Fr. John's Corner

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

Back in October 2000, when I led a Holy Land pilgrimage for the Holy Year, we noticed in the Galilee area that there were many new roads and a number of old roads fixed and black topped. It was a smooth ride for our bus as we journeyed to our next destination. As I inquired as to why the roads where fixed they mentioned it was to prepare for the arrival of Pope John Paul II, when he came earlier in the year.

In Isaiah’s time, when roads where fixed it was only when royalty was coming for a visit. The kings and emperors would favor the towns that greeted them with hospitality. Our great spiritual work is get to continue to work and fix the crooked ways that may exist within us. Isaiah and John and Baptist are calling us to reform. Where are the pot holes in our life that need attention? Perhaps this Advent can be a time to do some repairs.

Happy Advent,

This Week:

MONDAY 12/9
4pm, Adoration, CSU, Church

TUESDAY 12/10
6pm SVdP Meeting, Room 6
6pm Haiti Committee, Lewis Conference Room

WEDNESDAY 12/11
10am Amazing Parish Meeting, Msgr. Kerr Room
6pm CSU, Study Break Dinner

THURSDAY 12/12
7pm Advent Penance Service

FRIDAY 12/13
11am Staff Prayer, Chapel

SATURDAY 12/14
6:30pm Parish Christmas Party, O’Brien Hall

SUNDAY 12/15
Religious Ed, Upstairs
10am RCIA
11am Fellowship Sunday, O’Brien Hall, Coffee & Donuts
Please support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can continue to bring comfort and peace to our brothers and sisters who are poor and suffering. Thank you, and may the peace of God be with you.

During Advent, SVdP will be collecting non-perishable food and toiletries for Catholic Charities and for our neighbors at Casa Calderon in the blue bins at each door of the church. See more information in today's Bulletin insert.

Consider becoming an active member of SVdP. Society meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 6pm, Room #6, Parish Center. www.facebook.com/svdptally or 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 go to our website or call the office 222-9630. Suggested donation $10.

Parish Christmas Party
Saturday, December 14th, 6:15-9pm in O'Brien Hall.

Rejoice! Rejoice! The Annual Christmas Party is coming up! The Pastoral Council will provide the main entree, desserts, and beverages, including beer and wine. Please bring an appetizer or a side dish to share. RSVP on our parish website.

Phonathon, our largest fundraiser has concluded, thank you for your support. You can also donate to our ministry at fsucatholic.org/donate.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers and for the advancement of our ministry to reach students at FSU, TCC, & FAMU.
Religious Education

Adopt- A-Family
Wish lists for 3 adopted families and detailed information are posted on the R.E. bulletin board upstairs in the RE hallway. All parishioners are invited to participate. Thank you in advance for bringing the Light of Christ to these families this Christmas.

Parents please be sure to get your child’s missed lessons completed for this semester. Last class for this semester is December 15.

NO R.E. classes Dec. 22, Dec. 29, and Jan 05 for Christmas break. Classes resume on Jan. 12, 2020

Committed to Christ, Living in Gratitude

Within the next couple of weeks, you will receive a Summary Report detailing the results of our “Committed to Christ, Living in Gratitude” Program. Several weeks ago we began this program and we are beginning to see signs that our Sunday offertory collections are growing through the generosity of many, many parishioners. Thank you so very much to all who have chosen to participate in this very important program. Your generosity shows your willingness as faithful stewards to be a part of the ongoing missions of St. Thomas More Co-Cathedral.

Stewardship of Treasure

November 2019 Dates: 11/18 – 11/30

Weekly Need: $16,000
Weekly Giving: $22,010
Year-to-Date Need: $820,000
Year-to-Date Giving: $807,797

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

Lighthouse CD of the Week

Advent: Rethinking the Season

Advent is an odd season. Unlike most other seasons, it’s a season that isn’t about itself, but is instead about preparing for Christmas. But that reality often gets lost in the shuffle and stress of trying to find all the right gifts, decorations, and dinner ingredients. In this talk, Dr. Tim Gray uses storytelling and the readings of the Old Testament to explain that we need to live the ‘pre-season’ of Advent well, so we can be prepared to welcome and receive the greatest gift God the Father wants to give us at Christmas: His Son, Jesus. Our Lighthouse CD display is located by the parking lot entrance. $3/CD.
Parish Christmas Party

Saturday December 14, | 6:15-9PM | O'Brien Hall

RSVP on cocathedral.com
Trinity Catholic School is accepting enrollment applications for PK3 through 8th Grade students. Limited space available. Visit www.trinityknights.org/admissions to schedule a personal tour.

Trinity Catholic School has been approved for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program. Contact Valerie Nadeau, Admissions and Public Relations Specialist at nadeauv@trinityknights.org for a personal tour. See how we foster strong academic, social and emotional development in our students.

St. John Paul II Catholic High School

SJPII is holding a Poinsettia Sale, December 1-22 on Sundays from 11-1 PM at the Student Union on campus. 6" Poinsettias are $10 & 10" Poinsettias are $20. Come and visit us and purchase a great holiday gift that supports our school!

Fine Arts Winter Showcase
December 11 at 6:30pm in the SJPII Chapel, and will feature a program of Christmas and Advent music performed by the guitar ensemble, instrumental ensemble, and chorus. Please come join us!

Save the Date: December 17th
We will be celebrating our alumni. St. JPII Alumni Mass at 10AM in our chapel with reception to follow.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Looking for ways your family can enter into the Advent season together?
Grow closer to Christ this season with reflections sent to you daily.

Sign up at formed.org/advent o para español formed.org/adviento
Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 8
8:30am Marcia Rodriguez and Family by R.E.
10:00am The Trinh Family by Vu, Thu & Mimi Trinh
11:45am † Christian Pelerin by Elizabeth Robinson
6:00pm For the people of Saint Thomas More

Monday, December 9
7:00am † Frank Maccaro by Jessica Souva
5:15pm Janie Dixon by Jessica Souva

Tuesday, December 10
7:00am † Mike Doherty by the Doherty Family
5:15pm

Wednesday, December 11
7:00am Deborah Sheffield Scarborough by the Vu Family
5:15pm Ella O’Bryan by Roseanne Wakeman

Thursday, December 12
7:00am
5:15pm † Lucian & Aethelren by The Skippers

Friday, December 13
7:00am
5:15pm

Saturday, December 14
8:00am
5:15pm The Strickland Family

Clergy & Staff

Bishop Of Pensacola - Tallahasee:
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
Br. Parker Jordan - director@fsucatholic.org

Director of Religious Education
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
Nani Nixon - office@cocathedral.com

Facilities
Victor Herrera - maintenance@cocathedral.com

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.