



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: ROB BOELKE



Rob Boelke graduated from USF in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in Communication. During his college years, Rob attended church somewhat sporadically, primarily going to participate in the music ministry at Holy Cross, or otherwise attending Mass at his childhood church of Sacred Heart in Pinellas Park. It wasn't until a Relay for Life event at USF in 2011 that Rob encountered the Catholic Student Union. After that meeting, Rob began regularly attending Mass at the Catholic Center and is now a permanent parishioner there. One of his favorite memories of connecting with the CSU was working to lead the Alpha Retreat for freshmen and students new to the CSU; the opportunity to volunteer came to Rob during a difficult time in his professional life and helped him remain grounded in his faith.



Now, Rob works as a public relations consultant on state and federal transportation contracts; his role is to help citizens understand the service that transportation projects are intended to provide, and how these projects may impact them directly. Rob remains a diehard Bulls fan; he used to assist with broadcast coordination at USF football games, and particularly enjoyed getting to watch Quinton Flowers play. These days, he and his wife Christine (whom he met through the CSU), along with his in-laws, regularly host large tailgates. His in-laws have been season ticket holders since the inaugural 1997 season, and he and Christine now are as well.



When reflecting on his faith life, Rob said, "I think your faith evolves as you evolve." He remarked on the fact that his prayer life changes as he hits milestones in his life – getting a new job, getting married, etc. Now, his prayers tend to focus on thanksgiving, as well as concern for others.



*"I also believe that your faith is shown best in action. I am a firm believer in the Letter to James, Chapter 2, that 'faith without works is dead.'"*