



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: stmargaret@diobr.org
Website: www.stmargaretstthomas.com

OFFICE HOURS

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

STAFF/TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS

Very 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) *Adult Formation*
Shirley Darouse (Ext. 104) *Contributions Manager*
Gill Scioneaux (Ext. 150) *Maintenance Supervisor*
Ansleigh Munn (Ext. 148) *Youth Formation*
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*)
6:00PM Saturday Vigil (*St. Margaret Church, Albany*)
8:00AM (*St. Thomas Chapel, Springfield*)
10:00AM (*St. Margaret Church, Albany*)
5:30PM (*St. Margaret Church, Albany*)

Daily Masses (St. Margaret Church, Albany)

7:00AM, Monday through Friday

RECONCILIATION: The Sacrament is offered weekly at 4:00PM on Thursday 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 Carol Girdwood at 985.974.3313.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

09/10 JANUARY 2021

YOU ARE WHO YOU ARE

When the Lord was baptized, a voice came from heaven saying “This is my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” There could hardly be a more important message than this identification of Jesus, could there? But why did this important message come through a voice from heaven? A voice from heaven can be heard only by those who are *there, then*. What about everybody else? Surely, it is important for all human beings to know that Jesus is God’s beloved Son. And the same sort of puzzle arises from the First Reading. It says that the Messiah will open the eyes of the blind, and the Gospels testify that Christ really did so. But he opened the eyes of only a few blind people, those blind people who were *there, then*. What about all the other blind people, in other places, in other times? Why didn’t Jesus just heal all blindness everywhere with one impersonal command: let all the blind people of the world be healed? And so here is one thing we can learn from these Readings. In the voice from heaven, in the miracles of Christ, God shows that he is committed to the good of particularity. God does not send the news about the Messiah as an impersonal message directed impartially to all humankind.

He identifies Jesus as his Son by a voice from heaven heard by particular people at a particular time. Similarly, Christ does not issue an impersonal decree about nameless blind people taken as a group. Christ heals some particular blind people who happened to be at a particular place at the particular time when Christ was also there. So you might feel that you are just an unnoticed member of your company or an invisible one of the many ordinary people in your town. But you stand out as the particular human being you are, where the Lord is concerned. God does not deal with people as faceless members of a collective. He calls, and he heals, one particular person at a time, as each individual comes to him. But then you yourself—not your Church or your group, but *you*—need to come to the Lord, to face him, to know him, to love him, and to let him heal you, whatever your needs and sufferings are. Come as yourself, as you are, *here and now*. -Eleonore Stump



Events Around the Parish



THEOLOGY IN A BOTTLE

Our next installment of Theology in a Bottle, our adult education ministry, will be held this **Sunday, 10 January 2021** from 6:45PM until 8:00PM in the Parish Hall. Dr. Jordan Haddad will be the presenter for his presentation entitled "It's Five o'clock Somewhere: Finding Catholicism in Culture." Do consider joining us! Spread the word about how we learn about the faith with a cold brew or glass of wine in hand. Parents of PSR students are reminded to attend either *Theology in a Bottle* or *Family Faith Formation* Sessions to emphasize to their children the importance of putting faith first.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Next week's session of Family Faith Formation scheduled on **Sunday, 17 January 2021** is entitled "Moral Decision Making."



Faith Formation
LIFELONG AND ONGOING

Gina Little will be the

presenter. This session will be held from 11:30AM until 12:30PM at St. Margaret Church. 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.

COUPLES RETREAT

Attention All Married Couples! You are invited to attend our upcoming married couples retreat January 15-17, 2021 at St. Joseph Abbey in Covington. You and your spouse will spend time listening to inspiring talks, enjoy private couple's time, individual prayer time adoring the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration, and the celebration of the Sacraments. Through God's grace, you will walk away with a renewed strength and a deeper commitment to each other and to God. The retreat starts with dinner on Friday and ends after lunch on Sunday. To register, visit www.FaithandMarriage.org. A suggested donation of \$350 for the couple is requested but not required. Scholarships are available! If you have any questions, please call 504.830.3716. Limited spaces are available.



REGULAR ADORERS NEEDED

Remember that exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is still taking place every Wednesday after the 7:00AM Mass and concludes now at 8:00PM. We thank parishioners who have signed up to regularly spend time with the Lord. If you cannot commit to the same hour every week, do feel free to stop by and spend some time in prayer. We are looking for more dedicated people who are willing to sign up at available times. Contact the office to sign up! Ask any parishioner who normally partakes of this great spiritual practice about the fruits and rewards of praying before our Lord at St. Margaret Church! Please remember to practice physical distancing.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Gather Hymnal Number 1013

Isaiah 55:1-11

Here is my chosen servant.

Acts 10:34-38

God's word to Israel is fulfilled in Christ.

Mark 1:7-11

Jesus is baptized in the Jordan.



ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time — 16/17 January 2021

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Cindy Brasington, Nancy Campeaux, Amber Stille Cocchiola, Hattie Davis, Shelli Domiano, Therese Domiano, Sal Faldetta, Pauline Frisbie, Wendy Gill, Tommy Hebert, Mary E. Herbert, Dan Huszar, Kansas Johnson, Lily Lebowitz, Stephanie Livingston, Joe Lobue, Gregg Mader, Payton Mangipano, Heath Martin, Rosemary Novak, Lydia Palisi, Frank Parrino, Terry Parrino, Wayne & Polly Pepitone, Eric Plauche, Carl Rabalais, Ronnie Randazzo, Dutch Schilling, Jason Summers, Annie Tallia, Bruce Taylor, Jerry Vicknair, Joe Vilardo, Brent J. Waguespack, Sr. and Family, Troy Wichterich, 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.

MASS INTENTIONS

The Baptism of the Lord — 09/10 January 2020

4:00PM Vigil
Sat., 09 Jan.

Andy & Olga Bartosh (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)
Philip Brabham (By Lydia Brabham & Family)
Karen Chemay (By Mark Chemay)
Theresa Christina (By Mary & Tony Button)
Terry & Mary Colette (By Rosie Sziszak)
Tony & Mary Colette (By Rosie Sziszak)
Hope Vereuil Cormier (By Cheryl & John Laiche)
Dennis Daugeaux (By Mark Chemay)
Sonny & Joyce Fedele (By Rosie Sziszak)
Robert Fisackerly, III (By Dana Vutera)
Homer Gaspard (By Pam & Donald Mayeaux)
Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz (By the Family)
Francis Kronlage (By Alberta Kronlage & Family)
Shirley Lacour (By Cathy & Joe Vilardo)
Vernon & Dorothy Landry (By Pete Pffiffner & Family)
Mike Michon (By the Family)
Bill Moran (By Karen Moran)
Lynette Pffiffner (By Pete Pffiffner & Family)
Peter J. & Elizabeth Pffiffner (By Pete Pffiffner & Family)
Peggy Richards (By Pete Pffiffner & Family)
Denise Schilling (By the Family)
Andrew & Irene Sziszak (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)
Paul Sziszak, Jr. (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)
Clint Wagner (By Angie Wagner)
Henry & Nora Williams (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)

6:00PM **Holy Souls in Purgatory** (By Mary Stabile)

8:00AM
Sun., 10 Jan.
St. Thomas

Melissa Labranche (By Charlie & Liz Gonzales)
John LaGrange (By Edie & Family)
A. J. Martinez (By Boogie & Rose Johnson)
Joan McKinney (By Brenda Bailey)
Denise Schilling (By the Family)
Frank Schilling, Sr. (By Glen & Michelle Ernst)
Patrick Tobin (By the Family)

10:00AM **Missa Pro Populo** (The Mass for All Parishioners)

5:30PM **James Waguespack** (By the Family)

Monday, 11 Jan. ~ Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00AM **Valentine Langlois** (By the Family)

Tuesday, 12 Jan. ~ Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00AM **Karen Chemay** (By Mark Chemay)

Wednesday, 13 Jan. ~ Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00AM **Joseph Reine** (By the Family)

Thursday, 14 Jan. ~ Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00AM **Jimmy & Michael Darouse** (By the Family)

Friday, 15 Jan. ~ Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00AM **Frances Reine** (By the Family)



NEWLY BAPTIZED MEMBERS



Congratulations to the families and friends of the newest Catholics welcomed into the faith at St. Margaret during

the month of December including **Karson Sheldon** and **Hudson Borum**. May they grow in the grace and love of Our Lord forever! Contact Carol Girdwood in the Parish Office if you're interested in having your child baptized!



CONGRATS NEWLYWEDS

Congratulations to the couples that were married at St. Margaret during the month of December 2020 including **Eric Warren & Caroline Wagner Warren** and **Joseph Schillace, IV & Tracey Scot Rossie**. We wish them many blessings in the future together!

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN



The Respect Life Ministry is sponsoring the Respect Life Baby Bottle Campaign. This year will look a bit different, though. Instead of baby bottles, there will be an envelope attached to a flyer in this weekend's bulletin. Please place your contributions in the envelope and return it to the Church by **16/17 January 2021**. All funds will support Women's New Life Ministries, a local organization that promotes local respect life efforts. Please be generous and help folks in our area to do more to show their support for life.

ONE BOOK, ONE CHURCH

Our *One Book, One Church Ministry* is meeting once more on Fridays from 9:00AM until 10:30AM in the Hall of Saints. Together, the group is taking a deeper look and study into Matthew Kelly's *I Heard God Laugh*—the Christmas book distributed by Fr. Jamin to the congregation at Christmas. This study will conclude on Friday, 29 January 2021. Missed the first discussion? New participants are always welcome! Start reading the book and contact Lucie Hanwinkel in the Parish Office to find out more about how you can participate in this ministry and learn more about your faith with your fellow parishioners at St. Margaret!



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

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Mary, Mother of God & the Weekend of 02/03 January 2021

Weekly Church Support Collection	\$6,542.00
Mary, Mother of God Collection	\$3,778.00
Building & Maintenance Fund Collection	\$1,533.00



Thank you for your continued and generous support!

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, 10 January 2021

St. Vincent de Paul Second Collection!

Respect Life Baby Bottle Campaign Begins!

11:15AM—Family Faith Formation, St. Margaret Church

11:15AM—PSR (Grades K-6), Hall of Saints

11:15AM—Circle of Grace (Grade 3)

12:30PM—Junior Youth Group, Hall of Saints

6:45PM—PSR (Grades 7-11), Hall of Saints

6:45PM—Theology in a Bottle, Parish Hall



Monday, 11 January 2021

No Extraordinary Events Scheduled!

Tuesday, 12 January 2021

6:30PM—Prayer Night for CORE Team, Parish Hall

Wednesday, 13 January 2021

9:00AM—Staff Meeting, Seton Room

6:30PM—Open Doors (RCIA), Seton Room

6:30PM—RCIC, Goretti Room

6:30PM—Youth Group, John Paul II Room

Thursday, 14 January 2021

4:00PM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church

6:00PM—Pastoral Council Meeting, Vianney Room

6:00PM—St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, Seton Room

Friday, 15 January 2021

9:00AM—One Book, One Church, Seton Room

Saturday, 16 January 2021

Respect Life Baby Bottle Campaign Pickup!

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

If you need a statement of your annual contributions to our Church community for 2020, please call Shirley Darouse at extension 104 and leave her a message with your name and specific request. Unless it is requested, contribution statements will not be mailed!



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Please note, the Parish Office will be closed from 9:00AM until 1:00PM on **Wednesday, 13 January 2021** for our monthly staff meeting!



Sundry Ruminations

A Weekly Column from Your Pastor

Baptism was the beginning of Christ's public ministry, and for us, it marks the beginning of our own lives as Catholics. Most of us don't remember our baptism, and unless you pay attention, there is a lot going on at a baptism that you may not notice. And I'm not talking about the water, the screaming babies, or the Christening gown that was worn by your great-grandmother's second cousin! No, I'm talking about the reason why it is celebrated.

One thing that you'll notice is that unlike other liturgies, baptisms don't begin with a hymn – they start with a question – “What name do you give your child?” Sounds obvious especially since most of us already know. But the sacrament is essentially about who we are and who we will be. We're being transformed, or as the ritual says, we're becoming a new creation. And having a name – an identity – is critical to that. In effect, the parents are saying that they're continuing God's creative work in the world begun in Genesis. Talk about a big day not for me, but for the child and the parents!

Baptisms too are all about commitment. I always love the South Louisiana lore about why folks pick this person to be a godparent over someone else. We think that's the person who's going to take my place as a parent if I die. But being a godparent, or sponsor, in the church takes commitment – to live the faith with fidelity in such a way that their godchild will say, “I want to be like that.” Talk about a big day not for me, but for the child and the godparents!

Baptisms are also about community. Do you roll your eyes when I say during non-COVID times, “We're going to have a baptism at Mass today?” It always made me wonder why more folks *don't* celebrate baptisms during Mass. At one point, the priest tells the child, “The Christian community welcomes you with great joy.” If there is no community, how are they going to welcome the child? Christians don't live in isolation, and that's why we do it together, in Mass, as one Church. Talk about a big day for not just me, but for the whole community.

God chooses to bring us into the world, and we need some help cooperating with that grace. And maybe that's the challenge for us too. Do we strive each day to be a new creation? Do we embrace our commitment to our baptism and all that it entails? Do we welcome those in our community that celebrate the sacrament? Baptism requires our cooperation with creation, constant commitment, and the support of the community. This our faith; this is the faith of the Church. Are you proud to profess it?

Father Jim