



*Attention High School Teens!*

**Life Teen, Small Groups, and Edge** are all on break until the first week of January.



**Small Groups** will resume on Thursday, January 3rd at 7:00 pm in the Miccosukee Room at Blessed Sacrament.

**Life Teen** resumes on Sunday, January 6th at Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall at 5:00 pm with a meal and ends at 6:45 pm. All teens are welcome!

*Attention Middle School Teens!*

**Edge** resumes on Friday, January 11th at Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall at 7:00 pm.

*The University of Notre Dame Liturgical Choir*

The University of Notre Dame Liturgical Choir will be singing at the **11:45 AM Mass on Sunday, Jan. 6** for the Feast of the Epiphany. Immediately following Mass, they will perform a short concert for the community, so invite your friends and family! There is no charge for admission.

*Mary Mother of God, Holy Day Of Obligation***Mass Times**

Monday, December 31: 5pm Vigil

Tuesday, January 1: 10am

*Christmas Break Mass Schedule*

While FSU is on winter break, there will be only one daily Mass at 7am.

**Weekday Mass Schedule**

One Daily Mass Only at 7 AM

**Mon, 12/17 -Fri, 1/4**

*We pray for all our beloved dead and for those in our parish who are ill especially Jack Lloyd and Syd Stinger. Please email any prayer requests for those who are deceased or ill to: [media@cocathedral.com](mailto:media@cocathedral.com).*

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

Please remember to support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in 2019 so that together we can continue to bring comfort and peace to our brothers and sisters who are poor and suffering. May the peace and joy of the New Year be yours!

*In November our home visit team visited two adult female roommates. One woman has a 12-year-old child and the other is also a single mother of two boys ages 11 and 12. Both women and their children were living at Hope Community shelter before moving to their present address.*

*Their landlord refused to make needed repairs to the HVAC and plumbing until they reported water running out of an empty light socket in the ceiling and hearing water running through the walls. By that time, their utility bills for Sept. and Oct. totaled \$959.53. They were unable to pay the current bill much less the past due amount since they lost wages when schools closed during Hurricane Michael. Before we were contacted the families had been living without electricity and water for about two weeks.*

*We went to COT first and paid their bill plus a reconnect fee. Meeting them after work at their home we found services had been turned on, and helped with immediate food needs, as they had had to throw out refrigerated food.*

*We returned the next day with a gift card for groceries, blankets and pillows. There is only one bed in the house so most sleep on the floor. We also provided contacts for code enforcement, tenants' rights and COT payment plans for unexpectedly high bills. These two families struggling to survive are very grateful for your financial assistance! Please pray for them, too.*

Consider becoming an active member of the SVDP STM Conference. Conference meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month at 6pm, Room #6, Parish Center. [www.facebook.com/svdptally](http://www.facebook.com/svdptally) | [svdptally@gmail.com](mailto:svdptally@gmail.com)

Cover art: Adoration of the Shepherds  
Painting by Peter Paul Rubens, 1608

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE Christmas Offering

The Christmas Collection is *important* in helping us meet many of our year-end obligations. Please bring the Christmas envelope mailed to your home or find these special envelopes inside the pews. May God bless you & your family this Christmas season!

### 2018 CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL

Thank you to all who have responded to the 2018 CSA! As we approach the end of the year, please remember to fulfill your 2018 CSA Pledge.

To date, 277 families have pledged **\$111,000**. We have received **\$107,001** so far.

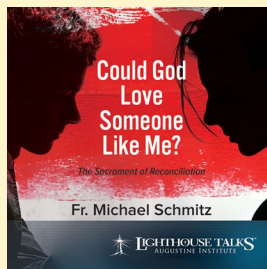
### *Religious Education*

**NO Religious Education classes 12/30 and 1/6/2019.** Classes resume for RE and H.S. Confirmation on Sunday 1/13/2019.

**NO Children's Liturgy of the Word Sunday 12/30.** Will resume on 1/6/2019.

### Lighthouse CD of the Week

**Could God Love Someone Like Me?** Fr. Mike Schmitz speaks powerfully about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He makes clear the truth that Christ deeply loves and wants to encounter each of us as we are, with all our imperfections. This Christmas season choose an inspiring faith filled audio CD from our Lighthouse display located by the Parking lot entrance. \$3/CD. Thank you all for your support throughout the year.



### *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.



*The Catholic Student Union*  
Check out the Catholic Student Union at FSU, TCC, & FAMU Facebook page, Twitter (@CatholicNoles), Instagram (@catholicnoles), and at fsucatholic.org

### *This Week at Our Parish*

#### **Sunday, December 30**

##### **NO Religious Ed**

11am Fellowship Sunday, after 10 AM Mass, O'Brien Hall, Coffee & Donuts

#### **Monday, December 31**

##### **Office Closed**

7am One Daily Mass Only:

**5pm Vigil Mass Mary Mother of God**

#### **Tuesday, January 1**

##### **Office Closed**

**10am Mary Mother of God**

#### **Wednesday, January 2**

7Am One Daily Mass Only

10am Amazing Parish Team Meeting, Msgr. Kerr Room

#### **Thursday, January 3**

7Am One Daily Mass Only

#### **Friday, January 4**

7Am One Daily Mass Only

#### **Saturday, January 5**

8am Holy Hour after Mass

9am Council of Catholic Women, CR # 7

#### **Sunday, January 6 The Epiphany of the Lord**

##### **NO Religious Ed**

11am Fellowship Sunday, after 10 AM Mass, O'Brien Hall, Coffee & Donuts

#### **Monday, January 7**

4pm Adoration, CSU, Church

#### **Tuesday, January 8**

6pm Haiti Committee, LCR

6pm SVdP Meeting, CR#1&2

#### **Wednesday, January 9**

10am Amazing Parish Team Meeting, Msgr. Kerr Room

#### **Thursday, January 10**

#### **Friday, January 11**

#### **Saturday, January 12**

*Father John's Corner*  
**“Holy Family and Epiphany”**

I remember the first time I set foot in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, Israel and scurried over and down the steps to the small cave area where there was a very solemn memorial to the place where “the word became flesh.” Just before that visit, I made the pilgrimage to the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth, that had a sign over the house of Mary that read “Et Verbum Caro factum est”- The Word was made flesh. The Word became flesh there first since in Mary’s womb she consented to the words of the angel that God would take flesh in her.

There was a movie that came out in 1984, called The God’s Must Be Crazy. It was about a very remote African tribal village who encountered a Coca-Cola bottle that was thrown out of a window of a small Cessna plane. The villagers found themselves fighting over the foreign object since none of them had ever seen such a modern thing. Finally, the tribal leader decides to take the bottle back to the “gods” to restore peace. His journey was a wild one, but one that was to restore peace to his remote African village. The people he encountered along the way thought him to be an idiot and out of touch, but he had a mission.

God, our Father, sent his only begotten son to us, not because He was crazy, but because we had a bit of crazy in us, more so, it was because he loved us. His becoming flesh was the strangest thing the people of Israel could imagine and still is to so many. How could God become Man? It’s not possible in the theology of the Jews today. But Christmas is a time we celebrate this great truth of our Faith.

The Feast of the Holy Family celebrates the gift of family. God didn’t just fall out of the sky, like the coke bottle from the plane, but he was born into a family, with a family history. He took on our human nature, our vulnerabilities (which in some way is why I bring out the movie “the God’s must be crazy). Is God crazy to adopt our nature? To be liable to sickness, corruption, loss and abandonment? God’s great motivation is always love. The great beginnings of this and the best way to express this is through the capacity of a family. So many of us have good memories and experiences of family and so many of us cringe at family. Either way, Jesus wasn’t protected entirely from the wounds of family life. People wanted to kill him from the beginning and he had to live on the road from the start. He had to learn the trade of carpentry and earn some blisters with the saw blade. He was disciplined by his parents and in turned disciplined them too, I’m sure.

Epiphany (manifestation) alerts us to the fact that we too should bring our gifts and open the coffers of our hearts to a child we call God. We bring the best of who we are to a God who wants to give us the best of himself.

Merry Christmas,

*Ft. John*

*Community Events*

*Trinity Catholic School*

**Save the Date: Trinity Catholic School Open House Sunday, January 27, 2019 at 1:30 PM**

Visit Trinity Catholic School! Come to learn more about our exceptional academics and extracurriculars.

**Senior Citizen Spaghetti Luncheon- January 28, 2019 at 11:00 AM**

Our students would like to treat you during Catholic Schools Week! Please join us for a complimentary Senior Citizen Spaghetti Luncheon hosted by our 8th Grade class on January 28th from 11:00am to 12:30pm in the Blessed Sacrament Church Parish Hall.

**Trinity Catholic School's Annual Silent and Live Auction- March 2, 2019** The Auction is the school's biggest fundraiser of the year. **Saturday, March 2, 2019 at the Tallahassee Automobile Museum.** This year’s theme is “A Knight in Old Hollywood.” We would love for parishioners to attend and support Trinity. Visit our website for more information and to buy your tickets or reserve your table today! <https://trinitycatholicschool.schoolauction.net/auction2019>

*St. John Paul II Catholic High School*

May the joy of the greatest gift, Jesus, be with you at Christmas and always. St. John Paul II Catholic High School wishes you and your family a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



*Jubilee Marriage Mass*

**Sunday, Feb 17 11:45am Mass at The Co-Cathedral of Saint Thomas More.** Make your wedding anniversary extra special this year. Whether you’ve been married one year or 50, you and your spouse are invited to participate in a special Jubilee Mass and liturgy with Bishop Wack. Mark this sacred occasion with a commemoration of vows and a nuptial blessing. Family and friends are invited to share this wonderful moment. Mass will be followed by a light reception. You can register online at diocese website.



*Mass Intentions***Sunday, December 30 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

8:30am For the people of Saint Thomas More

10:00am Jim &amp; Joan Deibler by the Muir's

11:45am † David G. Young by Sarah and Michael Pearson

6:00pm † Mary Sheree McCreary by Peggy Clark

**Monday, December 31**

7:00am † Esther Valencia by the Magnan Family

5:00pm

**Tuesday, January 1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God**

10:00am Mary Goble by St. Thomas More Family

**Wednesday, January 2**

7:00am

**Thursday, January 3**

7:00am Mark Moes by Mary Goble

**Friday, January 4**

7:00am Thomas Kossey by Kimberly Jenkins

**Saturday, January 5**

8:00am

5:15pm † Larry Clements by Debra Hightower

**Sunday, January 6 The Epiphany of the Lord**

8:30am † Donald Wenkeat by the Muir Family

10:00am Kossey &amp; Ruchala Families by Kimberly Jenkins

11:45am † Leah McCabe by Carmen Spirnock

6:00pm The Collins Family by Kathy Collins

**Monday, January 7**

7:00am

5:15pm

**Tuesday, January 8**

7:00am

5:15pm † Emile Baudoin D'Ajoux by Francois Baudoin D'Ajoux

**Wednesday, January 9**

7:00am

5:15pm

**Thursday, January 10**

7:00am

5:15pm

**Friday, January 11**

7:00am

5:15pm

*Clergy & Staff***Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee:**

Most Reverend William A. Wack, CSC

**Rector:** Rev. John B. Cayer, [frjohn@cocathedral.com](mailto:frjohn@cocathedral.com)**Parochial Vicar & Campus Minister:** Rev. Tim Holeda, [frtim@cocathedral.com](mailto:frtim@cocathedral.com)**Deacon:** Andy Grosmaire, [deaconandy@cocathedral.com](mailto:deaconandy@cocathedral.com)**Campus Ministry:** Brother Clinton Reed, [broclinton@fsucatholic.org](mailto:broclinton@fsucatholic.org)**High School Youth Director:** Chris Ackerman, (615)945-4350, [bsclifeteen@gmail.com](mailto:bsclifeteen@gmail.com)**Director of Religious Ed:** Maureen Brown-Muir, [maureen@cocathedral.com](mailto:maureen@cocathedral.com)**Music Ministry:** Almira Malley, [almira@cocathedral.com](mailto:almira@cocathedral.com)**Business Manager:** Dasha Nixon, [dasha@cocathedral.com](mailto:dasha@cocathedral.com)**Office Manager:** Ellen Murphy, [ellen@cocathedral.com](mailto:ellen@cocathedral.com)**Office Assistant/Bulletin Editor:** Amanda Jordan, [media@cocathedral.com](mailto:media@cocathedral.com)**Front Desk Associate:** David Edscorn, [office@cocathedral.com](mailto:office@cocathedral.com)**Facilities:** Victor Herrera, [maintenance@cocathedral.com](mailto:maintenance@cocathedral.com)*Registration Information***PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** All Catholics who regularly worship at St. Thomas More should be registered as parishioners.**REGISTRATION:** All parishioners are asked to return a completed registration form to the parish office and make identifiable contributions either through offertory envelopes or by personal checks.**MATRIMONY:** Arrangements should be made with a priest at least six months in advance. Important guidelines for marriage at St. Thomas More Co-Cathedral can be found at our website: [www.cocathedral.com](http://www.cocathedral.com) or by calling the office.**BAPTISM:** Parents must be registered members of our parish and attend Baptism Preparation Classes. To register and obtain further information, contact the church office.**TITHING:** Our parish encourages parishioners to thank God for their material blessings by returning a percentage of their income to Him through charitable donations. God in return richly blesses those who tithe. The recommended distribution of tithing is half to the parish and half to other charities, including the Bishop's Catholic Sharing Appeal and second collections. A household can begin tithing by returning 2% of their income to God, and increasing it to 10% over a period of years as household finances allow. Please make parish donations by writing checks to St. Thomas More. To give on-line, go to [www.securegive.com](http://www.securegive.com).**PRIEST OR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER VISITATION:** Those needing to have a priest or extraordinary minister visit them at home, hospital or prison, call the parish office.