



ST. MARGARET, QUEEN OF SCOTLAND

ST. THOMAS CHAPEL • SPRINGFIELD

Post Office Box 100 • Albany, Louisiana 70711-0100

“The Pew Buddy”

The Weekly Parish Bulletin

Telephone: 225.567.3573 or 225.567.2031
Email: stmargaretchurch@bellsouth.net
Website: www.stmargaretstthomas.com

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday-Friday: 9:00AM-4:00PM
Closed from 12:00PM until 1:00PM for Lunch

STAFF/TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS

Rev. Jamin S. David, J.C.L. (Ext. 102) *Pastor*
Deacon Byrd Corbett (Ext. 108) *Permanent Deacon*
Deacon Tim Messenger (Ext. 149) *Permanent Deacon*
Mary E. Herbert (Ext. 105) *Administrative Assistant*
Lanie Borum (Ext. 101) *Receptionist*
Lucie Hanewinkel (Ext. 103) *Religious Ed Coordinator*
Shirley Darouse (Ext. 104) *Contributions Manager*
Gill Scioneaux (Ext. 150) *Maintenance Supervisor*
Ansleigh Barras (Ext. 148) *Youth Minister*
St. Vincent de Paul Hotline (Ext. 144)

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses

4:00PM Saturday Vigil (*St. Margaret Church, Albany*)
8:00AM (*St. Thomas Chapel, Springfield*)
10:00AM (*St. Margaret Church, Albany*)
5:30PM (*St. Margaret Church, Albany*)

There is no Mass scheduled on Monday or Tuesday!

Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday Mass

7:00AM (*St. Margaret Church, Albany*)

RECONCILIATION: The Sacrament is offered weekly at 3:00PM on Saturday at St. Margaret Church or by acceptable scheduled appointment.

MARRIAGE: Interested parties should contact the Parish Office at least six (6) months prior to their desired date and must complete an acceptable Marriage Preparation Program.

BAPTISM: Contact Mary Herbert for preliminary information and to schedule a home visit from the Baptism Prep Team.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Visits to the hospitalized and infirm are made regularly. Contact Fr. Jamin for home or hospital visits.

FUNERALS: Call the parish office during normal business hours. After hours, call Mary Hooks at 985.974.1991.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

05/06 JANUARY 2019

WHO KNEW ABOUT IT?

Who knew the Messiah was born as the baby Jesus in Bethlehem in that wintertime? In this Gospel, a lot of people came to figure it out. The chief priests and scribes knew where the Messiah would be born because they could interpret the parts in the Old Testament that predicted the Messiah's birth. The magi from the East knew that the Messiah had been born because they could interpret the presence of the star in the sky. When the magi followed the star to Bethlehem to see for themselves, Herod the King ordered them to come back and tell him too. For all these people, there was a way to know the birth of the Messiah. The priests could interpret Scripture, and the magi could read the stars. King Herod had the political power to command their knowledge and wisdom for his own purposes. But what about people who lack the advantages of the priests and magi and who have no power to command others? How are they to know? Does God make provision only for the fortunate? Consider the shepherds. They lacked the money needed for education, and so they lacked the ability to use Scripture or stars to know the birth of the Messiah. They had no power to command others to share the fruits of their education with them either. But it isn't powerlessness or poverty that keeps a person from knowing the birth of the Messiah. In the end, it was not the shepherds but the powerful and wealthy King Herod, with his evil-hearted intentions, who didn't know the baby Jesus was the Messiah. The magi didn't tell him, because God warned them in a dream not to. And so Herod the King didn't know. In spite of their lack of all worldly advantages, the shepherds in fact outranked the king and all the others. They were by the side of the Messiah first, and they didn't have to figure it out for themselves either. The shepherds may have been poor and simple, but they were trusting and open-hearted, too. And so they knew Christ Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem that cold winter night because they heard the angels sing. *-Eleonore Stump*



Events Around the Parish

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS



Tax time is right around the corner! If you need a statement of your annual contributions to our Church community for 2018, please call Shirley Darrouse at extension 104 and leave her a message with your name and specific request. Unless it is requested, contribution statements will not be mailed. Thank you for your generosity throughout the year to our parish!

WE SUPPORT LIFE!

The Respect Life Committee is sponsoring the annual Respect Life Baby Bottle Campaign. Empty baby bottles will be available in the entryway of the Parish Hall and St. Thomas this weekend, 05/06 January 2019. Please place your contributions in the bottle and return it to the Church over the next two weekends. All funds realized will support Women's Life Ministries, a local organization that promotes local respect life efforts. Please be generous and support this worthy cause! Contact Gloria Messenger at gmessage1@att.net if you have any questions or if you would like to find out how you can help promote the dignity of all human life through this campaign!



YUMMY FOR YOUR TUMMY

Get ready for January's installment of the "Yummy for Your Tummy" ministry. January's theme is "Souper Supper" and it will be held in the Hall of Saints on **Saturday, 12 January 2019** at 5:00PM. Make your favorite soup, maybe a salad and even a dessert to go with it! Come grab a bowl of broth or two!



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

The next Family Formation Session will be **Sunday, 13 January 2019** and this month's presentation will be entitled "Why Confess my Sins to a Priest?" presented by Father Jamin. This session will be held from 11:30AM until 12:30PM in the St. Margaret Room of the Hall of Saints. Remember at least one parent per child is required to attend a family formation session or Theology in a Bottle every month! All Family Formation Sessions are open to all parishioners as well. St. Margaret is truly blessed with the numbers and kinds of formation opportunities that are available.



NEW VOCATION FROM OUR PARISH

Our own Daniel Fox has announced that he has been accepted as a postulant into the Community of Jesus Crucified. His date of acceptance is January 25th. Father Jamin has asked Daniel to speak at all Masses the weekend of 19/20 January 2019 and the Vocations Committee has planned a small reception in his honor after the 4:00PM Mass on **Saturday, 19 January 2019**. Please plan to attend and give Daniel your well wishes and prayers!



SVDP SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection next weekend will be for our local St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Margaret Church. Your generous donations allow the volunteers to assist neighbors in our community with food, utilities, warm clothing and more. Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping those who need a little extra help. "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." ~Matthew 25:35



PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Pat Aldredge, Stephanie Alexander, Tabitha Arceneaux, Don Bankston, Justin Bardwell, Paul Bates, Bruce Beard, Cindy Brasington, Joan Brein, Rob Brower, Taylor Cabler, Rosa Flores Castellon, Theresa Christina, Amber Cocchiola, Debbie Contorno, Phillip Contorno, Hattie Davis, Amanda Degenhardt, Tate DeMarche, Charles DeMars, Irene DeMars, Salvador "Sambo" Depaula, Tracey Doran, Mary Ann Drone, Diane Dufour, Davis Dupuy, Jr., Paul Fontenot, Justin Goelz, Rose Hakenjos, Cherie Hartdegen, Joan Hauck, Mary E. Herbert, Kimberly Hidalgo, Jason Huber, Tracy Kenney, May Kinler, Helen Kropog, Frans Labranche, Mary Meyer, Joseph Mocsary, Eileen Monson, Dennis Monteleone, Charles Norman, Rosemary Novak, Vincent Palisi, Carolyn Rodrigue, Denise Schilling, Barbara Stallcup, Brittany Stillely, Iris Stillely, Hilma Stolf, Joseph Stolf, Alice Dean Sullivan, James Sziber, Wendy Talbot, Mary Ann Taylor, Ricky Thompson, Rose Threeton, Erin Trent, Liz Varnado, Joseph Vilardo, Jr., Bobby Vitter, Gilbert Vuljoin, Rita Vuljoin, Debbie Wheat, Tonya Wheat, Pat Wright, those in the Armed Services, victims of the flooding, and all who are in need of our prayers.



Want to add someone to the prayer list? Call the parish office for more information.

Want our parishioners to pray for your intentions? Contact Frances Dantin at 225.209.6537 or fdantin@bellsouth.net.

MASS INTENTIONS

The Epiphany of the Lord — 05/06 January 2018

4:00PM Vigil
Sat., 05 Jan.
St. Margaret

Andy & Olga Bartosh (By *Chuck & Sandy Raborn*)
Janet Bergeron (By *Harry & Linda Oalmann*)
Philip Brabham (By *Knights of Columbus Council 10178*)
Karen Chemay (By *Mark Chemay*)
Rosa Dunn (By *Ernie & Sylvia Bush*)
Fred Gauthier (By *Rose Gauthier & Family*)
Walter Hakenjos (By *Rose Hakenjos*)
Doris Haydel (By *A. J. & Cindy Martinez*)
Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz (By *the Family*)
Francis Kronlage (By *Ernie & Sylvia Bush*)

John Kropog (By *Helen Kropog & Family*)
Vernon & Dorothy Landry (By *Pete Pfiffner & Family*)
Lynette Pfiffner (By *Harry & Linda Oalmann*)
Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner (By *Pete Pfiffner & Family*)
Mary Christine Stutes (By *Ernie & Sylvia Bush*)
Arleen Sylvester (By *Charles & Susan Richard*)
Andrew & Irene Sziszak (By *Chuck & Sandy Raborn*)
Paul Sziszak, Jr. (By *Chuck & Sandy Raborn*)
Dolly Tynkadi (By *a Friend*)
Souls in Purgatory (By *Mary Stabile*)

8:00AM
Sun., 06 Jan.
St. Thomas

Jerry Adamcewicz (By *the Family*)
Janis Brough (By *the Family*)
Bobby Johnson (By *Boogie & Rose Johnson*)
Floyd "Boogie" Johnson (By *A. J. & Cindy Martinez*)
Rose Johnson (By *Boogie & Rose Johnson*)
Lawrence Kluka (By *the Family*)
Rudolf & Rosalie Kluka (By *the Family*)

Frans Labranche (By *the Family*)
John LaGrange (By *Edie & Family*)
Chucky Martin (By *the Family*)
A. J. Martinez (By *Boogie & Rose Johnson*)
Joan McKinney (By *Brenda Bailey*)
Patrick Tobin (By *the Family*)

10:00AM
Sun., 06 Jan.
St. Margaret

Missa Pro Populo
(The Mass for All Parishioners)



5:30PM
Sun., 06 Jan.
St. Margaret

June Olah
(By *Chuck & Sandy Raborn*)

Wed., 09 Jan. (7:00AM)
Wednesday after Epiphany
No Mass Today!

Thurs., 10 Jan. (7:00AM)
Thursday after Epiphany
Lynette Pfiffner
(By *Donna B. Hill*)

Fri., 11 Jan. (7:00AM)
Friday after Epiphany
Michael Darouse
(By *the Family*)

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret
this week is given in memory of
Dorothy Hanewinkel
by Joe & Lucie Hanewinkel.



YOUTH GROUP CORE TEAM

The Youth Group Core Team will meet on Thursday, 10 January 2019 at 6:30PM in the John Paul II Room of the Hall of Saints. The Core Team is helping to revamp, lead, and expand our youth ministry program. Core Team members are adults and confirmed young adults. If you are interested in joining, please contact Ansleigh Barras, our Youth Minister, in the Parish Office!

DAY OF PRAYER & HEALING

Are you or someone you know suffering the loss of a child through abortion? You are not alone! A day of prayer and healing for women and men who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, 02 February 2019 from 9:00AM until 5:00PM. For more information and confidential registration, please contact Elaine at 256.568.6004 or email EnteringCanaan@diobr.org. All inquiries are confidential. This program is sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge's Office of Marriage and Family Life.



JR. YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

The Jr. Youth Group will meet this Sunday from 12:30PM until 3:00PM immediately following PSR class. Please make plans to join us for fun filled activities, faith sharing, and prayer! Contact Ansleigh Barras in the Parish Office for more information on how you can participate or help to support our dynamic youth ministry!



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Gather Hymnal Number 1011



Isaiah 60:1-6

The new Jerusalem will shine in glory

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

The Gentiles are co-heirs in Christ.

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi come to adore Jesus.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK

The Baptism of the Lord — 12/13 January 2019

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Weekend of 29/30 December 2018 and 01 January 2019

Weekly Church Support Collection	\$7,885.50
Mary, Mother of God Collection	\$2,544.72
Fourth Quarter 2018 Electronic Giving	\$11,474.94



The Second Collection next weekend is for our local chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul!

Thank you for your continued and generous support to make our physical needs a reality!

JANUARY

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, 06 January 2019

*Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection!
Respect Life Baby Bottle Campaign!*

9:00 & 11:00AM— Coffee & Donut Ministry
11:15AM—PSR (Grades K-8), Hall of Saints
12:30PM—Jr. Youth Group, JP II Room
6:45PM—PSR (Grades 9-11), Hall of Saints

Monday, 07 January 2019

10:00AM—Altar Society, St. Thomas Chapel
10:00AM—Altar Society, Parish Hall

Tuesday, 08 January 2019

7:00PM—Knights of Columbus, Ignatius Room
7:00PM—Ladies Auxiliary, Goretti Room

Wednesday, 09 January 2019

7:30AM—Eucharistic Adoration, Parish Hall
6:30PM—Youth Night, John Paul II Room
6:30PM—Open Doors (RCIA), Seton Room
6:30PM—RCIC, Drexel Room
6:30PM—Baptism Seminar, Ignatius Room
7:00PM—KC Fourth Degree, Goretti Room

Thursday, 10 January 2019

6:00PM—St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, Seton Room
6:30PM—Youth Group Core Team Meeting

Friday, 11 January 2019

No Extraordinary Events Scheduled!

Saturday, 12 January 2019

*Respect Life Baby Bottle Campaign!
St. Vincent de Paul Second Collection!*
5:00PM—Yummy for Your Tummy, St. Margaret Room



Sundry Ruminations

A Weekly Column from Your Pastor

We're comfortable with the magi of the nativity scenes – the dazzling kings whom children dress up as for their pageants. We love to sing about “We Three Kings” of the Orient. But let's not look past the inescapable conclusion of the Scripture – the Magi were spies. What was their stated intention? Simply, it was to pay the baby Jesus homage. Yet keep in mind they were “from the East” which likely made them vicious enemies of Rome. It's not unlikely they were agents of their empire, sent to make sense of the unusual sign that they had seen in the sky. Is this baby a threat to them and their political power?

Yes, they were agents of an alien power, and how do we know? They stop first at Herod's court to introduce themselves and to tell him about their mission. Herod was likely wary of these men, but he knows that he can't send his own thugs around for various reasons. He conscripts them also to be his own spies too.

The magi are soon overjoyed to find Jesus, but why? Why are they here? Who do they work for? Whose side are they on? They soon enter the house and they see the infant with Mary, his mother. Immediately, they kneel down and pay him homage and offer gifts. And that's the Good News of the Scripture today. No matter their original intentions or their questionable allegiances, when they meet the Christ child, something happens. When they leave, they do so by another road. On their watch, the magi won't turn the knife in Jesus side and betray him to his enemies. Even more, imagine when Herod realized they weren't going to return; he likely threw things around, spitting and stammering. But they choose a different road. No matter whose side they were on, in the end, they choose the side of the child over whom the star shines.

This is our story. When we come here, our intentions are not clear. Why are we in the church? Surely we have a vague appreciation for God. But there are also benefits for us. Being a member of a church can change our social status; there is a business cache. There is a cultural privilege to identifying ourselves as a Christian; there is a political rationale. We come because it makes us feel good or because we have to. We come because if we don't, people will say negative things about us.

That's your homework for today – when you leave the Church, ask yourself why you came in the first place. And when you have that experience of the Christ child, maybe the invitation is to take the road less traveled. Whose side are you on?

Father Jim