

THE

MARCH 9/10, 2024

# PEW BUDDY

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)



"For God so  
loved the world  
that He gave his  
only Son..."

~John 3:16

### 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:**

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



# PONDERINGS OF THE PEDAL-N-PADRE

*By Father Paul Gros*

Dear Family and Christ.

***Peace in the Lord Jesus Christ! Last weekend we were unable to print the bulletins, so I decided to copy my bulletin article for this weekend as well because some of you may not have been able to get the bulletin online. I thought it was too good to not get printed!!!***

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

## 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!

## OFFICE CLOSED FOR MONTHLY STAFF MEETING

The parish office will be closed on **Wednesday, March 13 2024**, from **8:00AM** until **1:00PM** for our monthly staff meeting. Please take care of any business you may have before or after this time. Thanks for your consideration!

## ST. JOSEPH ALTAR NEXT WEEKEND!

All are invited to participate, celebrate, and give glory to God in honor of St. Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus, by attending the St. Joseph Altar in the parish hall on **Sunday, March 17, 2024**, following the 10:00 Mass. The public viewing of the altar will be on **Saturday, March 16, 2024**, after the 4:00PM Mass until 6:00PM. Coffee and sfinges will be served. The Rosary will be recited before the 10:00AM Mass on **Sunday, March 17**, and the novena prayers will be recited immediately following Mass just before the St. Joseph Procession. Following the procession to the parish hall, Father Paul, our Pastor, will bless the altar. Blessed St. Joseph votive candles are still available for a suggested \$5.00 donation through March 17 in the parish office or at the altar. Donations to host the altar can be made by simply using the St. Joseph Altar envelope included in our March packet of offering envelopes or through our website by simply clicking "GIVE". Baked goods can be dropped off at the hall beginning **Thursday, March 14**. For more information refer to the St. Joseph Altar flyer or contact John or Mary Gaeta at 225.567.2193 or 985.320.6520.

## MEATLESS MEAL FRIDAYS

Our last Meatless Meal will be on **Friday, March 22, 2024**. The meal will include fried fish, garlic buttered potatoes, green beans, garlic bread 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.

# NEVER FORGET THE GOD'S LOVE

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you.

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## WE PRAY TO THE LORD FOR HEALING

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, 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.

## STEWARDSHIP THIS WEEK

Thanks to your generosity,  
the **Regular Collection** for the  
weekend of March 2/3, 2024 totaled:

**\$13,430.00.**

The **Building & Maintenance Fund**  
**Second Collection** totaled:

**\$4,691.00**

The Second Collection next weekend  
is for our local  
**St. Vincent de Paul Society.**

Thank you for your kindness and  
generosity to our ministries!

*Clocks Spring Forward!*

## BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

The Diocese of Baton Rouge is blessed to have 10 young men in seminarian formation: **Huy, Joshua, Jeremy, Aeli, Grant, John, Carson, Austin, Trey, and Andrew.** Join us in supporting these men who will become the priests who will bring us the sacraments, counsel us when we need spiritual support and encourage us in our walk toward sainthood. To learn more about the Bishop's Annual Appeal and support our seminarians, visit [diobr.org/baa](http://diobr.org/baa).



2023-2024  
**BISHOP'S  
ANNUAL APPEAL**  
DIOCESE OF BATON ROUGE

To learn more or to donate, visit  
**DIOBR.ORG/BAA**  
or scan this QR code with your phone.





# COME TO THE LIGHT OF TRUTH

Walking with  
Moms in Need | Pray for Moms



## INTERCEDE



## PRAY

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

## REFLECT

On March 25, 2020, the Church celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the papal encyclical *Evangelium vitae* (The Gospel of Life). This prophetic document, written by Pope St. John Paul II, reaffirmed the Church's constant teaching on the value and inviolability of every human life.

The Gospel of Life highlights the special and particular role of women in bearing the gift of life. St. John Paul II offers heartfelt thanks to "heroic mothers," who, placing their trust in God, "devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves" (EV 86). The Holy Father also outlines many challenges that expectant mothers may face, recognizing that an "unborn child is totally entrusted to the protection and care of the woman carrying him or her in the womb" (EV 58). For this reason, it is particularly important that the Church come alongside mothers, offering encouragement, assistance, and support that is life-affirming for both them and their children.

## ACT (choose one)

- Read the reflection, "He Made His Dwelling Among Us: The Annunciation and The Gospel of Life," ([www.bit.ly/ev-annunciation](http://www.bit.ly/ev-annunciation)) and spend time prayerfully reflecting on the gift of human life.
- Choose a day this week to fast for the featured intention.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for the featured intention.

## ONE STEP FURTHER

Celebrate the gift of The Gospel of Life ([www.bit.ly/evangelium-vitae](http://www.bit.ly/evangelium-vitae)) by reading section 87 of this prophetic encyclical on the dignity of the human person.

## DID YOU KNOW?

There's still time for your parish to join Walking with Moms in Need. Visit [WalkingWithMoms.com](http://WalkingWithMoms.com) for more information.

For additional prayers, resources, and ideas on supporting mothers in your local area:  
[www.WalkingWithMoms.com](http://www.WalkingWithMoms.com)

## NEW BIBLE STUDY

Join us on Tuesday mornings at **9:30AM** for Exodus, Part II beginning **March 19, 2024**, and continuing on March 26, April 2, 9 and 16, 2024. The cost is \$15 per person for materials. Men and women of all ages are welcome! For more information and to register, please see the flyer on our website.



**All Are Welcome**  
presents

*Heaven or Bust*

Getting to heaven as a family

A retreat day for all members of  
exceptional needs families

**March 23, 2024**

**9:00-5:30**

**St. John the Evangelist**  
**Prairieville, LA**

**Registration Required**

## HEAVEN OR BUST

Registration is still open for the "Heaven or Bust" retreat for all members of the exceptional needs family - dad, mom, siblings, and those with exceptional needs. The day will include sessions for the entire family, sessions for each family member, activities, Adoration, prayer, song & dance, and conclude with Mass. Professional aides will be on hand and ready to serve to ensure a safe and spiritual day. Registration required. Space is limited. The retreat will be at St. John the Evangelist in Prairieville on **Saturday, March 23, 2024**, from **9:00AM** and concludes with an invitation to attend 5:30 pm Mass. Register at: <https://diobr.org/heaven-or-bust-retreat>.

# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret is given as an offering for  
**Samera St. Claire** by Kim Navarre.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### Saturday, March 9, 2024, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Eddie Barker, Roy J. Barrios, Polly Chatelain, Karen Chemay, Shelly Cyrus,  
Frances Dantin, William Derbyshire, Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr.,  
Anthony & Anna Friedman, Judy Friedman, Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre,  
Dorothy Reese Jones, Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Vernon & Dorothy Landry,  
Ray J. Louviere, Bill Moran, George Navarre, Sue Novak,  
Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, June Koles Olah, Lynette Pfiffner,  
Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner and Anne Sherman

### Sunday, March 10, 2024, 8:00AM Mass

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

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

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

### Sunday, March 10, 2024, 5:30PM Mass

June Magner

### Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

George & Eric Navarre

### Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Lynette Pfiffner

### Thursday, March 14, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Gwen Delaune

### Friday, March 15, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

June Koles Olah

## INTERESTED 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

*Fourth Sunday of Lent*  
**Gather Hymnal Number 1026**

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

God will be merciful  
to the exiled Israelites.

### Ephesians 2:4-10

We are saved by God's rich mercy.

### John 3:14-21

God's only Son was sent  
for our reconciliation.

### Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*  
*March 16/17, 2024*

### Jeremiah 31:31-34

### Hebrews 5:7-9

### John 12:20-23

# OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

## Sunday, March 10, 2024

**Fourth Sunday of Lent!**

**Catholic Relief Services Special Collection!**

**Lenten Meatless Meals Ticket Sales!**

**Daylight Savings Time Begins!**

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

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

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

5:30PM—**Second Scrutiny**, St. Margaret Church

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

6:45PM—**Theology in a Bottle**, St. Margaret Room

## Monday, March 11, 2024

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

5:30AM—**St. Vincent de Paul Meeting**, Seton Room

## Tuesday, March 12, 2024

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

6:00PM—**Sacramental Records Workshop**, Seton Room

## Wednesday, March 13, 2024

**Parish Office Closed from 8:00AM until 1:00PM!**

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

9:00AM—**Staff Meeting**, Seton Room

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

7:00PM—**KC Fourth Degree Meeting**, Goretti Room

## Thursday, March 14, 2024

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

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

## Friday, March 15, 2024

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

## Saturday, March 16, 2024

**Fifth Sunday of Lent!**

**St. Vincent de Paul Second Collection!**

**Lenten Meatless Meals Ticket Sales!**

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

5:00PM—**St. Joseph Altar Viewing**, Parish Hall

