

THE

MARCH 2/3, 2024

# PEW BUDDY

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

"Zeal for your  
house will  
consume me."

~ John 2:17

### St. Margaret Church & Parish Office

30300 Catholic Hall Road | Hammond | LA 70403  
P.O. Box 100 | Albany | LA 70711

### St. Thomas the Apostle Chapel

31718 Main Street | Springfield | LA 70462

#### OFFICE HOURS

We are open Tuesday  
through Friday from  
8:00AM until 3:00PM,  
but closed for lunch from  
12:00PM until 1:00PM!  
**We are closed on Monday!**



#### CONTACT US

**By Phone:**

225.567.3573

**By Email:**

[stmargaret@diobr.org](mailto:stmargaret@diobr.org)

**Website:**

[stmargaretsstthomas.com](http://stmargaretsstthomas.com)





# PONDERINGS OF THE PEDAL-N-PADRE

*By Father Paul Gros*

Dear Family and Christ.

Peace in the Lord Jesus Christ! As you know about every month or so since October, we have been doing a little catechesis on Eucharistic miracles. I want to thank Megan Ourso for continuing to do that for me the last several months. Of course, this is in response to the U.S. bishops' three-year effort to renew the faithful's devotion to the Holy Eucharist (we also continue with our book study on Thursday evenings at 6:30PM on "The Seven Secrets of the Eucharist").

This coming summer will end the second year of the Eucharistic Revival. Thousands of people are expected to participate in a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage beginning from each corner of the country and ending in Indianapolis for the **National Eucharistic Congress July 17–24**. The third and final year, following the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress, will be dedicated to the Church "going out on mission" to renew the world.

As we begin this month of March, I want to introduce you to a unique Eucharistic miracle. Several months ago, a parishioner E-mailed me an article about a unique occurrence that happened while Pope St. John Paul II was visiting the United States in 1995. He had had a full day's schedule in Baltimore. The day was ending with a quick stop at a major U.S. seminary called Mount Saint Mary's. To save time, the plan was that he would just greet the seminarians outside on the steps, but this saintly Pope wanted to first visit the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel.

Upon learning his request, the security detailed jumped into action. They began sweeping the Chapel with specially trained dogs that could easily locate persons that may be hiding behind walls or pews. These dogs are highly intelligent and are usually trained to locate survivors in the collapse of buildings after earthquakes and other disasters.

This is a quote from an eyewitness of what happened next when the dogs approached the Tabernacle: *"Upon reaching the Tabernacle, the dogs sniffed, whined, pointed, and refused to leave, their attention riveted on the Tabernacle, until called by their handlers. **They were convinced that they discovered someone there.** We Catholics know they were right – they found a real, living Person in the Tabernacle!"*



How cool is that! These highly intelligent and well-trained dogs were able to point out the living presence of the Blessed Sacrament without even knowing what they were doing! In my estimate, this is a Eucharistic miracle like none other! Below is a link to a YouTube video explaining this occurrence in more detail.

May we continue to grow in greater Eucharistic devotion during this season of Lent!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25tEfa7USCI>

Have a wonderful week!

# EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

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## MEATLESS MEAL FRIDAYS

Our next Meatless Meal will be on **Friday, March 8, 2024**. The meal will include shrimp & corn soup, Cole slaw, crackers and dessert. Monies raised will specifically benefit the youth group's annual "Mission Krewe" and the other sponsoring organizations. Tickets are available outside of all weekend Masses and in the parish office. Get your tickets today!

## YUMMY FOR YOUR TUMMY

Bring your favorite barbeque items: hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, pork, potato salad, veggies and join us for March's "Yummy for Your Tummy" themed "Southern Barbeque" to be held in the parish hall on **Saturday, March 9, 2024, at 5:00PM**. Join us for good food and to grow in community while getting to know your fellow parishioners!

## FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Our next session of Family Faith Formation will be on **Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 11:15AM**. The topic presented by Fr. Paul Gros will be "How to Make a Good Confession." 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!

## THEOLOGY IN A BOTTLE

Our next session of "Theology in a Bottle," our adult education ministry, will be on **Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 6:45PM** in the St. Margaret Room. Jim and Jennifer Batson will be presenting "Let's Get Ready to Stumble! A Walk Through the Holy Places of France". The Batsons will share photos and insights from their recent pilgrimage to France. Spread the word about learning more about your faith!

## ST. JOSEPH ALTAR NEWS

The St. Joseph Altar Novena begins on **Saturday, March 9, 2024**. Please refer to the St. Joseph Altar flyer on page 04 of this bulletin for the complete schedule and more information. There are receptacles near the entrances of both churches for depositing your prayer intentions which are wholly confidential. A special St. Joseph Altar envelope is included in your March packet of offering envelopes. If you do not regularly receive contributions packets, there are envelopes available near the entrances of both churches labeled "St. Joseph Altar Donations." Please make checks payable to St. Margaret Church. Thank you for your generosity! Blessed St. Joseph votive candles are available in the office and will be available at the altar for a suggested \$5.00 donation. If you wish to bake sweets or prepare a meatless dish for the altar or assist with the altar in other ways, please contact John or Mary Gaeta at (225) 567-2193 or (985) 320-6520.

# THE LORD'S LAW IS PERFECT

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

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## WE CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD

Please join our Prayer Line Ministers as we pray for the following community members:

**Cindy Brasington, Sarah Marie Caldorera, Nancy Campeaux, Cole Catalano, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Taffy Coleman, Remy Cramer, Irene Good DeMars, Hattie Davis, Shellie Domiano, Sr. June Engelbrecht, Kurt Evans, Larry Evans, Elise "Breezy" Fischer, Cora Fuller, Rose Gauthier, Michelle Kling, Rachel Kling, Tammy Hamilton, Tommy Hebert, Barbie Martino Henegan, Mary E. Herbert, Bill Hoover, Leon V. Latino, Jr., Gregg Mader, Earl Magner, Charmaine Mocsary, Joseph Mocsary, Lachelle Morgan, Becham Mosely, Ricky Murphy, Edward Murray, Sidney Ourso, Larry Pearson, Lawrence Pelotto, Pete Pfiffner, Mary Prokop, Albert Rayborn, William Schwartz, Gene Simoneaux, Brittany Stilley, Joseph Stolf, Diane Sudkamp, Carolyn Toole, Trysten Tucker, Carolyn Reese Walch, Jackie Wedge, those in the Armed Services and law enforcement, and all who need 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 at 985.507.7487.

## CONGRATS NEWLYWEDS

Congratulations all new couples married at St. Margaret during the month of February including **Nicholas Theunissen & Karoline White, Ryan Duplechain & Hayley Hanewinkel, and Scott Brame & Sydney Trahan-Dulski.** We wish them many blessings in the future together! Contact one of the clergy to schedule your wedding or to learn more about marriage at St. Margaret!

## STEWARDSHIP THIS WEEK

Thanks to your generosity,  
the **Regular Collection** for the weekend  
of February 24/25, 2024 totaled:

**\$12,508.00.**

The Special Collection next weekend is  
for the **Catholic Relief Services.**

Thank you for your kindness and  
generosity to our ministries!

## BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Congratulations to the families and friends of the newest Catholics welcomed into the faith at St. Margaret during the month of February including **Jesse Robertson, Kyler Shelden, and Cash Lee.** May these children grow in the grace and love of Our Lord forever! Contact Baleigh Henderson in the parish office if you are interested in having your child baptized!



St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland

## ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

Sunday, March 17, 2024

(Following 10:00AM Mass)

Parish Hall  
30300 Catholic Hall Road, Albany  
(Hammond, by GPS)

All are invited to participate, celebrate, and give glory to God in honor of St. Joseph, the husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus!

### A SPIRITUAL TRADITION

The altar arises from the rich spiritual tradition and patrimony of our Church that began centuries ago. In keeping with that tradition, all are invited to join in prayer by participating in the HOLY ROSARY and ST. JOSEPH NOVENA PRAYERS which will begin on **Saturday, March 9, 2024**. Please see the full schedule on the right for dates and times.

Also, we would like to place YOUR intentions on the St. Joseph Altar during our annual celebration. Receptacles have been placed near the entrances of both churches to deposit your novena prayer intentions which are wholly confidential. At the conclusion of the altar, these intentions will be stored at St. Margaret until the Easter Vigil where they will be burned in the Easter fire.



### NOVENA SCHEDULE

Recited prayers will include the Rosary, familiar St. Joseph prayers, and the Litany to St. Joseph. All novena prayers take place at St. Margaret Church:

Saturday	March 9, 2024	3:30PM
Sunday	March 10, 2024	5:00PM
Monday*	March 11, 2024	5:00PM
Tuesday	March 12, 2024	7:30AM
Wednesday	March 13, 2024	7:30AM
Thursday	March 14, 2024	7:30AM
Friday	March 15, 2024	7:30AM
Saturday	March 16, 2024	3:30PM
Sunday	March 17, 2024	11:00AM

(following the 10:00 AM Mass)

Eucharistic Adoration will follow the Novena Prayers on Wednesday, March 13, 2024.

\*Novena following Mondays with Mary Rosary

For more information contact John & Mary Gaeta at 225.567.2193 or 985.320.6520.

### YOUR SUPPORT HELPS!

St. Margaret cannot produce such a beautiful and meaningful altar without your generosity! A special St. Joseph Altar envelope is included in the usual packet of envelopes each parishioner received for the month of March. Please place any and all donations in these envelopes and drop them in any first collection at Mass on any weekend leading up to the St. Joseph Altar. Envelopes are available at the entrances of both churches for individuals who are visiting or who do not regularly receive contribution packets. Make all checks payable to St. Margaret Church. You can also donate to the St. Joseph Altar by visiting our website at [www.stmargaretstthomas.com](http://www.stmargaretstthomas.com) and simply press the GIVE button. Thank you for your generosity!



### BRING IT TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you know of any homebound parishioners or acquaintances who would like to receive food from the altar, please contact John Gaeta. Please have someone pick up this box for your homebound loved one after the celebration has concluded.



### HOW CAN YOU HELP?



Aside from financial support, beginning **Thursday, March 15, 2024**, baked goods may be dropped off at the Parish Hall between the hours of **9:00AM to 1:00PM**.

We welcome your favorite meatless casserole, vegetable dish or salad. You may bring these dishes to the Parish Hall on **Saturday, March 16 or Sunday, March 17, 2024**. Please let John or Mary Gaeta know what dish you will provide.

### PUBLIC VIEWING



A public viewing of the altar will take place after the 4:00PM Mass on **Saturday, March 16, 2024**, from **5:00PM until 6:00PM**. Coffee and sfinges (Italian donuts) or other treats will be served.

Immediately following the 10:00AM Mass on **Sunday, March 17, 2024**, the St. Joseph Novena will be recited and then all will process to the Parish Hall. The altar will then be blessed by Father Paul Gros, our Pastor. Father Paul will lead the meal prayer and slice the first piece of bread – a signal for the introduction of those honored parishioners portraying the “saints”. Once the “saints” are served, all guests will be invited to form a line to be served their meal.

### BREAKING DOWN THE ALTAR

As everyone completes their meal, the altar is “broken,” that is food is removed and guests request food to be given to them by the Altar Committee. Leftover food is donated and/or delivered to a local nursing home, a community home for the mentally challenged, and the St. Albert Student Center's “Starving Students” in Hammond.



### ST. JOSEPH PRAY FOR US



Remember, most pure spouse of Mary, ever Virgin, my loving protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to your protection or asked for your aid without obtaining relief. Confiding, therefore, in your goodness, I come before you and humbly implore you. Despise not my petitions, foster-father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them. Amen.

# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret is given as an offering for  
**Pauline Frisbie** by the Family.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### Saturday, March 2, 2024, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Eddie Barker, Lucas Barros, Polly Chatelain, Karen Chemay, Phillip Clifton,  
Shelly Cyrus, William Derbyshire, Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Homer Gaspard,  
Fred Gauthier, Ricky Genre, Dorothy Reese Jones,  
Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Ray J. Louviere,  
George Navarre, Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, June Koles Olah,  
Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner and Anne Sherman

### Sunday, March 3, 2024, 8:00AM Mass

Jerry Adamcewicz, Adrian, Bud & Joan Bailey, Lloyd Dominguez, John LaGrange,  
Clarence & Faye Landeche, Charles Martin, Charles & Marie Stumpf  
and Chuck Stumpf

### Sunday, March 3, 2024, 10:00AM Mass

*The Missa Pro Populo* (The Mass for all the Parishioners)

### Sunday, March 3, 2024, 5:30PM Mass

George Navarre

### Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Lynette Pfiffner

### Wednesday, March 6, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Fr. Paul Gros

### Thursday, March 7, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Kristen Miller

### Friday, March 8, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Parishioners of St. Margaret & St. Thomas

## INTEREST IN JOINING THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS?

Use the QR code here to access the forms needed to apply for membership. Our Council number is **10178** and the Proposer's (Chuck Raborn) number is **2017388**. For additional information, contact Chuck Raborn at 225.413.1347.



# PAROCHIAL DASHBOARD

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## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

### 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 with a priest.

### 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 the office for a priest or deacon for home or hospital visits.

### FUNERALS

Call the parish office during normal hours for scheduling. After hours, please leave a message on the emergency line at extension 106.

## OUR LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil-4:00PM - St. Margaret Church  
Sunday-8:00AM - St. Thomas Chapel  
10:00AM & 5:30PM - St. Margaret Church

### Daily Masses

No Monday Mass  
Tuesday through Friday-7:00AM  
St. Margaret Church

### Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday-7:30AM-8:00PM  
Concluding with Benediction  
St. Margaret Church

## CLERGY & STAFF

### PASTOR

Father Paul August Gros

### DEACONS

Deacon William "Byrd" Corbett  
Deacon Tim Messenger  
Deacon Randall Waguespack

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Mary E. Herbert  
(Pastor's Administrative Assistant)  
Tammy Resetar (Receptionist)  
Lucie Hanewinkel (Contributions Manager)

### PASTORAL STAFF

Baleigh Olah Henderson  
(Religious Education &  
Communications Coordinator)  
Melissa F. Berghausen (Youth Minister)

## THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

*Third Sunday of Lent*  
**Gather Hymnal Number 1023**

### Exodus 20:1-17

Israel is given the commandments.

### 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Christ surpasses human understanding.

### John 2:13-25

Jesus cleanses the Temple in Jerusalem.

### Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*  
*March 9/10, 2024*

### 2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

### Ephesians 2:4-10

### John 3:14-21



# OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

## Sunday, March 3, 2024

**Third Sunday of Lent!**

**Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection!**

**Lenten Meatless Meals Ticket Sales!**

**Coffee & Donut Ministry!**

11:15AM—**Parish School of Religion (Grades K-6)**, Hall of Saints

11:15AM—**Circle of Grace (Grades 1 & 5)**, Hall of Saints

12:30PM—**Passion Play Meeting**, Parish Hall

6:45PM—**Parish School of Religion (Grades 7-11)**, Hall of Saints

## Monday, March 4, 2024

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

5:00PM—**Mondays with Mary**, St. Margaret Church

## Tuesday, March 5, 2024

8:30AM—**St. Matthew's Guild**, Cecilia Room

7:00PM—**Knights of Columbus**, St. Margaret Room

7:00PM—**Ladies Auxiliary**, Goretti Room

## Wednesday, March 6, 2024

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

5:00PM—**Junior Youth Group**, John Paul II Room

6:00PM—**Hungarian Language Class**, Seton Room

6:30PM—**High School Youth Group**, John Paul II Room

6:30PM—**Open Doors (OCIA)**, Vianney Room



## Thursday, March 7, 2024

4:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church

6:30PM—**Lenten Book Study**, St. Margaret Church

## Friday, March 8, 2024

4:00PM—**Lenten Meatless Meals**, Parish Hall

5:00PM—**Stations of the Cross**, St. Margaret Church

## Saturday, March 9, 2024

**Fourth Sunday of Lent!**

**Catholic Relief Services Special Collection!**

**Lenten Meatless Meals Ticket Sales!**

3:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church

5:00PM—**Yummy for Your Tummy**, Parish Hall

