No Cup or shaking Hands at Mass for 40 Days.

Remember the days when Mom or Dad used to say “now go and wash your hands”? Well, this Father is asking you all with equal concern “please wash your hands before Mass” and maybe after Mass as well. Yes, it’s that time where we have a legitimate concern that we may pass on or may receive another’s germs. This is flu season and we here at St. Thomas More want to do our small part in helping you not get sick. Getting sick sucks. You can’t play video games, you can’t go to school, work or visit your family or friends. You’re often sequestered in your room. So, with this in mind, we will be temporarily withholding the cup at communion and from shaking hands or smooching at the sign of peace. We’ll do this for the 40 days of Lent and evaluate where we’re at after that time period. Consider it a fast. A little catechesis that you already know; Jesus Christ is fully present in the host, body, blood, soul and divinity and therefore receiving from the cup is not necessary. And your neighbor in the pew can take a break from your over confident handshakes for 40 days. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we get through this Flu season and let’s pray for those who have already gotten sick, with the flu or with the Coronavirus around the world and even now here in Florida.

Stay healthy my friends,  

Fr. John

This Week:

MONDAY 3/9

TUESDAY 3/10
6pm Haiti Parish Committee, Lewis Conference Room
6pm SVdP Meeting Room 6
6:45pm RCIA Makeup, Msgr. Kerr Room

WEDNESDAY 3/11
10am Amazing Parish Meeting, Msgr. Kerr Room
6:30pm Adult Confirmation Class, Msgr. Kerr Room
8pm Spirit Night, O’Brien Hall

THURSDAY 3/12

FRIDAY 3/13
5:45pm Lenten Light Meals
6:30pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY 3/14
Lenten Food Drive

SUNDAY 3/15
Lenten Food Drive Filipino Breakfast after Morning Masses, O’Brien Hall
10am Adult Confirmation Class
10am RCIA
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.

After Mass this weekend, we will be collecting financial donations to help us help those in need, and non-perishable food donations for Catholic Charities and our neighbors at Casa Calderon in the blue collection bins at the church doors. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated.

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

 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 5:30 pm, Lenten Light Meals will follow Mass at 5:45 pm and Stations of the Cross follows at 6:30 pm.

Filipino Breakfast

Please join our Filipino community next Sunday (3/15) for a traditional Filipino Breakfast to benefit St. Thomas More, Catholic Sharing Appeal and to support the Taal Volcano Victims. There is a donation of $5 per person with a $20 family rate.

CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. THOMAS MORE

MARCH 8
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.

Spring Break

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

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.

Stewardship of Treasure

February 2020 Dates: 2/25– 3/01

Weekly Need: $20,000
Weekly Giving: $23,856
Year-to-Date Need: $160,000
Year-to-Date Giving: $167,477

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

Bishop’s 2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal

To date 148 parishioners have pledged $71,948

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.
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

Open House March 23rd 8:30-11AM

We invite you to come see our lively campus in action! Public schools will be closed on this day. Witness how we foster growth in Christian maturity, integrity and knowledge for all our students!

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@jplichs.org.

The 10th Annual "A Southern Affair" Wine and Cheese Event
April 2, 2020 from 6:30-9:30PM at the Governor’s Club

Tickets are $125 per couple, $65 single and may be purchased in advance by visiting www.jplichs.org/asouthernaffair2020. For sponsorship, please contact Jillyann McGowan for more info at jmcgowan@jplichs.org. All proceeds benefit St. John Paul II Catholic High School.

Save The Date
Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
Friday, April 17, 2020, St. Louis Catholic Church

Join us for a benefit dinner to support Open Door Women’s Clinic, Proceeds towards the purchase of a Mobile Health Clinic Unit. Bishop William Wack will be the keynote speaker.

Call for Tickets Mike Winner: 443-5664 Gloria Lay: 559-3498
Deepen your Lenten Journey with these special offerings:

March 24 - Passion of Christ and the life of Joseph. This is an examination of the Joseph story in Genesis as a parallel of Christ’s sacrifice in the Gospels.

March 31 - Virtue of Friendship and the Resurrection. As currently planned, this will begin with Genesis, touch on Job, and land in the Gospels with the resurrection.

Dr. Sonya Cronin is a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies. One of her primary research areas is the Gospel of John and Catholic biblical interpretation. She has taught at FSU for 18 years.
Clergy & Staff

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

Rector
Rev. John B. Cayer - frjohn@cocathedrал.com

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

Deacon
Andy Grosmaire - deaconandy@cocathedrал.com

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Front Desk Associate
Nani Nixon - office@cocathedrал.com

Facilities
Victor Herrera - maintenance@cocathedrал.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.