THE PEW BUDDY

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

"The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

~John 6:51

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 Website:

stmargaretstthomas.com

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

YUMMY BACK TO SCHOOL

In honor of the beginning of a new school year, our August Yummy for Your Tummy is titled "Bless the Backpack" and will take place on **Saturday**, **August 10**, **2024**, after the 4:00PM Mass in the parish hall. Bring your favorite school lunch with you to share with our community. Ahh, remember those buttery, lunch lady yeast rolls?!

PSR BEGINS THIS WEEKEND!

PSR classes will begin on **Sunday**, **August 11**, **2024**, with a similar schedule as last year: K-6 from 11:15AM until 12:30PM on Sunday morning after the 10:00AM Mass and grades 7-11 after the 5:30PM Mass from 6:45PM until 8:00PM. We are looking forward to another great year! Registration forms can be picked up in the front of the church or can be printed out on our website to be submitted. PSR policies are also available on the website!

There will also be MANDATORY meetings for PSR parents/guardians this **Sunday**, **August 11, 2024**, at the same time as your child's PSR class. See the Parish Calendar on the back of the bulletin for times.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION WORKSHOP

Interested in serving as a Eucharistic Minister? A Eucharistic Minister serves, distributes, and administers the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ during the Holy Communion or Eucharist of the Mass. There will be a MANDATORY training session for all new and current Eucharist Ministers on **Tuesday**, **August 13**, **2024**, at **6:00PM** in St. Margaret Church. Fr. Paul and Deacon Byrd will share theology and practicality of administering the Blessed Sacrament. Please contact Tracy Andry at 225.485.5215 if you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister.

OCIA BEGINS THIS WEEK

Ever thought about becoming a Catholic? Know of someone in your family who is interested in learning more about the faith? Invite them to participate in the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). There is also an equivalent ritual for children (OCIC). The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is a transformative process that invites non-baptized adults and baptized Christians seeking full communion with the Roman Catholic Church to explore, learn, and grow in their faith. The St. Margaret OCIA program will begin Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 6:30PM in the Hall of Saints. For more information, please contact Darlene at darlenemkg@icloud.com or Kristi at Salon5ltan@gmail.com or call the parish office. Darlene and Kristi will be available outside of all Masses to answer questions.

SEEK REFUGE IN THE LORD

MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

This ministry would not be possible without our dedicated St. Margaret volunteers. It is truly something special to know that you are doing God's work. Because of you, so many people in need are blessed. This ministry is also a great way to get to spend time with your fellow parishioners.

The next monthly Food Distribution will be on **Thursday August 15, 2024**. We continue to improve the new traffic flow which starts on West Bates Road by the St. Margaret Cemetery and the new electronic registration process. Volunteers will continue to park at the Livingston Tourist Center.

Volunteers are needed between 8:00AM until 2:00PM. If you already volunteer, let your team leader know if you will be able to help. If you want to get involved, please call 985-969-7477 so we can best utilize your time and talents.





THEOLOGY IN A BOTTLE

"Theology in a Bottle," our adult education ministry, is gearing up for a new year. On **Sunday**, **August 18**, **2024**, at **6:45PM**, Fr. Paul Gros will be presenting his discussion titled "Understanding the Brew-tiful: The Apparitions of Medjugorje" Join us a Fr. Paul shares his pilgrimage experience!

NEW BIBLE STUDY

Dive into the story of how Christ established His kingdom in "Matthew", a 24-part bible study featuring Jeff Cavins' videos. The study will be on Thursday evenings from 6:00PM until 8:00PM in the Hall of Saints beginning August 22, 2024. Jeff Cavins explains how Jesus is challenging and empowering us to achieve a new level of holiness and how, to live it, we must be thoroughly immersed in the kingdom of heaven. The cost for the workbook and online video access for one year is \$25 per person. Please complete the registration form on our website or at the parish office. For more information, contact Jennifer Batson at 817.269.7482 or jen.batson64@gmail.com.



PONDERINGS OF THE PEDAL-N-PADRE

By Father Paul Gros

Dear Parish Family,

Peace in the Lord! I would like to use my article space this weekend to share the annual financial reports for the past fiscal year 2023/24. In 1 Timothy 6:18-19, St. Paul tells St. Timothy: "Tell them [those with means] to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, ready to share, thus accumulating as treasure a good foundation for the future, so as to win the life that is true life." St. Paul is simply reiterating what Jesus says in Mt. 6:20: "But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

What is the underlying point of these two scripture passages? Certainly, that we are to "plan for the future," that is, prepare for our eternal homeland by making "deposits of charity" that can be stored up as true treasure in heaven and never taken from us. But also, St. Paul is connecting our life of faith to charitable giving – "to be generous, ready to share, thus accumulating as treasure a good foundation for the future, so as to win the life that is true life."

I have included in the next few pages an abbreviated financial report from this past fiscal year. It reflects your generosity to the parish and to the community. One report is a glance into St. Margaret's past and enables us to see how much we have grown as a parish and how much our collections have grown – from \$282,976 in 2010/11 to \$1,073,989 this past year. From the prior year, we dropped significantly in collections (-31%), but this is merely a reflection of our St. Thomas renovation campaign that kicked off in February 2023. We raised almost \$335,000 initially for the project, which would account for the drastic \$333,170 difference between 2022/23 and 2023/24. Setting the St. Thomas renovation project monies aside, the collections reflect that last year, and this year were remarkably similar in "raw" giving.

The next report shows the actual vs. budget for the fiscal year July 2023 - June 2024. The \$800,000 deficit budgeted was for the purpose of the anticipated \$800,000 expense for the St. Thomas renovation project. In the "actual income/expense" column, it shows a \$5,970 surplus for the year.

Finally, the two graphs give us a perspective on our debt reduction. Please note that this DOES NOT INCLUDE the \$400,000 loan needed to help pay for the St. Thomas renovation. As you can see, we have paid 21.4% on the debt retirement that we owe to the diocese for the St. Margaret renovation project. This leaves us with 78.6% to be paid hopefully by June 2035. Again, we must consider that the monthly loan note will increase with the St. Thomas renovation project. The other graph shows this past fiscal year's collection on debt retirement verses the debt retirement payments. As you can see, we were \$34,597 short of what we needed to collect to cover these payments. The remainder was taken from our regular operating expenses.

I know I have mentioned this before, but I am incredibly grateful for the financial stewardship here at St. Margaret and St Thomas. This was something I noticed right away when I arrived here 3 years ago. If you have any questions about our finances this past year, please feel free to call or email me (pgros@stmargaretstthomas.com) or Mary Herbert (meherbert@stmargaretstthomas.com).

Please know that we also have other ministerial and physical plans that we hope to accomplish together over the next year including the full renovation of St. Thomas Chapel. Thank you for your generosity! And please continue to consider what the Lord may be calling you to give this next fiscal year. He is the one who truly offers gratitude!

Have a wonderful week!

1 Paul D

DEPOSITS OF CHARITY

St. Margaret Financial Performance at a Glance

Fiscal Year	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	<u>2013/2014</u>	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Total Receipts	\$282,976.00	\$282,627.00	\$327,759.00	\$377,728.00	\$459,735.31	\$539,711.23	\$846,079.00	\$1,009,731.00
Amount Change Year Over Year		-\$349.00	\$45,132.00	\$49,969.00	\$82,007.31	\$79,975.92	\$306,367.77	\$163,652.00
Percent Change Year Over Year		FL,AT	16%	15%	22%	17%	57%	19%
Parish Share (Monthly)	\$3,670.00	\$2,898.00	\$2,830.00	\$2,779.00	\$3,551.00	\$4,407.00	\$5,098.00	\$5,093.00
Parish Share (Annual)	\$44,040.00	\$34,776.00	\$33,960.00	\$33,348.00	\$42,612.00	\$52,884.00	\$61,172.00	\$61,116.00
Fiscal Year	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	
Total Receipts	\$784,420.00i	\$911,928.00 ⁱⁱ	\$1,117,337.00 ⁱⁱⁱ	\$1,161,235.00iv	\$1,407,159.00v	\$1,073,989.00vi		
Amount Change Year Over Year	-\$225,311.00	\$127,508.00	\$205,409.00	\$43,898.00	\$245,924.00	-\$333,170.00		
Percent Change Year Over Year	-22%	16%	23%	4%	21%	-31%		
Parish Share (Monthly)	\$6,149.00	\$8,138.00	\$6,606.00	\$8,819.00	\$10,485.00	\$11,115.00	UNKNOWN	
Parish Share (Annual)	\$73,788.00	\$97,656.00	\$79,271.00	\$105,823.00	\$125,820.00	\$133,380.00	TIME	

i Note that FY 2016/2017 and FY 2017/2018 saw a \$250,000 gift during each FY for Phase II of Reconstruction. These figures are reflective of these extraordinary gifts.

ii Note that FY 2019/2020 (COVID-19 year) saw an extraordinary gift of \$150,000 from a single donor. St. Margaret also received benefits from the Payroll Protection Program of approximately \$30,000.

iii Note that FY2020/2021 (COVID-19 continuation) saw decreased revenue but increased giving. Extraordinary gifts of over \$200,000 were received from three generous donors.

iv Note that FY2021/2022 saw a slight increased due to the continued effects of the COVID pandemic and recovery from Hurricane Ida. Also, standards of reporting to the Diocese of Baton Rouge affected the computation of receipts and expenses.

Note that FY2022/2023 saw a dramatic increase due to solicitation for the St. Thomas Renovation project.
 Note that FY 2023/2024 saw decreased revenue for the St. Thomas Renovation project.

WIN LIFE THAT IS TRUE LIFE

St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland Catholic Church Annual Financial Report

For the Fiscal Year 01 July 2023 - 30 June 2024

<u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
General Receipts ¹	977,014	782,187
Extraordinary Receipts ²	96,975	70,265
Total Income	1,073,989	852,452
<u>Expense</u>		
Administrative Expenses ³	495,845	526,014
Parish Share Contributions ⁴	133,380	133,380
Pastoral Services	67,064	32,250
Plant Operations and Maintenance ⁶	70,546	54,108
Capital Expenses ⁷	259,335	865 <i>,7</i> 01
Extraordinary Expenses ⁸	41,849	41,000
Total Expense	1,068,019	1,652,452
Income Over Expense	5,970	(000,000)

¹ "General Receipts" include items such as weekly church support contributions, building and maintenance fund contributions, capital improvement contributions, cemetery plot sales and interest on diocesan savings accounts.

² "Extraordinary Receipts" include fees raised from religious education tuition, vacation bible school fees, and disaster relief contributions.

³ "Administrative Expenses" include items such as staff salaries and other related payroll expenses, utilities, postage, office supplies, liturgical supplies, contracted services, and offertory envelope purchases.

⁴ "Parish Share Contributions" include the monthly tax imposed by the Diocese of Baton Rouge on church support contributions. This number changes annually based upon parochial income anchas increased over the past fiscal year.

⁵ "Pastoral Services" include expenses such as those related to the religious education of children and adults, sacramental preparation materials, youth group, liturgy, and music expenditures.

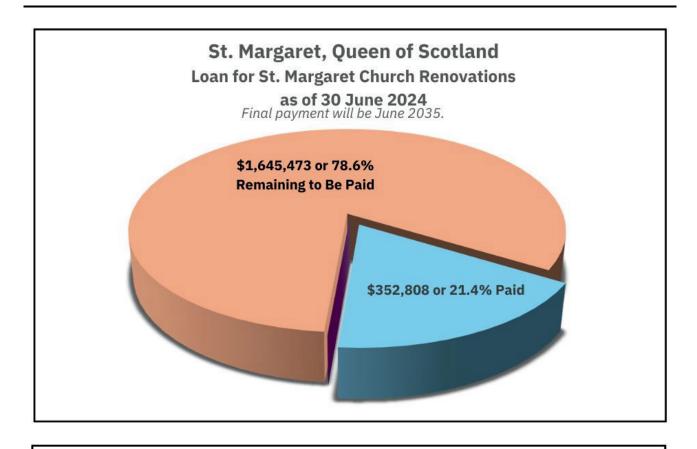
⁶ "Plant Operations and Maintenance" includes all insurance, repairs, replacements, and supplies for the buildings and property of St. Margaret, St. Thomas, and the St. Margaret Cemetery.

⁷ "Capital Expenses" include equipment purchases and capital improvements to parochial

⁸ "Capital Expenses" include equipment purchases and capital improvements to parochial property. It also includes our interest payments, which are part of our monthly loan payment of approximately \$12,000 per month to reduce our debt.

⁸ "Extraordinary Expenses" include items such as our service ministries, St. Joseph altar, Mission Krewe, disaster relief disbursements and other miscellaneous items.

TREASURES IN HEAVEN





Debt Retirement Payments

01 July 2023 -30 June 2024

Debt Retirement Payments \$143,595

Building/Debt Retirement Collections \$108,998





DAY OF FELLOWSHIP & FORMATION ———

FOR CURRENT AND INTERESTED PRISON MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

LEARN MORE ABOUT PRISON MINISTRY!

Are you interested in or actively participating in prison ministry in the Diocese of Baton Rouge? If so, this event is for <u>you</u>!



THE DAY WILL INCLUDE:

- "Catholic Prison Ministry, Prison Visits, and Prison Culture – What Works and What Doesn't" with Andrew Hundley, Executive Director of The Louisiana Parole Project
- "Restorative Justice and the Common Good Applied Catholic Social Teaching" with Fr. Fred Kammer, Director of the Jesuit Social Research Institute
- Roundtable Discussions with other volunteers





WORKSHOP DETAILS

AUGUST 24, 2024

8 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH KLEINPETER ACTIVITY CENTER *REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

https://diobr.org/pm-event

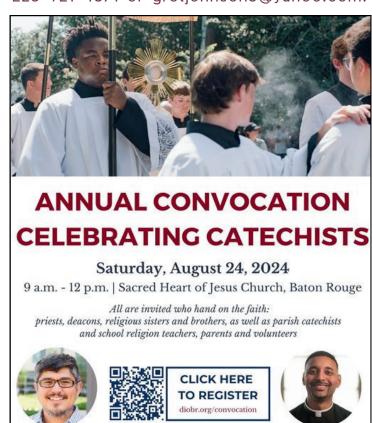
CONTACT US jlavastida@diobr.org



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Come spend some time with Jesus. Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday. Committed adorers are always needed. Contact Gretchen Johnson for more info. 225-921-4071 or gretjohnson5@yahoo.com.



"Lord, when did we

see you hungry..."

Matthew 25:37

Eucharistic

Revival

Dr. Brian Pedraza

BATON ROUGE

GLORIFY THE LORD ALWAYS

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

CALL TO THE LORD IN PRAYER FOR HEALING

Please join our Prayer Line Ministers as we pray for the following community members, family members and friends:

Molly Abele, Brenda Melancon Allen, Gwen Barado, Walter Barado, Sr., Clark Bergeron, Andy Berthelot, Cindy Brasington, Francie Bruhl, Virginia Caffrey, Sarah Marie Caldorera, Linda Coats, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Phil & Debbie Cortana, Addi Coxem, Remy Cramer, Bill Cummer, Irene Good DeMars, Hattie Davis, Rhonda Dedman, Shellie Domiano, Sr. June Engelbrecht, Larry Evans, Elise "Breezy" Fischer, Cora Fuller, Vickie Jones, Deanna Kennedy, Michelle Kling, Rachel Kling, Delta Kovach, Tammy Hamilton, Tommy Hebert, Barbie Martino Henegan, Mary E. Herbert, Bill Hoover, Vicky Jones, Donna Laciura, Jayden Louque, Gregg Mader, Earl Magner, Charmaine Mocsary, Joseph Mocsary, Lachelle Morgan, Becham Mosely, Chip Norman, Sidney Ourso, Larry Pearson, Lawrence Pelotto, Pete Pfiffner, Jolie Picou, Steve Plauche, Johnny Poumaroux, Mary Prokop, Albert Rayborn, Herman Rayborn, Patrick Riche, Coogan Ryan, C.W. Sandufer, William Schwartz, Gene Simoneaux, Mary Stabile, Brittany Stilley, Joseph Stolf, Diane Sudkamp, Jason Summers, Vito Tallia, Myra Timberlake, Carolyn Toole, Trysten Tucker, Bonnie Walker, Carolyn Reese Walch, Lydia Watts, 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 August 3/4, 2024, totaled:

\$16,598.00.

The Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection totaled: \$3,437.00.

There is no Second or Special Collection next weekend.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity to our ministries!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret is given in memory of **Dorothy Hanewinkel** by Joe & Lucie Hanewinkel.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, August 10, 2024, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Edward Joseph Asaro, Philip Brabham, Theresa Christina, Karen Chemay, Shelly Cyrus, Joseph Andrew Dick, June Fos, Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Anthony & Anna Friedman, Judy Friedman, Angelo & Joseph Gaeta, Homer Gaspard, Rose Gauthier, Ricky Genre, James Elliot Harrison, Jr., Sterling & Jeanette Higginbotham, Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Francis Kronlage, Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Leon Latino, Jr., Connie Louviere, Ray J. Louviere, George Navarre, Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, Victor & Mary Peptone, Lynette Pfiffner,

Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner and Anne Sherman

Sunday, August 11, 2024, 8:00AM Mass

Jerry Adamcewicz, Myrtle T. Aucoin, Adrian, Bud & Joan Bailey, Nancy Campeaux, Angie Deliberto, Lloyd Dominguez, John LaGrange, Clarence & Faye Landeche, Charlie Martin, Chucky Martin, Charles & Marie Stumpf and Chuck Stumpf

Sunday, August 11, 2024, 10:00AM Mass
The Missa Pro Populo (The Mass for all the Parishioners)

Sunday, August 11, 2024, 5:30PM Mass Karen Chemay

<u>Tuesday, August 13, 2024, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)</u>

Kristen Miller

Wednesday, August 14, 2024, 6:00PM Mass (Assumption of BVM Vigil)

Lynette Pfiffner

<u>Thursday, August 15, 2024, 6:00PM Mass (Assumption of BVM)</u>
Howard Kidder

Friday, August 16, 2024, 7:00AM Communion Service (Weekday/Ordinary Time)

A BEAUTIFUL SANCTUARY

The flowers in the Sanctuary this weekend at St. Margaret are in memory of **Karen Chemay** donated by Mark Chemay. If you would like to have flowers given in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, call the parish office to schedule in advance.

PAROCHIAL DASHBOARD

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

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gather Hymnal Number 1147

1 Kinas 19:4-8

When we are filled with doubt, God remains near.

Ephesians 4:30-5:2

Be imitators of God in our daily lives.

John 6:41-51

I am the bread of life come down from heaven; eat and you shall live.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 17/18, 2024

> Proverbs 9:1-6 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, August 11, 2024

Seminarian Back-to-School Supply Drive!

OCIA Inquiry Outside All Masses!

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

11:15AM-Mandatory PSR Parent Meeting, St. Margaret Room

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

6:45PM-Mandatory PSR Parent Meeting, St. Margaret Room

Monday, August 12, 2024

8:15AM-Catholic Schoolhouse, Hall of Saints

9:00AM-KC/LA Sorting/Delivering School Supplies, Parish Hall

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

5:30PM-St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, St. Elizabeth Seton Room



Tuesday, August 13, 2024

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

6:00PM-Eucharistic Ministers Mandatory Workshop, St. Margaret Church

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

NO Daily Mass at 7:00AM!

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

8:00AM-Fete Dieu Mississippi Mass, St. Joseph Cathedral

6:00PM-Assumption of BVM Vigil Mass, St. Margaret Church

7:00PM-KC Fourth Degree Meeting, St. Maria Goretti Room

Thursday, August 15, 2024 NO Daily Mass at 7:00AM!

Parish Office Closed Today!

11:30AM-Food Distribution, Parish Hall

4:00PM-Confessions, St. Margaret Church

6:00PM-Holy Day, Assumption of BVM Mass, St. Margaret Church

Friday, August 16, 2024

7:00AM-Communion Service, St. Margaret Church

Saturday, August 17, 2024

3:00PM-Confessions, St. Margaret Church

4:00PM-KC Quarterly Mass & Communion, St. Margaret Church

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE AND OFFICE CLOSURE

In observance of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation, we will have Mass on **Wednesday**, **August 14** and **Thursday**, **August 15** at **6:00PM**. There will be NO Daily Morning Mass on these days. The parish office will be closed on **Thursday**, **August 15**, **2024**. There will be a Communion Service on **Friday**, **August 16**, **2024**.

