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We wish a Merry Christmas to all our parishioners, their families, and those who are visiting our parish this weekend.

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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

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Attention High School Teens!
Life Teen, Small Groups, and Edge are all on break until the first week of January.

Small Groups will resume on Thursday, January 3rd at 7:00 pm in the Miccosukee Room at Blessed Sacrament.

Life Teen resumes on Sunday, January 6th at Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall at 5:00 pm with a meal and ends at 6:45 pm. All teens are welcome!

Attention Middle School Teens!
Edge resumes on Friday, January 11th at Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall at 7:00 pm.

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.

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.

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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
Jesus was born during the night when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real, lasting, and deep joy is that the Light shines there.

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, “Light” has shown, bringing real, lasting and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhood.

Members of our Society of St. Vincent de Paul Parish Conference are available to make home visits to parishioners who may be lonely, sick, homebound, or have an unanticipated financial emergency. Please email us at svdptally@gmail.com with your name, phone number and a description of your need. We respond within 24-48 hours.

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

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

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.
**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**
**DECEMBER 2018 Dates: 12/10 – 12/16**

Weekly Need: $20,000
Weekly Giving: $19,883
Year-to-Date Need: $857,000
Year-to-Date Giving: $887,263

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

**2018 CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL**
Thank you to all who have responded to the 2018 CSA! As we approach the end of the year, please remember to fulfill your 2018 CSA Pledge.

To date, 277 families have pledged $111,000. We have received $107,001 so far.

**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!

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**Religious Education**

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


**NO Children’s Liturgy of the Word** Sunday 12/23 and Sunday 12/30. Will resume on 1/6/2019. Wishing you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

**Lighthouse CD Of The Week**
The Mystery of Christmas
Fr. Larry Richards illuminates how the true joy of Christmas is found in the greatest gift ever given – the gift of Jesus Christ to the whole world. Choose a audio CD from our Lighthouse display located by the Parking lot entrance. $3/CD.

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**The Catholic Student Union**
Happy fourth 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

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**This Week at Our Parish**

**Sunday, December 23**
**NO Religious Ed**
11am Fellowship Sunday, after 10 AM Mass, O’Brien Hall, Coffee & Donuts
1pm Church Christmas Decorating

**Monday, December 24**
**Office Closed**
7am One Daily Mass Only:
5pm Children's Christmas Mass
11:30pm Christmas Midnight Mass

**Tuesday, December 25**
**Office Closed**
10am Christmas Day Mass

**Wednesday, December 26**
**Office Closed**
7Am One Daily Mass Only

**Thursday, December 27**
7Am One Daily Mass Only

**Friday, December 28**
7Am One Daily Mass Only

**Saturday, December 29**

Cover art: The Visitation, Fra Angelico (circa 1395–1455)
Father John’s Corner

“Welcome To Week 4”

We are now into week four of our Advent experience. We can’t really call it a week, can we? It’s more like 2 days. Since Christmas is not a movable feast, it always falls on the 25th of December. That date will always carry some emotions for us. So much of these come from our childhood. Certainly, that true for me. Last week we celebrated Gaudete Sunday and it gave us a sense of relief that we are close to Christmas. We had our annual Christmas party and what stood out during the party was the excitement the children had. They had a true sense of joy and expectation, but they were also living in the present moment, which is something we as an adult sometimes lose as we grow older. The joy for everyone was to hear the children sing.

I close with a quote from St. John Chrysostom (349-407) on singing as a natural result of the joy of Christmas.

“Behold on Christmas a new and wondrous reality. The angels sing and the archangels blend their voices in harmony. The Cherubim hymn their joyful praise. The Seraphim exalt Christ’s glory. All join to praise this holy feast, beholding the Godhead here on earth and man in heaven. He Who is above now for our redemption dwells here below, and we who are lowly are by divine mercy raised up. Bethlehem this day resembles heaven, hearing from the stars the singing of angelic voices. Ask not how. For where God wills, nature yields. For He willed. He had the power. He descended. He redeemed. All things move in obedience to God. This day He Who is born and He Who is becomes what He is not. He is God become man, yet not departing from His Godhead.”

Happy Advent and very soon our Christmas joy,

Fr. John

Community Events

Trinity Catholic School

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.

Senior Citizen Spaghetti Luncheon- January 28, 2019 at 11:00 AM

Our students would like to treat you during Catholic Schools Week! Please join us for a complimentary Senior Citizen Spaghetti Luncheon hosted by our 8th Grade class on January 28th from 11:00am to 12:30pm in the Blessed Sacrament Church Parish Hall.

Trinity Catholic School's Annual Silent and Live Auction- March 2, 2019

The Auction is the school's biggest fundraiser of the year. This wonderful community event will take place on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at the Tallahassee Automobile Museum. This year’s theme is “A Knight in Old Hollywood.” We would love for parishioners to attend and support Trinity. Visit our website for more information and to buy your tickets or reserve your table today! https://trinitycatholicschool.schoolauction.net/auction2019

St. John Paul II Catholic High School

May the joy of the greatest gift, Jesus, be with you at Christmas and always. St. John Paul II Catholic High School wishes you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Celebrate Faith 2019

During 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

Jubilee Marriage Mass

Sunday, Feb 17 11:45am Mass at The Co-Cathedral of Saint Thomas More. Make your wedding anniversary extra special this year. Whether you’ve been married one year or 50, you and your spouse are invited to participate in a special Jubilee Mass and liturgy with Bishop Wack. Mark this sacred occasion with a commemoration of vows and a nuptial blessing. Family and friends are invited to share this wonderful moment. Mass will be followed by a light reception. You can register online at diocese website.
Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More  
SUMMARY of the Pastoral Council Meeting  
November 14, 2018

**Present:** Father John Cayer, Michael Williams, Mary Goble, Michele Taylor, Christa Calamas, Donald Thomas, Sue Steverson, Lauren Kubelka, Dasha Nixon, Chaney Coggins, Michelle Harkness, Silvia Alderman.  **Absent:** Jeanne O’Kon, Mary Ballard, Brother Rahl Bunsa, Chaney Coggins, Valeria Robinson.

**CSU Update:** Lauren Kubelka reported that the Fall Festival was a success. The annual CSU Phone-a-thon was very successful in raising more money compared to last year. Both the men and the women’s groups have upcoming retreats.

**Parish and Family Life:** The Financial PEACE University class is ongoing. Those in attendance are enjoying the information presented and the small group discussions. There will be a push during Advent for parishioners to log into Formed.org, the parish’s online educational portal. Advent resources abound! The group is considering offering a Lenten study course or retreat.

**Education and Faith Formation:** *Trinity Catholic School:* The 8th graders volunteered at St. Dominic’s disaster relief site. It was a life-changing event for some of the students. The junior Thespian group has a performance on Nov. 16. During December, Trinity Catholic will host the Scholastic Book Fair.  *St. John Paul II CHS:* The annual priests basketball game fundraiser will be held on November 16. Bishop Bill and Father John will play! This is one of the larger fundraising events for the athletic department.

**Administration:**  **Construction projects update:** Dasha reported that asbestos was found in the kitchen flooring. Now the abatement team must remove it before the actual work can begin. The work should start before the end of the year.  **Casa Calderon:** There has been a change in management companies. The new management company comes with excellent references. The transition is effective on December 1st.  **Parish Christmas Party:** The party will be held on December 15 after the 5:15 Mass. The parish will provide the meat and appetizers. Pastoral Council members will provide wine, beer, and desserts. The congregation will be asked to bring side dishes.  **Courtesy cart ministry:** Both golf carts are repaired and ready to be used. Effective in the new year, the drivers will be scheduled using the ministry scheduling application. More drivers are needed, especially before the 10:00 Sunday Mass.

**Rector’s Comments:** Father John indicated that there was a great response from the parish for the Hurricane relief appeal. Many people benefited from our donations. Food donations will continue with Advent collections. The Catholic Christmas Connection donation site is located at TCC this year. Many volunteers and donations are greatly needed.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on January 16, 2019.

Father John concluded the meeting with the prayer to St. Michael. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.
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.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 23
8:30am The Choppin Family by the Choppin Family
10:00am Marcia & Rellek Rodriguez by Maureen Brown Muir / R.E.
11:45am Moira & Ed Desloe by Ed and Marietta Schroeder
6:00pm For the people of Saint Thomas More

Monday, December 24
7:00am
5:00pm
11:30pm Abigail McMillian

Tuesday, December 25
The Nativity Of The Lord (Christmas)
10:00am †Joseph Pidoto by the Zimmerlich Family

Wednesday, December 26
Saint Stephen, The First Martyr
7:00am †Anne L. Smith by George and Adrienne Harmon

Thursday, December 27
Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
7:00am

Friday, December 28
The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
7:00am †Jose A. Dowling by Silvia Alderman

Saturday, December 29
8:00am
5:15pm Charlie and Alexis Goble by Mary Goble

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