Stewardship Reflection

All the readings on this Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time seem to address from one perspective or another the idea of “free will” as it goes hand in hand with “God’s wisdom.” St. Paul speaks to this ongoing philosophy and discussion of “free will” more than anyone else in Holy Scripture. However, as he points out in our Second Reading from his First Letter to the Corinthians, “We speak God’s wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory.

“In addition to St. Paul, St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas wrote volumes about the issue of “free will.” The point of all of this is that on the one hand we are gifted with free will, but we must accept the reality that making the wrong moral decision has consequences. In our First Reading from the Prophet Sirach, we hear “Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him.” That is immediately followed by “Immense is the wisdom of the Lord.”

We do have choices throughout our lives. One of those choices is pursuing stewardship as a way of life. One can choose to be a steward or choose not to. Nevertheless, if we look at it from the point of view of God’s wisdom rather than ours, it really is not a choice at all. It is something we should and must practice. In a homily this past June, Pope Francis said, “You cannot love God without loving your brothers and sisters; in fact, you cannot love God without being an active participant in the Church.”

*In case you forgot: If you were not able to make your pledge last week, please (stop by the parish hall and) do it after Mass today. There are blank cards in the back/pews. Please be a good steward of God’s gifts to you and do your part.
St. Vincent De Paul Society

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.

As part of our mission to help those in need, last month SVdP prepared 320 meals at the Kearney Center, a facility for the homeless.

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

Nursery

During the 10am Mass on Sundays, St. Thomas More offers fellowship and fun for children up to age 4 in our nursery. Volunteers have met the diocesan requirements and look forward to overseeing the hour of play. If you’d like more information about this ministry, including how to become a volunteer, email Kim Smith at rae.kimberly@gmail.com.

Lent

Ash Wednesday, February 26th
Mass times on Ash Wednesday are at 7 AM, 12 Noon, 5:15 PM and 7 PM.

Lenten Light Meals and Stations of The Cross
Please join us Friday evenings during Lent to share a meal with fellow parishioners. Mass begins at 5:15 pm, Lenten Light Meals will follow Mass at 5:45pm and Stations of the Cross follows at 6:30pm.

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
OFFICE PHONE (850) 222-9630
RECTORY (EMERGENCIES ONLY) (850) 224-4887

WIFI
WIFI NETWORK: STM GUEST
WIFI PASSWORD: stm1967!

CATHOLIC STUDENT UNION
FSU • FAMU • TCC

Please pray for students on our Spring Retreat this weekend!

Be on the lookout for our volunteer and participant students in the Catholic Charities Glow run 2/22.
Stewardship of Treasure
February 2020 Dates: 2/03– 2/09

Weekly Need: $15,000
Weekly Giving: $16,044
Year-to-Date Need: $105,000
Year-to-Date Giving: $111,420

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

Religious Education
Sunday Feb. 23 at 8:45 am in O’Brien Hall
Annual Stations of the Cross Shadow Play performed by our 3rd grade R.E. students Please join us for this inspirational devotion.

Missed RE Lessons
If your child has missed any RE lessons, please speak to their teacher. It’s very important they complete these lessons.

Bishop’s 2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal

To date 31 parishioners have pledged $20,829.

If you were not able to make your pledge last week, please don’t forget to make your pledge today. There are blank CSA cards at each entrance. You may place your card in the Offertory basket or go to the Diocesan website, www.ptdiocese.org/csa.

Your support of the Bishop’s annual Catholic Sharing Appeal is critical to the mission of our parish and our diocese! Thank you.

Prayer Requests
The staff of Saint Thomas More prays for you each Friday during designated prayer time. If you have a specific intention that would like us to pray for, please submit your request at our website.

Lighthouse CD of the Week
Get to Know the Mother of God

There’s a little bit about Mary in Scripture. We can glean a bit more from the Tradition of the Church. But where can we go to get the complete picture, to find out about the whole Mary? Chris Padgett walks us through what the Bible has to say about the Mother of God. What has she meant to the Church throughout the centuries, what have the saints told us about her, and most importantly, what we can learn from her ourselves? Our Lighthouse CD display is located by the parking lot entrance. $3/CD.

Formed
1. Go to: Formed.org
2. Enter code: PXFZ3Q (All Caps, Please!)
3. Create your own account
4. Enjoy!
Trinity Catholic School

Trinity Catholic School will begin accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year on February 18th! To schedule a personal tour, call 850-222-0444 or email Jody Sheppard, Admissions and Public Relations Specialist at sheppardj@trinityknights.org

St. John Paul II Catholic High School

St. John Paul II Catholic High School is accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year and there are only a few spots left for enrollment! Did you know that we offer financial assistance and accept several scholarships? For more information and to schedule a tour or a shadow day for your child, please call (850) 201-5744 or e-mail Jillyann McGowan, Director of Enrollment at jmcgowan@jpiichs.org

Jubilee Marriage Celebration

Sunday March 1 at 11:45AM - Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More

Married couples celebrating significant anniversaries in 2020 are invited to participate in a special liturgy. Bishop Wack will lead participants in a special commemoration of vows, prayers of blessing, and public recognition of individual couples during this liturgy. A reception will follow the Mass with light refreshments for couples and their guests.

Visit ptdioceose.org to register. Contact Chez Filippini at 850.435.3553 or filippinic@ptdiocese.org for more info.

Priesthood Discernment Retreat

March 6, 6PM - March 8, 12PM

Do you feel called to serve God in the priesthood? If so, plan to attend this free weekend retreat! This event is being held to guide and inform any single men ages 18 or older who are discerning a call to the priesthood. Anyone interested should contact Fr. Tim Holeda | 850.222.9630 | frtim@cocathedral.com
LENT 2020

Ash Wednesday, February 26th
Mass times are 7 AM, 12PM 5:15 PM and 7 PM.

Daily Lenten Mass
Monday-Friday
7:00am, 5:15pm
Saturday
8:00am

Lenten Light Meals
Every Friday in Lent
in O'Brien hall following 5:15pm Mass

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday in Lent
6:30PM

Confessions
Saturday
12-1pm, 4-5pm
or by appointment

Lenten Penance Service
Thursday, March 26, 7pm
Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 16
8:30am Lauren, Joe & DeRoen Family by Religious Ed
10:00am Rick Britt Erisman by Perez Family
11:45am † Peggy Behrens by Mary Gerardi
6:00pm For the people of Saint Thomas More

Monday, February 17
7:00am Cause of the Martyrs of La Florida by Heather Jordan
5:15pm † Fr. John Cayer and Family in memory of † Rosalind Cayer by Jackie Lloyd

Tuesday, February 18
7:00am Cause of the Martyrs of La Florida by Heather Jordan
5:15pm † Rosalind Cayer by Rose Ann Wakeman

Wednesday, February 19
7:00am † Rosalind Cayer by Mary Coburn
5:15pm † Puspa Patel by Jessica Souva

Thursday, February 20
7:00am Hansa Patel by Jessica Souva
5:15pm † Robert Ahearn by Sonya Williams

Friday, February 21
7:00am † Joseph Ryan by a Friend
5:15pm † Cindy Colvin by Sonya Williams

Saturday, February 22
8:00am † Fr. Guissani by Tally School of Community
5:15pm † Fr. Guissani by Tally School of Community

Clergy & Staff

Bishop Of Pensacola - Tallahasee:
Most Reverend William A. Wack,, CSC

Rector
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Parochial Vicar & Campus Minister
Rev. Tim Holeda - frtim@cocathedral.com

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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.