In August of 2003, the Church of the Holy Cross in Midtown Manhattan, New York City was broken into twice. In the first break-in, thieves stole a moneybox that was situated near a votive candle rack. Three weeks later, the church was burglarized a second time. But this time, the thieves escaped with something much more valuable. They stole a 4-foot tall, 200-pound plaster statue of Jesus from the crucifix, but they left His cross behind.

When interviewed by the media, the church caretaker, David, expressed his bewilderment at this. "They just decided, 'We're going to leave the cross and take Jesus.' We don't know why they took just him. We figure if you want the crucifix, you take the whole crucifix." In other words, David was saying, if you want Jesus, you take his cross, too.

After his resurrection, Jesus showed his wounded side and hands to Thomas. He’s still showing them to us today, not to make us feel guilty, but to let us know he’s overcome them and to empower us to carry our own crosses faithfully. Life can be messy at times, with matters of health, economics and vocational crisis, we can feel the weight of the world upon our shoulders. Know that Jesus carries all these and more with you.

Carry on, Fr. John
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 Daily Masses on Mon-Fri at 7am & 5:15 pm and Saturday at 8am. You can still view Mass online on Wednesdays at 12pm. To watch, visit our website.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

We pray you and family are healthy and safe, especially during the pandemic. This month, we assisted an elderly disabled widow with limited income, who was way behind in her utility payments. We were able to pay her past due and current utility bills, which helped her greatly.

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.

CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. THOMAS MORE  AUGUST 30
Why don't kids come with an instruction manual? Actually, they do! In this packed presentation filled with humor and easy-to-apply practical examples, Dr. Gregory & Lisa Popcak and Dr. Ray Guarendi help you discover your own God-given instruction manual for creating an effective and life-changing parenting plan for your children. Our CD display is located by the parking lot entrance. $3/CD.

**Stewardship of Treasure**

August 2020 Dates: 8/18– 8/24

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To give online, visit [www.cocathedral.com](http://www.cocathedral.com)

**Religious Education**

**Online R.E. Registration**

Online R.E. registration is officially opened. Go to [https://www.cocathedral.com/registerre](https://www.cocathedral.com/registerre). The RE program is not in-person. It is a Home Study using our Sadlier program for 1st -8th grade and Decision Point by Dynamic Catholic for H.S. Confirmation. Both programs will include a monthly Google Meet session. Find out more info online. Contact maureen@cocathedral.com if you have any questions.

**Bishop's 2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal**

To date 236 parishioners have pledged $105,000. We have received $87,247 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.

**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.

**Lighthouse CD of the Week**

**A Guide to Raising (Almost) Perfect Kids**

Why don't kids come with an instruction manual? Actually, they do! In this packed presentation filled with humor and easy-to-apply practical examples, Dr. Gregory & Lisa Popcak and Dr. Ray Guarendi help you discover your own God-given instruction manual for creating an effective and life-changing parenting plan for your children. Our CD display is located by the parking lot entrance. $3/CD.
Trinity Catholic School

Trinity Catholic School is offering safe and superior on campus and synchronous live distance learning. Visit trinityknights.org to read our reopening plan. Two new grants are being offered to qualified students who are seeking a Catholic education in the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee for the 2020-2021 school year! For more information about the Mustard Seed Grant and the Diocesan Family Grant, visit www.trinityknights.org/scholarships or contact the Diocesan Office for Catholic Schools at (850) 435-3540.

St. John Paul II Catholic High School

Now Hiring - Math Teacher

SJPII is accepting resumes for a part time math teacher. The ideal candidate is creative, organized, flexible, current in the latest teaching methods, technologically savvy, and has good classroom management. This candidate collaborates well with other staff members and must be able to be certified in Florida if certified in another state. Candidate must pass all required fingerprinting and background checks as required by the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee and the State of Florida. Please submit resume and cover letter to Joannacopenhaver@jpiichs.org.

We are praying for all faculty, staff and students within our parishes and community for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

RCIA

Do you feel a longing for God? Been thinking about becoming Catholic? Ready for Confirmation? Want to know more about the Catholic Church? Follow your heart! Now is the best time of your life to explore Catholicism. Zoom in to our orientation session on Sunday, Sep 9, 2020 at 10 am. It's easy to find out more info on the RCIA or Confirmation programs at the church. Call the Office at 850/222-9630 or contact Deacon Andy at deaconandy@cocathedral.com or visit www.cocathedral.com/rcia

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Homilies

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cocathedral.com

CO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. THOMAS MORE A U G U S T 3 0
Co-Cathedral of St. Thomas More
SUMMARY of the Meeting of the Pastoral Council
August 19, 2020


CSU Update: Megan Majewski is the new CSU representative. Some CSU events will be held outside or inside the church (wearing masks). This year’s theme is “One Church, One Body, One Heart.” The Executive Board (E-board) is emphasizing unity this year. Their patron saint is St. John Paul II. They are holding a campus scavenger hunt and a bar-b-que. Two new sisters are becoming part of the group, Sister Eliana and Sister Faustina.

Ministry Update: Father John reported that while some church activities have been suppressed, some of the ministries will function by holding meetings online. Safety measures have been taken so that the groups can continue to function. Deacon Andy indicated that, on Aug. 29 at the 5:15 Mass, three people will be confirmed and another will be baptized and will receive First Communion. The RCIA program will begin in September. Sue Steverson reported that no meetings have been scheduled for the CCW group yet. Julie Coffee is working on new ideas. The National Council of Catholic Women has a new program called “Walking with Moms in Need.” Julie is meeting with those at the Open Door Women’s Clinic to see how CCW can support them.

Adult Education: Dr. Cronan is considering possible topics to be presented through a Zoom platform. The Parish Mission will be held next October. The Pilgrimage to Spain and France has been moved to 2021.

STM Safety Measures Update: Face masks are continuously in use, and the church office area and bathrooms are cleaned constantly. Dasha reported that there is hand sanitizer in each room, as well as cleaning wipes. In the church, the ushers clean the pews in between the Sunday morning Masses. The Brotherhood of Hope and the CSU help for the 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. Sunday Masses. The facilities manager takes care of cleaning after the daily 7:00 a.m. Masses. Safety measures are being taken very seriously.

Catholic Schools Update: Trinity Catholic School and St. John Paul II CHS are opening on August 24. Both schools have an in-person or virtual option for attendance. A detailed e-mail was sent to parents clarifying the expectations for both types of attendance. Each student’s desk will have a plastic “riot shield” and the teachers will be instructing at a distance. Every student is required to bring a mask.

Dasha indicated that the Finance Council met, and in April and May, the parish was down about 14% in the budget. However, in June and July, the parish is now over budget. The parishioners have been pretty consistent with their intentional giving to support the parish. Christa inquired as to whether or not parishioners have communicated any of their financial struggles to the parish. Dasha indicated that the parish has made two rounds of calls to every parishioner to determine if there were any parishioners in need.

Sanctuary Renovation Update: Father John provided an update, indicating that one design company, Granda Liturgical Art Studio, has been chosen to do the sanctuary renovation. They have submitted an agreement that is being reviewed. Bishop Wack has already approved it. “New Space” with Tom Jordan will be the general contractor. Next week, Father John will provide that information on the parish web site.

Next Meeting: The Pastoral Council will meet at 7:00 p.m. on September 16, 2020.
Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 30
8:00am † Mary Olson by The DelSanto Family
10:00am Glenda Newman by Maribal Ramos
12:00pm † Virginia Malarney by Pattie Malarney
6:00pm Jeannette Inserni by Thomas Baumgartner
8:00pm † Catherine Fischer by CSU

Monday, August 31
7:00am Mary Goble by Terry Case
5:15pm † Nora Stevens by Thomas Baumgartner

Tuesday, September 1
7:00am Glenda Newman by Maribel Ramos
5:15pm Matthias Laywell by CCW

Wednesday, September 2
7:00am Karen English by Rosa Garrett & Family
12:00pm Stuart Greene by Thomas Baumgartner
5:15pm For STM Parish Family by Pat & Gary Smith

Thursday, September 3
7:00am † Joseph Hoa Vu by Thu Vu & Family
5:15pm Marielena Diaz by David Edscorn

Friday, September 4
7:00am George Simpson by Ellen Murphy
5:15pm † Joseph Ryan by A Friend

Saturday, September 5
8:00am Stephen Andrews by A Friend
5:15pm Amanda Clements by Lou Hightower

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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Almira Malley - almira@cocathedral.com

Business Manager
Dasha Nixon - dasha@cocathedral.com

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Ellen Murphy - ellen@cocathedral.com

Office Assistant / Bulletin Editor
Amanda Jordan - media@cocathedral.com

Front Desk Associate
Nani Nixon - office@cocathedral.com

Facilities Manager
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.