Our first line from Genesis today. That image is almost prehistoric, isn’t it? We know what clay looks and even feels like, but to have been created from it seems to be something only God can do. But there is something beautiful about it in its simplicity. God breathes life into us. If there’s one ambition in our life, it’s to have life and more of it. However, when sin entered this world, there was a diminishing of this life. Lent is a time to recognize what, how and who has diminished this life of ours. It’s a predictable penitential and reflective time as well. Prayer, almsgiving, and fasting are the 3 pillars of the season. If we’re already good at prayer, then let’s look at fasting from something or even someone. Not all people are so good for us. If we’re good at fasting, then let’s start giving more. This can be more of our time for something or someone or certainly more of our hard-earned money to God and his church.

In the end, we may be created and Mom and Dad have something to say in this, but God recreates us into something even more beautiful, but first we need to pray, we need to fast and we need to give alms. Let’s strive for this.

Happy Lent,

Fr. John

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**This Week:**

**MONDAY 3/2**

**CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. THOMAS MORE**

**TUESDAY 3/3**
6:45pm RCIA Makeup, Msgr. Kerr Room

**WEDNESDAY 3/4**
10am Amazing Parish Meeting, Msgr. Kerr Room
6:30pm Adult Confirmation Class, Msgr. Kerr Room
8pm Spirit Night, O’Brien Hall

**THURSDAY 3/5**

**FRIDAY 3/6**
5:45pm Lenten Light Meals
6:45pm Stations of the Cross

**SATURDAY 3/7**
SVdP Collection after Mass

**SUNDAY 3/8**
SVdP Collection after Mass
8:30am Religious Ed, Upstairs/Classrooms
10am Adult Confirmation Class
10am RCIA
11:45am Jubilee Wedding Mass

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“The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so man became a living being.” Genesis 2:7
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 Lent, we are collecting non-perishable food donations for Catholic Charities and our neighbors at Casa Calderon. Please look for the blue collection bins at the church doors.

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

Baby Bottle Drive

Open Door Women's Clinic and the Council of Catholic Women thank you for your generous donations in the recent baby bottle campaign. $3600 was collected!! That is more than double the amount donated in previous years! Additionally some diapers, wipes, and layettes were donated. On behalf of the mothers and babies, Thank You!!

Lent

Into Grand Silence

Join Fr. John's 40 Day Lenten Challenge with "Into Grand Silence". It's a great assistance that helps put more silence into our often busy or loud days. Check out our website for info on the Lenten challenge!

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 5:45 pm and Stations of the Cross follows at 6:30 pm.

Formed

1. Go to: Formed.org
2. Click Sign Up and enter Zip Code
3. Create your own account
4. Enjoy!
**Religious Education**

**Pennies For The Poor**

Sunday, Mar 1 - Apr 5

During Lent our students are encouraged to bring in coins to fill their classroom Almsgiving containers. The money collected is sent to the Catholic Relief Services. Thank you in advance for your support.

**A BIG Thank You to our 3rd grade students and their teachers for the amazing performance of the Stations of the Cross Shadow Play.**

NO RE class on Sunday, March 15-22 for Spring break. Classes resume on Sunday, March 29.

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**Bishop’s 2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal**

**Stewardship of Treasure**

February 2020 Dates: 2/17– 2/24

- Weekly Need: $15,000
- Weekly Giving: $11,075
- Year-to-Date Need: $140,000
- Year-to-Date Giving: $143,621

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

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**

**Meditations on the Stations of the Cross**

The stations of the Cross is a devotion and reflection in which we walk alongside Jesus on His way to Calvary. By prayerfully participating in this meditation we are able to clearly see through His passion and death the depths of God's love for mankind and the price He paid for our salvation. This presentation includes powerful meditations by Dr. Ronald Thomas, Assistant Professor of Theology at Belmont Abbey College, with prayer responses by students from the college Lighthouse CD display is located by the parking lot entrance. $3/CD.
Trinity Catholic School

Trinity Catholic School is now accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year. 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 ptdiocese.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.

CSU Update:  Tyler Currier reported that CSU is holding a retreat this weekend at Panama City Beach.  It costs $75 for first-time students.  The gift of the Holy Spirit/how to be renewed is the focus in the spring retreat.  The CSU banquet will be held at Bradley’s Retreat.  CSU shirts, hats, and other merchandise are now available online.

Education and Faith Formation: Trinity Catholic School: Tomorrow is the Regional Science Fair, and the winners from the 7th grade school science fair will attend.  Next week is the History Fair for the 8th grade.  Trinity will hold Grandparents Day on Feb. 21st.  The Trinity School Auction will be held on Feb. 22nd at the Tallahassee Auto Museum.  The link for tickets is: trinitycatholicschool.schoolauction.net/auction2020

St. John Paul II CHS: Next week is Rebound Week (Feb. 18-21).  Their Aerospace Engineering Team participated in a Student Astronaut Challenge competition at the Kennedy Space Center, and the students won 2nd place in Design, 3rd place in Space Shuttle, and 3rd place in Space Shuttle Simulation. The Annual Fund Drive helps pay for scholarships for students.  The tuition rate will increase to $11,950 per year. Participating Catholics pay $9,775.

Administration: Construction Updates: Father John reported on the Sanctuary reconstruction.  A company called Conrad-Schmitt provided a design proposal.  An important part of that design is the mural behind the sanctuary.  A company called Granda specializes in murals, and they are also working on a proposal. The mural will contain images of the Florida martyrs, the historical Spanish background, and the political environment.  Updates on the restoration will be provided to parishioners through the parish web site. The tabernacle will be in the center as the focus. The parish Leadership Team of the parish will engage the entire parish in the process.

Fellowship Sunday Signup: Sue Steverson stated that the Pastoral Council is hosting the next Fellowship Sunday on Feb. 23.  After that, the Pastoral Council will host Fellowship Sunday on March 22.

Lenten Light Meals Signup: Christa Calamas stated that the Pastoral Council will be responsible for one Lenten Light Meal on March 20.  The CCW will serve the meal on February 28.

Rector’s Comments:  Father John expressed his gratitude to Council members for their support in the loss of his mother.  He really appreciated the flowers, cards, and other ways parishioners showed tremendous support.

Adult Faith Formation:  Candace Bunker is very entrenched in this work for the parish.  Father John discussed ways to reach parishioners who may not have time to participate in study groups, or for whom everything is online.  Father Steven Olds from the Diocese of Orlando will be preaching a mission at the parish in the fall. Father John mentioned Formed.org and that it is now easier to sign up.  He encourages all parishioners to use it. In the fall, an 8-part series on the Life of Christ will be offered in house.

Father Murray Scholarship:  Michelle Harkness reported that the Father Murray Scholarship award at Trinity Catholic School is awarded to one 7th grader and one 8th grader, and is supported by the Pastoral Council members.  Nominations will be reviewed on Feb 25, and the six finalists will be announced on March 11 following the 8:30 Mass at the school.  The winners will be announced on April 3rd at Trinity Catholic School at 2:00-2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: The Pastoral Council will meet at 7:00 p.m. on March 18, 2020.
**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

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**Office Assistant / Bulletin Editor**
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**Front Desk Associate**
Nani Nixon - office@cocathedral.com

**Facilities**
Victor Herrera - maintenance@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.

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**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, March 1**
8:30am  Barbara Cox by The Cox Family  
10:00am Nick & Dot Wagner by The Perez Family  
11:45am † Rosalind Cayer by Paul and Sue Ebbers  
6:00pm For the people of Saint Thomas More

**Monday, March 2**
7:00am † Henry Eggers by a Friend  
5:15pm † Jerry Mulrian by a Friend

**Tuesday, March 3**
7:00am † Irene Foster by a Friend  
5:15pm † James Waechter by a Friend

**Wednesday, March 4**
7:00am † Frank Barro by a Friend  
5:15pm † Marybeth O'Connor by Michael Sheedy

**Thursday, March 5**
7:00am † Rosalind Cayer by Jenny Nguyen  
5:15pm † Terrell SoLona by Thomas Baumgartner

**Friday, March 6**
7:00am † Cindy Colvin by Bob and Mary Ballard  
5:15pm † Rosalind Cayer by Council of Catholic Women

**Saturday, March 7**
8:00am † Emile Baudion d’Ajoux by Franciose Baudion d’Ajoux  
5:15pm For the people of Saint Thomas More