffet style dinner

\$35.00 per person (\$25.00 Judges)

RESERVATIONS/RSVP by June 10, 2011

RSVP: Deborah Knefel, Esq.

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Orange, Ca 92868

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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

THE ADVOCATE

JOHN J. FLYNN III

June 12 is Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit, called by Christ our Advocate, a somewhat surprising epithet. Why are we in need of an advocate, since our sin has been already overcome by the Mediator, Christ? And why a title so powerfully suggestive of a courtroom defender? The story of salvation is in fact thick with the language of the law: Judge, judgment, mediator, accuser, adversary, advocate.

So, the Spirit of Truth is our advocate. Satan, by contrast, is the “Accuser,” if we have correctly translated the Hebrew. Satan accuses, however, not so as to seek justice, but to produce despair, the rejection of mercy.

OUR ADVOCATE MAKES NO PRETENSE OF OUR INNOCENCE; GUILT IS ADMITTED.

The Holy Spirit is not our only advocate. Jesus refers in John’s gospel to the Spirit as “another advocate,” just as Jesus himself is an advocate. The Son, though, has ascended to the Father: The Spirit is the love between the Father and the Son, who descends and continues

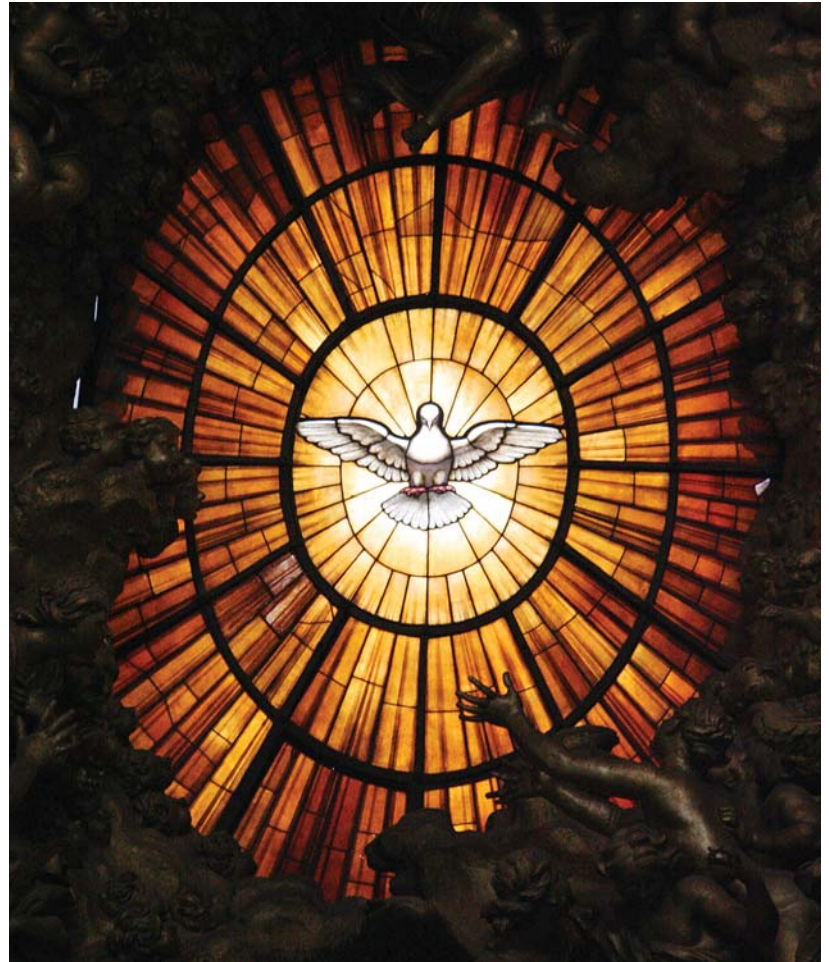
the work of advocacy begun by Christ. Of what does his advocacy consist?

Our Advocate makes no pretense of our innocence; guilt is admitted. The only argument remaining pertains to sentence, and there the Accuser is answered: Guilt is overcome by mercy.

I had occasion recently to hear the remarks of a learned student of scripture, who bristled somewhat at his own rhetorical suggestion that the word “advocate,” as Jesus uses the term in John’s gospel, might be equated with “lawyer.” Indeed, the Catechism suggests that the preferred rendering is “consoler.”

Blessed John Paul II seemed unafraid to contend with the implications of a more provocative reading, i.e., the Advocate as a defender in the broad legal sense. In his general audience address of May 24, 1989, John Paul stated:

It is this meaning of ‘advocate-defender’ that now interests us, while not forgetting that some Fathers of the Church use Parakletos in the sense of ‘counselor’



particularly in reference to the Holy Spirit’s action in regard to the Church. For the present we shall speak of the Holy Spirit as the Paraclete-Advocate-Defender.

...
Jesus Christ, indeed, was the ‘defender’ and remains such. John himself will say so in his First Letter: ‘If anyone does sin we have an advocate (Parakletos) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous’ (1 Jn 2:1). The advocate (defender) is he who is taking the part of those who are guilty because of sin committed, defends them from the penalty due to their sins, and saves them from the danger of losing eternal life and salvation. This is precisely what Jesus Christ did. The Holy Spirit is called the Paraclete because he continues Christ’s redemptive work which freed us from sin and eternal death.

We should be untroubled, then, by the notion that the Advocate is our defender. The Accuser argues the cause of despair; our Advocate, the cause of mercy. Our judge is a fool for love, handing over the Righteous One for the unrighteous. The mercy of God seeks our confidence, as St. Catherine of Siena said, nearly to the point of abuse. This is the reason for our hope. ♦

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MONTH	DATE	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
June	Wed, June 15, 6:00 p.m.	Dinner meeting program; Fr. Gary Thomas on "Exorcism and the Catholic Church in the 21st Century." Cost: \$35 per person (\$25 judges). RSVP by June 10 to Deborah Knefel dpknefelesq@gmail.com	Jilio-Ryan Hunter & Olsen 14661 Franklin, #150 (entrance at rear of building) Tustin, California
July	Wed, July 20, 12:00 p.m.	Dr. John Eastman: Persecution for Living the Catholic Faith	Jilio-Ryan Hunter & Olsen (same as above)
August	Wed, Aug. 17, 12:00 p.m.	Fr. Hugh Barbour: Changes in the Liturgy	Jilio-Ryan Hunter & Olsen (same as above)
September	Wed, Sept. 21, 12:00 p.m.	Lea Smith: Catholic Education and Formation	Jilio-Ryan Hunter & Olsen (same as above)
	Wed, Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m.	El Sol clinic	El Sol Academy, 1010 N. Broadway Santa Ana, CA
October	Mon, Oct. 3, 6:00 p.m.	Annual Red Mass & Dinner	Holy Family Cathedral 566 South Glassell Street Orange, CA 92866
November	Nov. 1-12	Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Spain, led by spiritual director Fr. Michael McKiernan. Contact Pete Callahan for more information: (949) 261-2872.	
March	March 5-16, 2012	Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by spiritual director Fr. Hugh Barbour. Contact Greg Weiler or Hon. David Belz for more information.	

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Magnificat.

**Orange County Magnificat
Prayer Breakfast**

Saturday, Sept 17, 2011
9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Radisson Newport Beach Hotel
4545 MacArthur Blvd, Newport Beach, CA

www.magnificat-orangecounty.org