What’s Happening This Week

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

Fellowship Sunday
Join us for Fellowship Sunday after the 10am Mass. Please come to O’Brien Hall to enjoy some time visiting with fellow parishioners along with a donut, coffee and juice.

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. 16th, Life Teen is having our annual Christmas Party and Gift Exchange. Bring a wrapped (non-gag) gift of $10 in value. Life Teen is held on Sundays at Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall at 5pm with a meal and ends at 6:45pm. All teens are welcome!

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

Attention Middle School Teens!

Edge: Come out to Edge this Friday as we have our annual Christmas Party and Gift Exchange. Bring a wrapped (non-gag) gift of $10 in value. Edge meets at Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 7-8:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

There will be no Edge or Life Teen starting after Friday, Dec. 21st until the first week of January.

The University of Notre Dame Liturgical Choir
The University of Notre Dame Liturgical Choir will be singing at the 11:45 AM Mass on Sunday, Jan. 6 for the Feast of the Epiphany. Immediately following Mass, they will perform a short concert for the community, so invite your friends and family! There is no charge for admission.

Advent Food Drive
Our Parish and St. Vincent de Paul are sponsoring a food collection drive for Catholic Charities this Advent. You have 2 weekends remaining during Advent to drop off your non-perishable food donations at all three doors in the blue bins inside the church.

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.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
In today’s Gospel John the Baptist says, “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise…”

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving… please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

Consider serving dinner with us at the Kearney Center on third Thursdays at 7:00pm. To volunteer email us at svdptally@gmail.com.

Conference meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 6pm, STM Parish Center.
www.svdptally.org | svdptally@gmail.com

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.

Christmas Break Mass Schedule
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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.

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.
Religious Education

A BIG Thank You to all who were able to support the Adopt-A-Family through Christmas Connection.


Lighthouse CD of the Week

Angels Explained

Dr. Mark Miravalle teaches on the fascinating subject of Angels. Why did God create angels? How are they different from humans? Are guardian angels found in Scripture? Discover the answer to these questions and how much angels can help us if we only ask. 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!

The Catholic Student Union

Happy Third week of Advent!

Interested in learning about the Catholic Student Union? Find out more info on our Catholic Student Union at FSU, TCC, & FAMU Facebook page, Twitter (@CatholicNoles), Instagram (@catholicnoles), and at fsucatholic.org

This Week at Our Parish

Sunday, December 16

8:30am Religious Ed, 1-8gr.
Upstairs/SL Classrooms
10am Religious Ed Prek4 - Kg
Upstairs CR# 6 and 7
11am Fellowship Sunday, after 10 AM Mass, O'Brien Hall, Coffee & Donuts
11:30am H.S. Confirmation Session

Monday, December 17

Tuesday, December 18

6pm SVdP Meeting, Rm #1 & 2

Wednesday, December 19

10am Amazing Parish Team Meeting, Msgr. Kerr Room
7pm Pastoral Council Meeting, LCR

Thursday, December 20

Friday, December 21

Saturday, December 22

Cover art: Preaching Of Saint John The Baptist

Domenico Ghirlandaio (1449-1494)
Commentary by Origen of Alexandria

“What must we do?” (Lk: 3:10)

The baptism that Jesus gives is a baptism in the Holy Spirit and in fire. Baptism is one and the same no matter who receives it, but its effect depends on the recipient’s disposition. He who is portrayed as baptizing in the Holy Spirit and in fire “holds a winnowing fan in his hand which he will use to clear his threshing floor. The wheat he will gather into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with fire that can never be quenched.”

I should like to discover our Lord’s reason for holding a winnowing fan and to inquire into the nature of the wind that scatters the light chaff here and there, leaving the heavier grain lying in a heap—for you must have a wind if you want to separate wheat and chaff. I suggest that the faithful are like a heap of unsifted grain, and that the wind represents the temptations which assail them and show up the wheat and the chaff among them.

Temptation merely brings to light the hidden virtues of patience and fortitude. When your soul is overcome by some temptation, it is not the temptation that turns you into chaff. No, you were chaff already, that is to say fickle and faithless; the temptation simply discloses the stuff you are made of. On the other hand, when you endure temptations bravely it is not the temptation that makes you faithful and patient; temptation merely brings to light the hidden virtues of patience and fortitude that have been present in you all along.

A storm will not allow a house to stand firm if it is built upon sand. If you wish to build a house, you must build it upon rock. Then any storms that arise will not demolish your handiwork. So while all is yet quiet, before the storm gathers, let us concentrate all our efforts on the foundations of our building and construct our house with the many strong, interlocking bricks of God’s commandments. Then when cruel persecution is unleashed like some fearful tornado against Christians, we shall be able to show that our house is built upon Christ Jesus our rock.
Advent and Christmas Schedule

**Weekday Mass Schedule**
Dec. 17th – Jan. 4th: 7 am only
Saturday: 8 am
Saturday, Jan 6: Holy Hour following Mass

**Weekend Mass Schedule**
Saturday: 5:15 pm Vigil
Sunday: 8:30 am, 10 am, 11:45 am & 6 pm

**Christmas Mass Schedule**
Monday, December 24th
Children’s Mass: 5 pm Vigil
Midnight Mass: 11:30 pm
Tuesday, December 25th
Christmas Day: 10 am

**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God**
**(Holy Day of Obligation)**
Monday, December 31st: 5 pm Vigil
Tuesday, January 1st: 10 am
Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 16
8:30am  For the people of Saint Thomas More
10:00am Delores Henderson by the Perez Family
11:45am †Jose Morell by Silvia Alderman
6:00pm †Joseph Vu Hoa by Vu & Thu Trinh

Monday, December 17
7:00am Mary Yoches by Terry Case

Tuesday, December 18
7:00am Peggy Clark by Kimberly Jenkins

Wednesday, December 19
7:00am Mary Yoches by Sr. Rita Clare

Thursday, December 20
7:00am

Friday, December 21
7:00am

Saturday, December 22
8:00am †Larry Clements by Chuck and Dede Daly

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.

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