Fr. John’s Quarantine Corner

“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” Matthew 13:44

So many years ago, in my teens, I used to participate in a festival every year, in the summertime called the Billy Bowlegs Festival. It was a month of fun activities for the city of Ft. Walton Beach, one of which was looking for buried treasure. It’s changed a bit since the time I participated in it back in the 80’s, however, we would take the daily clues that were published in the paper and set out on Okaloosa Island and start poking in the white crystal sand for the buried treasure box. Hundreds of people set out to find that treasure with great anticipation believing that they would find it if they searched hard and long enough.

Our gospel today likens the Kingdom of God to finding a buried treasure. What Jesus is actually speaking to is our “longing” for the Kingdom of God. This longing is the desire for finding something as precious as a treasure. He offers a few examples of the lengths to which people will go in order to possess it and enter into it, how nothing else is more important or more valuable. And how people will sell everything they own in order to get it. They’ve discovered this is what my life is about now. St. Augustine is right when he famously says “Our hearts are made for you O Lord and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

The treasure in the field, the pearl of great price, the net thrown into the sea that gathers up fish of every kind, are all descriptions of the Kingdom. They are also images of what life can be like when we’ve discovered our vocation and our mission. It’s the excitement and joy of discovery, not necessarily the material good itself, that becomes our joy. It’s a joy that lasts. That field in our life, that pearl is within us, that fish that is pulled up is yourself. We have to look to our own fields, our own lives, our own present relationships and “bloom where we are planted.” That is where we will find God and His Kingdom. Only in our own lives will we find the hidden treasure that God himself has planted deep within.

Keep searching and digging
Events

Sunday Public Masses
Visit our website to read our guidelines and find out more information on attending our public Masses.

Daily Public Masses
We have resumed our Daily Masses on Monday - Friday at 7 am and Saturday at 8am. You can still view Mass online on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12pm. To watch, visit our website.

St. Vincent de Paul Society
We pray you and family have been and will remain healthy during this challenging time of the pandemic. Recently, we paid the rent for a family whose 3 adults lost their jobs due to coronavirus impacts. Adding to their difficulty, the father had been diagnosed with cancer. SVdP's help with the rent relieved at least one of their burdens. They were very grateful.

Your support of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is greatly appreciated. Consider becoming an active member of the Society. Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 6pm. We are meeting on Zoom during the pandemic, so please email us at svdptally@gmail.com to learn how to attend.

Missalettes
The new Missalettes are now available to take home! Please bring them back to use for future Masses. If you know someone who is participating in the live stream Mass from home, let them know they can pick one up at the Parish office during business hours, so they can follow along with the Mass at home.
**Stewardship of Treasure**  
**July 2020 Dates: 7/14– 7/20**

- Weekly Need: $15,000  
- Week to Date Giving: $23,805  
- Year-to-Date Need: $520,000  
- Year-to-Date Giving: $520,771

*To give online, visit www.cocathedral.com*

**Religious Education**  
**Online R.E. Registration**

1st-8th grade and Sacramental Preparation will be on-line for the 2020-2021 program year. Stay tuned for more information.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word**

Children's Liturgy of the Word During the 10:00 am Mass has been postponed until further notice. Go to catholicmom.com to view with your child the Sunday Gospel age appropriate Commentary and other family faith formation activities.

**Bishop's 2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal**

To date 230 parishioners have pledged $105,000. We have received $82,014 so far.

Please don’t forget to make your pledge today! You may go to the Diocesan website, for more info and to make your 2020 pledge. [www.ptdiocese.org/csa](http://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.

**Lighthouse CD of the Week**

**How To Love Yourself**

The words that we speak to ourselves shape our self-perception; how we see ourselves, and how we act. Despite being told perhaps more than any other generation to love and believe in themselves, this generation struggles more than any other with anxiety, self-loathing, and low self-esteem. In this talk, speaker and author Chris Stefanick tackles the lies which hold us captive to these struggles, and boldly shares the Good News of Jesus Christ—that Love Himself has come to redeem us, and destined us for eternal glory. Our CD display is located by the parking lot entrance. $3/CD.

**Prayer Requests**

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

**CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. THOMAS MORE**
Open enrollment! Trinity Catholic School is accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Please contact our Admissions Office by phone or email at 850-222-0444 or sheppardj@trinityknights.org to schedule a personal tour. Visit www.trinityknights.org/admissions to apply today!

St. John Paul II Catholic High School

Now Enrolling for 2020-2021

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 info, please call (850) 201-5744 or email Christina Sabo at csabo@jpiichs.org. Please visit www.sjpiichs.org to visit our campus from home via our new virtual tour video.

Now Hiring

Front Office Secretary, Administrative Assistant, Part Time Math Teacher

The ideal applicant is Catholic with experience in the position they are applying for. Please contact Jillyann McGowan, jmcgowan@jpiichs.org for more info.

Burse Club Weekend

July 25-26, 2020

We are all facing difficult times during this pandemic and our Seminarians could really use your prayers and financial support. We currently have 13 Seminarians. The Burse Club was established to help fund their educational expenses. Pamphlets will be available in our Church during July take one home for more info. Monetary donations (specified for the Burse Club) are always greatly appreciated and can be mailed to:

Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More 900 W. Tennessee St.
Tallahassee, FL 32304

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View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com
July 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The weekend of July 27-28, 2019 has been designated as a "Diocesan Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and Annual Burse Club Membership Sunday." That weekend Burse Club Directors will be available in parishes and missions to invite new membership and renew current members in the Burse Club.

Membership in the Burse Club involves no meetings. It does, however, involve offering your prayers and financial support for our seminarians. Dues are only $1.00 monthly or $12.00 annually. This year the Burse Club raised $257,000 to support the education of our seminarians. We are blessed to have nine seminarians studying for the diocese, one Transitional Deacon who will be ordained in May of 2020 and several others in formation. God has been good to us!

I am deeply grateful to the Burse Club Directors of our Diocesan Council of Catholic Women in each of our parishes and missions and to all Burse Club members for their prayers and continued generosity. I will celebrate Mass the last Tuesday of each month for the intentions of Burse Club members, and I ask that you please pray daily that more young men will hear the Lord's call to serve our diocese as priests.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend William Wack, CSC
Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee
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

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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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