What’s Happening This Week

Parish Advent Penance Service
Enter the Christmas season reconciled and in peace! Advent penance service, December 13th at 7 PM in the main Church.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
The Annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 15th, 6:15-9:00 pm in O’Brien Hall. Entertainment provided by Colleen Nixon. The Pastoral Council will provide the main entree, dessert and beverages, including beer and wine. Please sign up on the parish website to bring an appetizer or a side dish to share. RSVP by Dec. 13th.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY DECEMBER 9 2018

“LORD, WHEN YOUR GLORY APPEARS, MY JOY WILL BE FULL.” -PSALM 17

MASS SCHEDULE
Monday-Friday: 7:00am, 5:15pm
Saturday: 8:00am, 5:15pm Vigil
Sunday: 8:30am, 10:00am, 11:45am, 6:00pm

CONFESSION
Saturday (in the chapel) from 12:00pm - 1:00pm and 4:00pm - 5:00pm or by appointment.

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm

RECTORY (EMERGENCIES ONLY)
(850) 224-4887

WIFI NETWORK: STM Guest
WIFI PASSWORD: stm1967!
Attention High School Teens!

Life Teen: This Sunday, Dec. 12th, Life Teen is finishing the Rx series, focusing on how Jesus heals us and gives us new life. Life Teen is held on Sundays at Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall at 5:00pm with a meal and ends at 6:45 pm. All teens are welcome!

Small Groups: Come out to Small Groups and grow together as we talk about faith and life in our series on Truth. Small Groups meet from 7:00 - 8:45 pm on Thursdays in the Miccosukee Room at Blessed Sacrament.

Attention Middle School Teens!

Edge: Come out to Edge this Friday and join us as we finish our series on healthy relationships with each other. Edge meets at Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 7:00 - 8:30pm in the Parish Hall.

Advent Food Drive
Our Parish and St. Vincent de Paul are sponsoring a food collection drive for Catholic Charities this Advent. You have four weekends during Advent to drop off your non-perishable food donations at all three doors in the blue bins inside the church.

Christmas Break Mass Schedule
While FSU is on winter break, there will be only one daily Mass at 7am. Weekday Mass Schedule One Daily Mass Only at 7 AM Mon, 12/17 -Fri, 1/4

Been away for a while?
We would like to invite all who are inactive to come back home The initial step is difficult...you belong here, and we will be happy to help.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
In today’s Gospel John the Baptist urges us to “Prepare the way of the Lord,” and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

The monthly collection will be this weekend after all Masses.
Consider volunteering to fill food bags for our neighbors at Casa Calderon, third Wednesdays at 9am in the Casa community room. To volunteer, call 509-2086
Conference meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 6pm, STM Parish Center.
www.svdptally.org | svdptally@gmail.com

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Altar Flowers
If you would like to donate sanctuary flowers for Christmas, as a memorial to a loved one, or in celebration of someone’s birthday or anniversary, please call the office 222-9630. Suggested donation $10.

Assistance for Victims of Sexual Abuse
Our Diocese has established Victim Assistance Coordinators to help anyone who has been abused by church personnel. Victims should call Dr. James Gagnon at 877-0205. To report a case, call the 24-Hour Child Abuse Hotline at 800-962-2873.

We pray for all our beloved dead and for those in our parish who are ill. Please email any prayer requests for those who are deceased or ill to: media@cocathedral.com.
Stewardship of Treasure
December 2018 Dates: 11/26 – 12/02

Weekly Need: $17,000
Weekly Giving: $17,266
Year-to-Date Need: $817,000
Year-to-Date Giving: $845,557

To give online, visit www.cocathedral.com and go to the “Donate” page.

Christmas Offering
The Christmas Collection is important in helping us meet many of our year-end obligations. Please bring the Christmas envelope mailed to your home or find these special envelopes inside the pews. May God bless you & your family this Christmas season!

Religious Education
Adopt-A-Family for Christmas
Christmas wish lists for our adopted families are posted on the R.E. bulletin board. Gifts need to be delivered to Christmas Connection no later than Dec 14. Detailed info is on the bulletin board. All parishioners are invited to participate. Thank you!

Parents please be sure to get your child's missed lessons completed for this semester. Last class for this semester is December 16.


Lighthouse CD of the Week
Prepare the Way of the King
Dr. Scott Hahn - reveals what scholars now know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as you prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord. Start your Advent season with an inspirational faith filled audio CD from our Lighthouse display located by the Parking lot entrance. $ 3.00/CD. They make great stocking stuffers too. Thank you!

This Week at Our Parish
Sunday, December 9
SVdP Collection after Mass
8:30am Religious Ed, 1-8gr. Upstairs/SL Classrooms
10am Rite of Acceptance - Non Baptized
10am Religious Ed Prek4 - Kg Upstairs CR# 6 and 7
10:30am RCIA
11am Fellowship Sunday, after 10 AM Mass, O'Brien Hall, Coffee & Donuts
11:30am Catechist Luncheon/Meeting CR # 1-2
11:45am Rite of Confirmation—Adults

Monday, December 10
4pm CSU Adoration, Church
6:30pm Baptismal Prep Class, LCR

Tuesday, December 11
6pm LCR, Haiti Committee
6pm SVdP Meeting, Rm #1 & 2
6:30pm SH, CR # 6 & 7: Dave Ramsey FPU

Wednesday, December 12
10am Amazing Parish Team Meeting, Msgr. Kerr Room

Thursday, December 13
7pm Penance Service, Church

Friday, December 14

Saturday, December 15
6:15pm Parish Christmas Party, O'Brien Hall

Cover art: Saint John The Baptist In The Wilderness is a painting by Bartolome Esteban Murillo
Father John’s Corner

“A voice of one crying out in the desert: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”

These are the words of John the Baptist in our gospel today. Scripture can use poetic verse to make a point and to express urgency. The word “cry” is not something you and I do regularly. We usually use it when referring to our children. But, I wonder if John was so passionate that he actually “cried” out when speaking to those who came to him in the wilderness.

Reflecting a bit when I was in my teen years, my father used to say “do I have to yell?” Of course, he was expressing his exasperation when he tried to get us to do something we didn’t want to do. Sometimes it takes someone doing or saying things differently to get us to move. John the Baptist knew this. I think the same is true throughout history. Prophetic voices have raised their “cries” so that you and I can hear them. Often times, these cries alarm us or worse, irritate us. But, that is often how change happens. As Christians, we are in a constant state of change. From our youth to our dying years, we are called to spiritual change. We call this “metanoia”. A Greek word that means “a transformative change of heart”. Not just the mind, but the heart.

So, this Advent season is our gift. It alerts us and “cries” out to us! Let’s open our hearts and minds to a more intense change that we already want in our life for God.

Happy Advent,

Fr. John

Community Events

Trinity Catholic School
Virtues in Practice for Parents and Parishioners – Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 8:00 AM
You are invited to join Trinity Parents and Principal Bridges in the Blessed Sacrament Church Parish Hall for coffee and discussion on the virtue of Fortitude, our virtue of the month for December.

Save the Date: Trinity Catholic School Open House Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 1:30 PM
Visit Trinity Catholic School! We are the only Catholic school serving PK3 – 8th Grade students in Tallahassee. Come to learn more about our exceptional academics and extracurriculars. Visit our Christ-centered classrooms and meet our dedicated teachers.

St. John Paul II Catholic High School
SJPII is now accepting admission applications for the 2019-2020 school year. We offer tours and shadow dates at your convenience. Do you have a middle schooler? It is never too early to start exploring options for high school for your child. Visit our website www.sjpiichs.org. Please contact our Director of Enrollment for information and scheduling. Jillyann McGowan (850)201.5744 jmcgowan@jpiichs.org.

Invitation to Communion and Liberation: School of Community (SoC) Mondays 6:00-7:00 pm at St. Thomas More, Community Room, Give Witness of Christ’s Ongoing Presence in Your Life in Relation to the Reading. Please contact Sonya Williams sonyaraebart@gmail.com or 724-674-4452 or to receive the Reading.

Open Door Women’s Clinic is hiring a part-time registered nurse and/or ultrasound tech. If you are interested, please send your resume and cover letter to Tracy Melin at tracy@womensct.com For additional info, please contact Tracy via email or call 850-656-9177

Celebrate Faith 2019
As we begin this season of Advent and our preparations to celebrate the birth of our Lord, don’t forget to register for Celebrate Faith: Rejoicing in the Spirit held on February 9th. Register at: www.ptdiocese.org/celebratefaith2019
St. Thomas More

Christmas Party

SAT. DECEMBER 15  6:15-9:00 PM
O'BRIEN SOCIAL HALL

Please bring an appetizer or side dish to share

RSVP online at www.cocathedral.com
**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, December 9**
8:30am † Jack and Phyllis Bowen by the Bowen Children
10:00am † Larry Brennan by Elenita Gomez
11:45am † Jennifer Hernandez by Mary Keuchal
6:00pm For the people of Saint Thomas More

**Monday, December 10**
7:00am † Joseph Vu Hoa by Vu & Thu Trinh
5:15pm † Christopher Luis Casault by Lauren Matthews

**Tuesday, December 11**
7:00am Darcy Gillespie by Kathy and Tim Grobe
5:15pm Meg Righan

**Wednesday, December 12 • Our Lady Of Guadalupe**
7:00am Steve Andrews
5:15pm Kevin Patrick

**Thursday, December 13 • Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**
7:00am Carol Rose
5:15pm † Jack and Phyllis Bowen by the Bowen Children

**Friday, December 14 • Saint John Of The Cross, Priest and Doctor Of The Church**
7:00am † Thomas Graham
6:00pm † Joseph Vu Hoa by Vu & Thu Trinh

**Saturday, December 15**
8:00am Barbera Vorwald
5:00pm † Walter and Lorraine O’Kon by Jeanne O’Kon

**We pray for our military men and women serving overseas. Please provide the names of military service members so that they and their families can be remembered at Mass and in the prayers of our parishioners. Call the office at (850) 222-9630 to have a name added to or removed from this list.**

**Pray For Our Troops**
Anthoney Medehue, Christopher Brian Jones, Joseph Legros, Matthew Pickles Chase Murray, Paul Rolston, Joseph Westberry, and Steven Vuis

**Clergy & Staff**

**Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee:**
Most Reverend William A. Wack, CSC

**Rector:** Rev. John B. Cayer, frjohn@cocathedral.com

**Parochial Vicar & Campus Minister:** Rev. Tim Holeda, frtim@cocathedral.com

**Deacon:** Andy Grosmaire, deaconandy@cocathedral.com

**Campus Ministry:** Brother Clinton Reed, broclinton@fsucatholic.org

**High School Youth Director:** Chris Ackerman, (615)945-4350, bsclifeteen@gmail.com

**Director of Religious Ed:** Maureen Brown-Muir, maureen@cocathedral.com

**Music Ministry:** Almira Malley, almira@cocathedral.com

**Business Manager:** Dasha Nixon, dasha@cocathedral.com

**Office Manager:** Ellen Murphy, ellen@cocathedral.com

**Office Assistant/Bulletin Editor:** Amanda Jordan, media@cocathedral.com

**Front Desk Associate:** David Edscorn, office@cocathedral.com

**Facilities:** Victor Herrera, maintenance@cocathedral.com

**Registration Information**

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** All Catholics who regularly worship at St. Thomas More should be registered as parishioners.

**REGISTRATION:** All parishioners are asked to return a completed registration form to the parish office and make identifiable contributions either through offertory envelopes or by personal checks.

**MATRIMONY:** Arrangements should be made with a priest at least six months in advance. Important guidelines for marriage at St. Thomas More Co-Cathedral can be found at our website: www.cocathedral.com or by calling the office.

**BAPTISM:** Parents must be registered members of our parish and attend Baptism Preparation Classes. To register and obtain further information, contact the church office.

**TITHING:** Our parish encourages parishioners to thank God for their material blessings by returning a percentage of their income to Him through charitable donations. God in return richly blesses those who tithe. The recommended distribution of tithing is half to the parish and half to other charities, including the Bishop’s Catholic Sharing Appeal and second collections. A household can begin tithing by returning 2% of their income to God, and increasing it to 10% over a period of years as household finances allow. Please make parish donations by writing checks to St. Thomas More. To give on-line, go to www.securegive.com.

**PRIEST OR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER VISITATION:** Those needing to have a priest or extraordinary minister visit them at home, hospital or prison, call the parish office.