



ST. MARGARET, QUEEN OF SCOTLAND

ST. THOMAS CHAPEL • SPRINGFIELD

Post Office Box 100 • Albany, Louisiana 70711-0100

“The Pew Buddy”

The Weekly Parish Bulletin

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD 31 DECEMBER/01 JANUARY 2023

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. Paul Gros (Ext. 111) *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Byrd Corbett (Ext. 108) *Permanent Deacon*
Deacon Tim Messenger (Ext. 149) *Permanent Deacon*
Deacon Randall Waguespack *Permanent Deacon*
Mary E. Herbert (Ext. 105) *Administrative Assistant*
Tammy Resetar (Ext. 101) *Receptionist*
Lucie Hanewinkel (Ext. 103) *Adult Formation*
Shirley Darouse (Ext. 104) *Contributions Manager*
Gill Scioneaux (Ext. 150) *Maintenance Supervisor*
Landon Goings (Ext. 112) *Sacraments & Catechesis*
Cindy Weber (Ext. 107) *Digital Media 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*)

Daily Masses (St. Margaret Church, Albany)

7:00AM, Monday through Friday

RECONCILIATION: The Sacrament is offered weekly at 4:00PM on Thursday and on Saturday at 3:00PM 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 the parish office 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, please leave a message on the emergency line at extension 106.

CALM REACTIONS

This Sunday we see Mary just days after the grueling journey and the amazing birth. She is carrying out the promise she made to Gabriel. All is well. The child is healthy and cute, and the angels, unable to contain their joy, have once more danced into Mary's life. Even the animals understand. It is breathtaking. It would seem that Mary's calm would now seek some quiet and rest after all that had happened. But no. Unkempt shepherds, straight from the fields, "went in haste" to the shelter, announcing in their craggy voices that they knew who this baby is. Angels had told them. Wise men, or as we now say, kings, found the holy shelter and barged right in, bearing royal gifts. Does this all impinge on Mary's peace? No. She is good to her word. The Gospel says that she quietly "kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." How could she do this? Part of it was her personality, of course, but even more, it was the presence of God deep within her, so deep that she let her life become one with his, and produced a son. Life on this earth is never free from hazards and setbacks and stunning difficulties, but as Mary let her heart reflect, and as she watched each movement of the newborn baby, she breathed in a holiness, a degree of holiness



that even she had not known before. "May it be done unto me according to your will." Her acceptance was complete. As we witness this calm, within a crowded, difficult, surprising stable, as we keep the picture of it within our own hearts, may each of us be able to echo her words, "May it be done unto me according to your will." -
John Foley, SJ

Events Around the Parish

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Our next session of Family Faith Formation will be on **Sunday, 08 January 2023** at **11:15AM**. The topic presented by Fr. Jamin David will be "Lifelong Faith: A Theory and Practice." This session will be in the St. Margaret Room in the Hall of Saints. At least one parent per student is required to attend each session, though it is preferable that both parents attend these sessions. Indeed, all parishioners are invited and encouraged to participate to learn more about their faith!



CONFIRMATION CLASSES START SOON

If you are an adult who has been baptized and received First Eucharist but have not received the sacrament of Confirmation, five preparatory sessions will be held on **10, 17, 24, and 31 January and 07 February 2023** from **6:00PM** until **7:30PM** in order to assist you to prepare to receive the sacrament. If you have any further questions, please call Deacon Tim or Deacon Byrd at the Parish Office, or email Darlene Gendusa at darlenemkg@icloud.com.

YUMMY FOR YOUR TUMMY

Come pass a good time and bring your gumbo, jambalaya, etouffee, sauce picante, beignets—all the wonderful Louisiana delicacies. The theme of our next "Yummy for Your Tummy" is a "Taste of Louisiana" and will be held in the Parish Hall on **Saturday, 14 January 2023** at **5:00PM**. Come join us for good food and grow in community while getting to know your fellow parishioners!



THEOLOGY IN A BOTTLE

Our next session of "Theology in a Bottle," our adult education ministry, will be on **Sunday, 15 January 2023** at **6:45PM** in the St. Margaret Room. Deacon Ed Hanks and Julie Hanks will host a panel presenting "An Elixir for Everyone: Helping Those Encountering Unexpected Pregnancy" Spread the word about learning more about your faith!

MANDATORY PARENT MEETING

There will be a Mandatory Parent Meeting for all Second Grade PSR students on **Sunday, 15 January 2023** at **12:30PM** in the St. Margaret Room of the Hall of Saints in preparation for their First Reconciliation and First Communion. Please mark your calendars for this important meeting and plan to attend!



CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Tax time is right around the corner! If you need a statement of your annual contributions to our Church community for 2022, please call Shirley Darouse at extension 104 after **01 January 2023** and leave her a message with your name and specific request. Thank you for your generosity to our parish all throughout the year! Parishioners really make St. Margaret a dynamic parish!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

Peggy Barringer, George Bates, Cindy Brasington, Tommy Bush, Nancy Campeaux, Vincent Catalanatto, Amber Stillely Cocchiola, Hattie Davis, Irene DeMars, Shelli Domiano, Sr. June Engelbrecht, Sal Faldetta, Patty Friedman, Rose Gauthier, Wendy Gill, Frank Goelz, Tommy Hebert, Mary E. Herbert, Patty Hubert, Drew Hutchinson, Kansas Johnson, Donna Laciura, Flavia Langan, Noah Langan, Lebovitz Family, Gregg Mader, Eddie Martin, Fr. Jerry Martin, Penny McCallister, Butch Meche, Virginia Mocsary, Fay Murray, Rose Mary Novak, Terry Parrino, Wayne & Polly Pepitone, Pete Pffifner, Carl & Jackie Rabalais, Ronnie Randazzo, Angi Scighicque, Brittany Stillely, Joe Stolf, Jason Summers, Annie Tallia, Tonya Trammel, Trysten Tucker, Joe Vilardo, 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 Rose Mary Novak at 985.507.7487.



MASS INTENTIONS

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God — 31 December 2022/01 January 2023

4:00PM Vigil
Sat., 31 Dec.
St. Margaret

Sarah & Jacquelyn Bankston (By the Family)
Rose Barras (By the Family)
Philip Brabham (By Lydia Brabham & Family)
Kevin Calecas (By Family & Friends)
Karen Chemay (By Mark Chemay)
Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr. (By His Wife & Family)
Homer Gaspard (By His Great Grandchildren)
Rena Gagle (By Petra Gagle & David Bergeron)
Ricky Genre (By Mary Ann & Family)
Roland & Elaine Grob (By the Family)
Steve & Beryl Ivanyisky (By Raymond Bankston)
Mary, William, & Joe L. Juhasz (By the Family)
Helen Kropog (By Frank Minardi)
Steve & Ann Kropog (By Stephen & Linda Kropog)
Vernon & Dorothy Landry (By Pete Pfiffner & Family)

8:00AM
Sun., 01 Jan.
St. Thomas

Jerry Adamcewicz (By the Family)
Ardoin Family (By the Family)
Pauline Frisbie (By the Family)

10:00AM
St. Margaret

Missa Pro Populo
(The Mass for All Parishioners)

Mon., 02 Jan. (7:00AM)
St. Basil & St. Gregory Nazianzen (M)
Adam Mocsary
(By St. Margaret Parishioners)

Thu., 05 Jan. (7:00AM)
St. John Neumann (M)
Sam & Mary Tantillo
(By Their Daughter, Virginia LaMonica)

Tue., 03 Jan. (7:00AM)
Christmas Weekday
Lynette Pfiffner
(By Pete Pfiffner & Family)

Fri., 06 Jan. (7:00AM)
Christmas Weekday
Eric Navarre
(By George & Kim Navarre)

Ray J. Louviere (By Kenny & Barbara Sherman)
John Tyler Lyles (By Kenny & Barbara Sherman)
Adam Mocsary (By the Family)
Sue Novak (By Jim & Family)
Dr. William T. O'Brien, III (By Kenny & Barbara Sherman)
June Koles Olah (By JuJu's Bunch)
Lynette Pfiffner (By Pete Pfiffner & Family)
Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner (By Pete Pfiffner & Family)
Bill Rogers, Jr. (By Donald & Roxanne Quinn)
Anne Sherman (By Kenny & Barbara Sherman)
Delores Ann Plauche' Smith (By the Plauche' Family)
Samara St. Claire (By George & Kim Navarre)
Andrew & Irene Sziszak (By Chuck & Sandy Raborn)
James Waguespack (By Deacon Randall & Patricia Waguespack)

Jamie Torres Hadley (By Gill & Darlene Scioneaux)
John LaGrange (By Edie & Family)

5:30PM
St. Margaret

Rita Williams
(By a Friend)

Wed., 04 Jan. (7:00AM)
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (M)
Anna & Paula Distefano
(By Joe Distefano)



The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret this week is given in memory of **Eric Navarre** by George & Kim Navarre.

NEW PARISHIONERS ARRIVING DAILY

Please give a warm welcome to these newly registered St. Margaret parishioners and their families: **Catherine Roberts; Ronny & Cindy Henderson; Glenn, Kellie & Brody Bridges; Daniel & Melinda Flaherty; John, Kristin & Alexandra Kropog; David & Pamela Walther; and David Ricks.** Thank you for becoming members of the St. Margaret community. Remember to "officially" register if you have not done so; registration forms are available on our website. Family members are also asked to register when they turn 18 years of age. Come grow with us on our journey toward the truth which is God's love!



WELCOME
to Our Newest Members!

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 **Leonardo Batson, Saylor Renee Smith, and Emmy Judith Kreher.** May these children grow in the grace and love of Our Lord forever! Contact Landon Goings in the Parish Office if you're interested in having your child baptized!



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Gather Hymnal Number 1010

Numbers 6:22-27

God's loving presence is announced to Moses and Aaron.

Galatians 4:4-7

God sent his Son that we might receive adoption as heirs.

Luke 2:16-21

Mary ponders all that has happened.



ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK

Epiphany of the Lord—07/08 January 2023

Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3A, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-2

STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY

Weekend of 24/25 December 2022

Weekly Church Support Collections	\$19,785.70
Debt Reduction Second Collections	\$3,542.00

Thanks for your great and continued generosity to us!



The Second Collection next weekend will be for our Building & Maintenance Fund!

THE CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, 01 January 2023

Happy New Year!



Monday, 02 January 2023

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

Tuesday, 03 January 2023

9:00AM—St. Matthew's Guild, Cecilia Room

6:30PM—Knights of Columbus, St. Margaret Room

7:00PM—Ladies Auxiliary, Goretti Room

Wednesday, 04 January 2023

7:30AM—Eucharistic Adoration, St. Margaret Church

5:30PM—Thomas' Table Meeting, Ignatius Room

6:30PM—RCIA, Seton Room

6:30PM—Youth Group, John Paul II Room

Thursday, 05 January 2023

4:00PM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church

6:00PM—The Bible Timeline Study, Hall of Saints

Friday, 06 January 2023

No Extraordinary Events Scheduled Today!

Saturday, 07 January 2023

Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection!

3:00PM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church

The Roman Catholic Diocese of
BATON ROUGE

RESPECT LIFE MASS

St. Joseph Cathedral

Saturday, January 21, 2023 | 8:30 a.m.

Please join Bishop Duca as he celebrates a special "Respect Life Mass" offering prayers for mothers and children, for all those who have lost their lives to abortion, and for an end to abortion.



Sundry Ruminations

A Weekly Column from Your Pastor

Today as much of the world is celebrating a new year, the Church turns her attention to another feast – that of Mary the Mother of God. To the consternation of many non-Catholics, we sometimes let our personal piety toward Mary obscure the reasons behind our devotion to her; we often lose sight of her genuine place in our faith. As we celebrate today's feast, though, today's readings seem to be challenging us to clarify our devotion to arrive at a new understanding of our relationship with her Son.

In the second reading from Paul's letter to the Galatians that Christ was a lot like us – he was born in our human condition – because of Mary's yes. It's precisely this flesh that offers the saving link between God and humanity. Mary really becomes, for us, the measure of who we are and who we are to be.

Today's Gospel is the exact repeat of one of the Gospels read on Christmas day. The shepherds who were the most marginalized and poor in society are the first ones notified of Jesus' birth and they're the first to visit the infant child. It's in the visit of these outsiders that Mary comes to know her son. In Luke's Gospel, Mary represents the ideal believer. She hears the good news and ponders it in her heart.

During this new year, Mary should really become a model for us. We should really use this new year "to ponder the Christmas mysteries in our heart." We make a big mistake if we think that from the moment of the Annunciation, Mary completely knew and understood the significance of what was taking place. Mary "pondered" the mystery before her through her life – from the angels announcement, to his birth and infancy, from his leaving home, through her hearing about him from others, through his healing, through witnessing his death.

Every step of this journey, Mary had to reassert her "yes" of the Annunciation in a deeper way. It's one thing to simply reflect, but reflection calls for response. And I think that's the challenge for us in today's Gospel. We're to ponder these Christmas mysteries in our hearts, but then we must incarnate Christ in our lives by our free choice and our simple decision to say "yes" to God.

I know I speak for Fr. Paul in saying a great big "thanks" for all of the cards, gifts, and sweets! Let me apologize already if you don't receive a thank you note since some of our gifts were unidentified ones! But know that we're grateful for all the ways you show us your love and affection throughout the year. There's no place we'd rather be than here with you!

Fr. Paul