



# ST. MARGARET, QUEEN OF SCOTLAND

ST. THOMAS CHAPEL • SPRINGFIELD

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## “The Pew Buddy”

*The Weekly Parish Bulletin*

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**21/22 MARCH 2020**

### 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*  
Rev. Brad Doyle (Ext. 111) *Parochial Vicar*  
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*  
Carol Girdwood (Ext. 152) *Sacramental Coordinator*  
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!*

#### 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 Carol Girdwood 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.

# WANTING FOR NOTHING

Doesn't the man born blind have something that he lacks? The disciples of Jesus are anxious about this blind man too, and they try to ally their anxiety by finding some explanation for his blindness. "Why was this man born blind?" they ask Jesus. "Did this man sin or was it his parents?" If it was *anybody's* sin, then they can reasonably hope that such suffering won't come to their families, at least it won't come if they all try hard not to sin. But this is an appalling way to think about suffering, isn't it? It is terrible to suppose that all suffering is punishment for sin. What kind of God inflicts blindness on a newborn as a punishment for sin? Jesus dismisses their attitude entirely. This man's blindness has nothing to do with the sins of anyone, Jesus says. It's something about the future—not something about the past—that explains his blindness. God let this man be born blind that the works of God might be manifest through him. So that is Jesus' explanation for the man's blindness, but it looks at least as bad as the thought of the disciples, doesn't it? What kind of God inflicts blindness on a newborn so that the works of God can be manifest in him later? But think about that blind man himself. At the outset of the story, he is an impoverished outcast, a beggar, a nobody. Then



the mighty works of God are manifest in him, and he takes the Lord as his Shepherd. The result is that he himself becomes glorious. When the story ends, he has become an icon of faith and courage. He has stood up to the worldly power of the leaders of his community and witnessed to the goodness of God in very challenging circumstances. He has become an example to us all. Who would not want to be like him? And that is why it was true for him that the Lord was his shepherd, even though he was born blind. In the end, the Lord was his Shepherd, and there was nothing the blind man lacked. *-Eleonore Stump*

# Events Around the Parish

## CORONAVIRUS CANCELLATIONS

*The following Parochial Events and Ministerial Gatherings have been cancelled in light of the Coronavirus outbreak:*

Adult Confirmation

Artists' Guild

Bible Study

Eucharistic Adoration

Catholic Daughters Meeting & Off Campus Rosary

Family Faith Formation

Hungarian Language Classes

One Book, One Church

Public Stations of the Cross

RCIA/Open Doors

Respect Life Committee

Seminarian Crawfish Boil

Theology in a Bottle

Vocation Committee

Young Adult Ministry

Youth Appreciation Night

Youth Night

Margaret's Men



## OFFICE HOURS & RESTRICTIONS



The St. Margaret Parish office will retain its current office hours for now (Tuesday through Friday, **9:00AM** until **12:00AM** and **1:00PM** until **4:00PM**). The lay faithful are encouraged to conduct as much Parish business as possible either by phone or email. This provision remains subject to change by Fr. Jamin. Also, access to other parochial buildings (Parish Hall and St. Thomas Chapel) is strictly prohibited. The Hall of Saints should only be accessed during office hours.

## ST. JOSEPH ALTAR THANK YOU

The St. Joseph Altar Committee wishes to thank all of our parishioners for their support of the St. Joseph Altar. We are always moved by the generosity of all who assist with their many talents. We thank Father Jamin and Mary Herbert for their support and assistance throughout the past month. We wish to thank the St. Joseph Altar Committee for their usual enthusiasm and many hours of tireless work. We wish to thank Mrs. Lucie Hanewinkel for instructing the children who portrayed the Holy Family and for making their authentic-looking costumes. Portraying the innkeeper was Cameron Carter; St. Joseph, Lathan Hart; Blessed Virgin Mary, Ava Wascom; and Jesus, Evan Miller. Last, but not least, we wish to thank YOU, our congregation for your generous support. Our beautiful St. Joseph Altar could not exist without your continued support and generosity. Even though the altar was in "abbreviated" form this year due to the many precautions taken in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, everyone was more than cooperative and patient.



We thank everyone for their understanding. Again, many thanks to all of you. May you and your families be richly blessed through St. Joseph!

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Cindy Brasington, Ezekiel Jaleel Broussard, Nancy Campeaux, Morgan Carel, Rosa Flores Castellon, Theresa Christina, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Doreen Daniels, Donna Davis, Hattie Davis, Amanda Degenhardt, Irene DeMars, Peggy Desselle, Shelli Domiano, Therese Domiano, Rosemary Ellis, Sister June Engelbrecht, Sal Faldetta, Pauline Frisbie, Lynn Gerhardt, Mimi Francis Goelz, Malissa Gonzales, Mary E. Herbert, Hunter Hoffman, Mildred Hoffmann, Tammy Horn, John Huszar, Dustin Jenkins, Kansas Johnson, Carlton Kennedy, May Kimler, Alex Kropog, Helen Kropog, Shirley Lacour, Gregg Mader, T. C. Martan, A. J. Martinez, Andrew Morales, Bill Moran, Edward Murray, Fay Murray, Daisy Rayborn Norman, Rosemary Novak, Sue Novak, Terry Parrino, Glenva Puma, Carl Rabalais, Sylvia Rachal, Ronnie Randazzo, Skipper Rayborn, Carol Rippal, Maverick Ryder, Dutch Schilling, Brittany Stilley, Iris Stilley, Charlie Stolf, Joseph Stolf, Sharon Stolf, Annie Tallia, Jamie Tarver and Joseph Tarver's Children, Sharmon Thompson, Rose Threeton, Erin Trent, Liz Varnado, Joe Vilardo, Út Vù, Rita Vuljoin, Glen Wales, Tracey Wascom, Lucas Williamson, Debbie Wheat, Tonya Wheat, Hilma Woods, those in the Armed Services and law enforcement, 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](mailto:fdantin@bellsouth.net).

## MASS INTENTIONS

Fourth Sunday of Lent — 21/22 March 2020



Sun., 22 Mar.

**Missa Pro Populo**  
(The Mass for All Parishioners)

Tues., 24 Mar.  
Weekday in Lent

**Dr. Andrew & Olga Bartosh** (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)  
**Karen Chemay** (By Mark Chemay)  
**Kerry P. Dupre** (By Lydia Brabham & Family)  
**Brooklyn Fitzgerald** (By Cathy & Joe Vilardo)  
**Fred Gauthier** (By Rose Gauthier & Family)  
**Doris Haydel** (By A. J. & Cindy Martinez)  
**Elizabeth Kropog Kelly** (By Alex & Royanne Kropog)  
**Gilbert Koleszar** (By Knights of Columbus Council 10178)  
**Francis Kronlage** (By the Family)  
**John Kropog** (By Helen Kropog & Family)  
**Vernon & Dorothy Landry** (By Pete Pffiffner & Family)

**John Martinez, Jr.** (By the Family)  
**Mike Michon** (By Cathy & Joe Vilardo)  
**James, Julia & Jerry Novak** (By Jim & Sue Novak)  
**June Koles Olah** (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)  
**Lynette Pffiffner** (By Pete Pffiffner & Family)  
**Peter J. & Elizabeth Pffiffner** (By Pete Pffiffner & Family)  
**Andrew & Irene Sziszak** (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)  
**Paul Sziszak, Jr.** (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)  
**James Waguespack** (By the Family)  
**Souls in Purgatory** (By Mary Stabile)

Wed., 25 Mar.  
Annunciation  
of the Lord (S)

**Jerry Adamcewicz** (By the Family)  
**Dominic "Mecu" Arcuri, Jr.** (By River Friends)  
**Karen Chemay** (By Mark Chemay)  
**Samera St. Claire** (By George & Kim Navarre)  
**Anthony & Anna Friedman** (By the Family)  
**Judy Friedman** (By the Family)

**Lawrence Kluka** (By the Family)  
**John LaGrange** (By Edie & Family)  
**Adrian & Lorraine Martinez** (By A. J. & Cindy Martinez)  
**A. J. Martinez** (By Kayla Sharp)  
**Joan McKinney** (By Anita Landry)  
**Patrick Tobin** (By the Family)

Thurs., 26 Mar.  
Weekday in Lent  
**Michael Darouse**  
(By the Family)

Fri., 27 Mar.  
Weekday in Lent  
**Carolyn Johnson**  
(By the Family)

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

## ACCESS TO THE CHURCH

St. Margaret Church will be open Tuesday through Sunday from **9:00AM until 4:00PM** daily so that you can experience some calm in the midst of this storm! Remember, we're opening the building as a place for private and **not** communal prayer, and we ask that you observe an attitude of silence and reverence (and observe social distancing if you find someone else with you in the Church!)



**Thanks  
for Your  
Support!**

However removed from our normal circumstances, we can surely develop a deeper appreciation of our brothers and sisters who do not receive the sacraments as frequently as do we — like the elderly in nursing homes, prisoners who are incarcerated, and our brothers and sisters in remote areas of the world.

## WOMEN OF THE WELL THANKS

The "Women of the Well" would like to thank all the ladies who attended the evening of reflection recently hosted by St. Margaret. Thank you to all who contributed food and wine! The evening was a success and we hope to continue it in the future with many events when "normalcy" returns to our parish!



## WE NEED YOUR STEWARDSHIP

As you know, we will not have any Masses until further notice, but we still have to have funds to operate the Church. Fr. Jamin asks that you please remember your financial stewardship to St. Margaret. Please consider mailing your contributions weekly (P. O. Box 100, Albany, LA 70711) or to make a regular online contribution through our website ([stmargaretstthomas.com/give](http://stmargaretstthomas.com/give)). These weeks will be difficult for us all, but as we have in other times of adversity, we will get through together with God's help and your



## THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Gather Hymnal Number 1025

**1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a**

"Not as man sees does God see."

**Ephesians 5:8-14**

Live as children of the light.

**John 9:1-41**

The healing of the man born blind.



## ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK

Fifth Sunday of Lent — 28/29 March 2020

**Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45**

## STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

*Weekend of 14/15 March 2020*

Church Support Collection \$6,149.00  
Black and Indian Missions Collection \$702.00



*The second appeal next weekend will be for our local chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul!*

*Thank you for your continued and generous support!*

## Prayer During Coronavirus

*Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,  
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.  
We fly to you today as your beloved children.  
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,  
as you did at the wedding in Cana.*

*Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.*

*For those already afflicted,  
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.*

*In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church to love one another  
and to be patient and kind.  
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus  
to our land and to our hearts.*

*We come to you with confidence,  
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.  
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.*

**Holy Mary,  
Mother of God,  
Pray for Us!**



## Sundry Ruminations

*A Weekly Column from Your Pastor*

The first reading this weekend is all about displaying faith. The Lord sends the prophet Samuel to search for a new king even though Saul is alive. At that point, the prophet is probably afraid to display his faith. He must have thought the Lord was pulling an April Fool's joke on him. "How can I go Lord? How can I show my faith in you? If I do, I might be killed." Jesse is no better displaying his faith either. Samuel gets up close to each of his sons and passes by each of them. I'm sure that Jesse had faith in his son David, but he's too afraid to show it. He doesn't even bother bringing David before Samuel. Yet, as it turns out, David is to be the greatest king in Israel.

In the second reading, Paul exhorts his followers to stop being afraid of displaying their faith. They are children of the light, and because of that, they must proclaim their faith boldly to lead others to the truth of the Gospel.

The Gospel reading, though evidently about the blind man, is also a story of Pharisees afraid to display any faith they might have. Maybe it was because of their own blindness; maybe it was because of their status as religious VIP's. Instead of displaying their potential faith, they attempt over and over to come up with a rational explanation of how the man was healed. Maybe he was never really blind to begin with. Maybe he was blind because he was born entirely in sin. Maybe there was something in the mud or in the water that caused him to see. They fail to simply display the plain truth of it all – God is gracious, and God does indeed save.

Less people today display their faith as proudly as they had in the past, and I wonder why that is the case. It seems that former generations knew their vulnerability and helplessness, and they were proud to display signs of their faith partially due to their fear. Today, though, we have few fears. We have faith in medicine, science, reason, and in ourselves, and we have no problems venerating any of these. We seem to hide our faith because it is a sign of our weakness and potential for vulnerability. We think of ourselves invulnerable, but we are only one doctor's visit, chest pains, or a terrorist attack away from a fearful reminder of our own vulnerability. We're all one slip away from a betrayal of a friend, a broken heart, a failed marriage.

Perhaps in the end, we're afraid to display our faith because it's a sign of our dependence on something greater than us. In other words, it's a sign that we can't do everything on our own. It's a sign of our vulnerability. The question is are you comfortable with flashing that in neon letters for everyone to see? Jesus does indeed save!

*Father Farn*

## PRAYING THE MASS AT HOME

To aid all of our parishioners in their prayer life and to encourage hope and trust during these days, Fr. Jamin and Fr. Brad began broadcasting Mass throughout the week and on Sunday by way of our parish website, Facebook and our YouTube channel. Parishioners are asked to remain home and pray the Mass together with us or when it is convenient for you. Please visit us at [www.stmargaretstthomas.com](http://www.stmargaretstthomas.com) to access Mass along with other updates regarding COVID-19 precautions. This publication is intended to assist you and your families in praying the Mass together, while not actually, physically being present in church.



### ACKNOWLEDGE THE SACREDNESS OF THE MOMENT AND THE SPACE

Make arrangements in advance to be ready to view Mass. Choose a room in which you will experience the fewest distractions. Leave your phone in another room, in the silent mode. If you plan to use your phone to view Mass, just realize that there will be a greater potential for distractions. Light a candle. As the Christopher Fathers would say, “better to light one candle than to curse the darkness.” A candle makes the statement that this is a sacred moment and a sacred space.

### PREPARATION FOR MASS

Don't wait until the last minute to settle into your prayer space. If praying the Mass with your spouse and/or family, make sure they know in advance and are prepared to settle into the space early. You may wish to take a moment to kneel and/or just simply sit in silence. The readings for the day are available at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org). Place all other electronic devices in silent mode or turn them off, including the TV.

### DURING MASS

When the priest or deacon pauses for the Penitential Rite, you are encouraged to silently bring to mind areas in your life where you seek God's forgiveness. Respond as you would normally do at Mass. After the First Reading, you are invited to pray aloud the Responsorial Psalm, as printed in the readings of the day, obtained at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org). When the priest pauses after each of the intentions (Prayers of the Faithful), you are invited to respond aloud, “Lord, hear our prayer.” After the final intention, he will pause for silent prayer. If you are with your spouse and/or family and friends, you may wish to voice your special intentions aloud.

Since you will be unable to receive sacramental communion, you may wish to receive a ‘spiritual communion.’ Perhaps now more than ever, the understanding of the Eucharist as the “source and summit” of the Christian life is most evident. Saint John Paul II in his encyclical *Ecclesia de Eucharistia* reminded the faithful of the practice of spiritual communion “which has been a wonderful part of Catholic life for centuries and recommended by saints who were masters of the spiritual life.” What is it exactly? Aquinas described spiritual communion as “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace him” during a time in which circumstances prohibit sacramental communion. Such a practice happens daily in the spiritual life of the Church. For example, several Catholics are not able to receive communion because their marriage is not recognized in the Church; Catholics in nursing homes and prisons might not have communion as readily available. Some communities might not regularly have Mass due to a lack of priests. During these days where the faithful will not receive sacramental communion, they should be invited to turn to Jesus with their heart to receive Christ spiritually. While watching televised Mass, for example, the faithful could be invited to say a prayer during the normal time in the Mass when communion would be received. Here is an example prayer authored by St. Alphonsus Ligouri:

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament.  
I love you above all things and I desire you with all my heart.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,  
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you as if you were already in my heart  
and unite myself to you completely.  
Please do not let me ever be separated from you.**



### AFTER MASS

You may wish to take some time after Mass to reflect on the homily by yourself and/or with each other. We hope you can join Fr. Jamin and Fr. Brad in our recorded Masses! Check out our media for more creative ideas!