## September 10, 2006 • Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Pastor's Column

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## "Towers of Faith - Signs of Life and Legacy"

Recently all Parishioners of the St. Thomas More Faith Community received a brochure outlining the meaning and purpose of "The Towers of Faith."

"The Towers of Faith" is a grass-roots movement that has arisen due to the generosity of a number of parishioners who wanted to ensure that the treasure they would leave behind upon their death would be a sign of life for future generations and a legacy that would continue to support the build-out of our Parish Campus.

There are in the midst of us, a handful of "pioneers" who, on their own, made bold moves and are now guaranteeing the future of this vibrant Faith Community by including St. Thomas More in their living trust, their will, or other estate plans.

I am encouraging and challenging all parishioners to follow their example by remembering St. Thomas More in their estate planning. I have followed their example and am hoping that you will do so as well.

"The Towers of Faith" list is growing. In addition to our original list of our pioneers, we have now added the many names of those who have already responded (via the return envelope) to the initial mailing of "The Towers of Faith" brochure.

Having this information is vital in our ongoing conversations with the Diocese as we continue to "make our case" for breaking ground in 2008 for our Church. Having the number of households who have included St. Thomas More in their trusts and wills is crucial! This information, along with "money on hand," and pledges, gives a more complete picture of our financial status and our ability to move forward into the future.

Once again, you are invited to become members of "The Towers of Faith" of St. Thomas More. Be people who are willing to be life and legacy for our future!

Oftentimes, people will ask me, "What is the amount of treasure that I should leave for St. Thomas More?" Obviously, there is no set amount. Whatever one wants to give is deeply appreciated! A rule of thumb, though, that I like to use, since you are asking, is to remember St. Thomas More as one of your children. As you remember each of your children, remember St. Thomas More. Just a thought and suggestion...

In November, the members of "The Towers of Faith" will gather together for a dinner celebration. This will be an annual event in which we will come together to thank those who are signs of life and legacy for St. Thomas More, and through this event, encourage others to join us in this special opportunity of caring for and giving to future generations.

Please take time to review the brochure that was recently mailed to you. These brochures will be available on the Parish Information table every week. I encourage you to pick one up after any Mass, and I invite you to become a "Tower of Faith." Be a sign of life and legacy for the future of the Church of St. Thomas More!