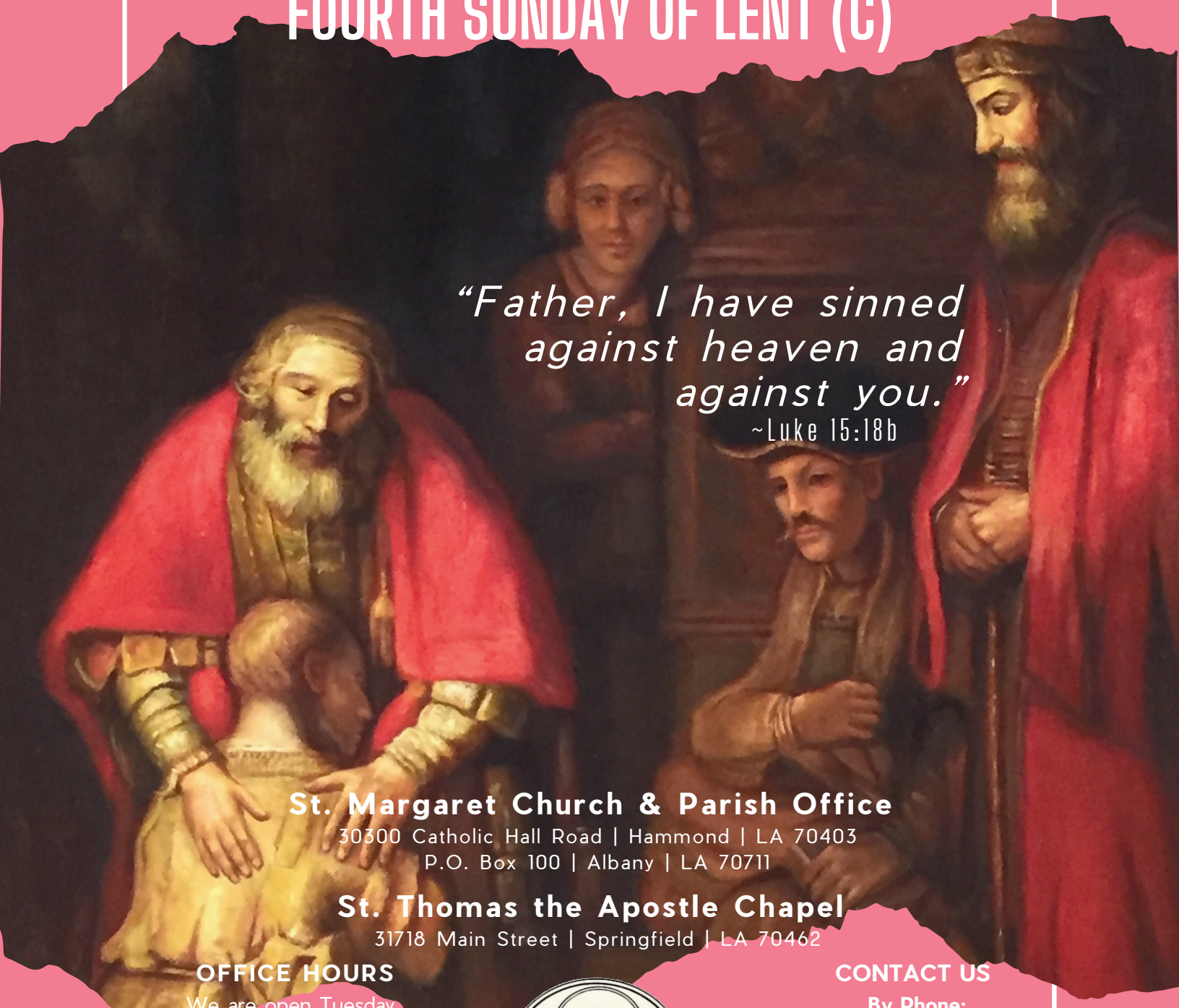


THE

MARCH 29/30, 2025

PEW BUDDY

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)



*“Father, I have sinned
against heaven and
against you.”*

~Luke 15:18b

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



PONDERINGS OF THE PEDAL-N-PADRE

By Father Paul Gros

Dear Parish Family,

Peace in the Lord Jesus Christ! This 4th Sunday in Holy Lent you may notice something a little bit different in what Father and the deacons are wearing - the rose-colored vestments. Why the rose vestments? Because this Sunday is called Laetare Sunday or “rejoice” Sunday. It is a day of hopeful anticipation, a break from the more somber tone of Lent in which we wear violet (a color that represents penance), as the Church reminds the faithful that Easter draws near three Sundays from now. The rose-colored vestments are a more festive color than the violet, but not as festive as white or gold. Laetare Sunday reminds us that we are a little more than halfway through the season of Lent as we journey to Jerusalem with Jesus toward His passion, death, and resurrection.

Veiling the Statues

Next weekend I have decided to bring back another tradition in the Church - the covering of statues in the church. This tradition dates back many years in the Church but was lost in the 1970's, though it has a deep symbolic meaning. The tradition was reinstated by the United States Bishops in 2001 and was made an optional practice for the Church.

So, what is the significance? First, after Laetare Sunday, it heightens the anticipation of the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. We live in a world that is “veiled” from the fullness of truth and is under “the shadow of death.” Just like Jesus’ humanity and crucifixion “veiled” the glory of His divinity, we, too, veil the images in the Church to emulate the coming passion and “darkness of the tomb.”

It is at the Easter Vigil that these images are unveiled because it is the resurrection that “unveils” the mystery of death and the hope of life after this world. In other words, when images are unveiled before the Easter Vigil, we are reminded that we, in a sense, live in a veiled world. It is through our own death that we are able to see our true home. Christ “lifts the veil,” so to speak, through His Resurrection!

Next, this period of Lent is particularly focused on the Passion of Christ. During this time, the Church encourages a deeper focus on the liturgical readings and prayers. Veiling the statues is a form of “sensory deprivation” that facilitates a greater focus on the solemnity of Christ’s suffering and sacrifice, while also drawing attention away from other images in the Church.

Finally, during this time we hear passages in John’s Gospel particularly where Jesus is speaking openly about His divinity and He being the Son of God. In John 8:59, the Jews want to stone Him because of this, but “Jesus hid Himself, and went forth out of the temple.” The veiling of the statues is to emulate Jesus hiding Himself until His time has come to be glorified by the Father (John 12:23).

So, next week be prepared to see the statues veiled!!! As we approach Holy Week, please know of my prayers!

Have a wonderful week!

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

IT'S TIME TO BREAK GROUND!

The long-awaited renovation of our beloved St. Thomas Chapel is finally going to begin! All contracts have been signed, all I's dotted and T's crossed! Join us this **Sunday, March 30, 2025**, for the St. Thomas Chapel Renovation Groundbreaking Ceremony. After the **8:00AM** Mass, we will head over to St. Thomas for the big event. Hope to see you there!

HAVE YOU BEEN CONFIRMED?

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 Tuesdays beginning **April 1, 2025**, from **6:00PM** until **8:00PM** in order to assist you to prepare to receive the sacrament. The sacrament will be celebrated at the end of the five weeks. If you have any further questions, please call Deacon Byrd at the parish office.

LENTEN MEATLESS MEALS

Our next Lenten Meatless Meal will be **Friday, April 4, 2025**, from **4:00PM** until **6:30PM** in the parish hall. The meal will feature fried fish. The remaining meatless dinner will be on **Friday, April 11, 2025**. Monies raised will specifically benefit the youth group's annual "Mission Krewe" and the other sponsoring organizations. Tickets will be available after Mass and in the parish office. Get your tickets today!

SEMINARIANS & CRAWFISH

Come join us for the 2025 Crawfish Boil in honor of the seminarians. This is a great time to visit with the seminarians and fellow parishioners. The crawfish boil will be held on **Saturday, April 26, 2025**, following the 4:00PM Mass. With your ticket, you will receive 3 pounds of crawfish, corn, potatoes and sausage. Tickets are \$25 each and will be sold after each Mass and in the parish office. Join us in this wonderful cause in supporting our seminarians as they journey to priesthood!

YUMMY BREAKFAST FOR DINNER

Come join us for April's "Yummy for Your Tummy" themed "Breakfast for Dinner" to be held in the St. Margaret Room on **Saturday, April 12, 2025, following the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass**. Bring some grits and eggs, bacon and biscuits, pancakes and syrup, etc. and join us for good food and to grow in community while getting to know your fellow parishioners!

SEEK THE LORD ALWAYS

GROWING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS

Please give a warm welcome to these newly registered St. Margaret parishioners and their families: **Jordan Wyble, Pamela Bennett, Lawrence & Priscilla Kling, Madeline LeJeune & Daniel Havard,** and **Luke, Emily & Henry Garma.** 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 or in the parish office. 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!

CONGRATS NEWLYWEDS

Congratulations to our newest couples married at St. Margaret during the month of March, **Nicole Hano & Brian LeJeune, Jourdan Cheek & Paxton Page,** and **Lena Wilson & Tyler Crochet.** We wish them many blessings in the future together! Contact Baleigh Henderson to learn more about marriage at St. Margaret!



**WED
2
APRIL
2025
7:00pm**

**David
Kauffman
in Concert**

Holy Ghost Catholic Church
600 N Oak St, Hammond, LA 70401

www.davidkauffman.com



St. Margaret Vacation Bible School

June 2-6, 2025
\$30.00 Per Child
VBS 2025 will be for children grades Pre-K (4 years) to 5th Grade (completed 5th grade).

**MANDATORY Volunteer Meeting will be on
Tuesday, March 11, 2025, at 6:00 PM!**

**Junior High Volunteers
(completed 6th-8th grade)
High School Volunteers
(completed 9th-12th grade)
Adult Volunteers Needed!**

**Want to Contribute?
Visit Our Amazon
Wishlist!**

Registration Forms will be available soon!
Contact Melissa Berghausen with any questions!
mberghausen@stmargaretstthomas.com

<p>2025 St. Margaret Adult Volunteer Form</p> 	<p>2025 St. Margaret Youth Volunteer Form</p> 	<p>2025 St. Margaret VBS Registration</p> 
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PARISH OFFICE NEWS

The parish office will be closed on **Wednesday, April 2, 2025,** from **8:00AM** until **1:00PM** for our monthly Staff Meeting. Please take care of any business before or after this time. Thank you for your consideration!

GLORIFY THE LORD WITH ME

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

WE PRAY FOR MERCY ON THOSE WHO NEED HEALING

Please join our Prayer Line Ministers as we pray for these family members and friends:

Molly Abele, Gwen & Walter Barado, Susan Basso, Clark Bergeron, Cindy Brasington, Francie Bruhl, Amber Stillely Cocchiola, Addi Coxem, Bill & Cynthia Cummer, Shirley Darouse, Hattie Davis, Rhonda Dedman, Mark DeMarche, Irene Good DeMars, Shelli Domiano, Cecil Ellenberger, Bob Evans, Marlena Everett, Elise "Breezy" Fischer, Dan Flaherty, Judy Hahn, Marsha Hoffman, Theresa Ivanyisky, Delta Kovach, Tommy Hebert, Mary E. Herbert, Stephen Ledet, Jayden Louque, Karen Macaluso, Gregg Mader, Larry, Jenn, Charlotte & Grace McKnight, Carrie Odom, Lawrence Pelotto, Pete Pfiffner, Adrian Phillips, Jr., Steve Plauche, Herb Pretus, Mary Prokop, Coogan Ryan, Reynell Shorts, Jules Simoneaux, Bonnie Smith, Sherry Smith, Mary Stabile, Brittney Stillely, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Vito & Annie Tallia, Myra Timberlake, Trysten Tucker, Rita Rayborn Wagner, Bonnie Walker, Lydia Watts, Jackie Wedge, Debbie Wheat, Tonya Wheat, Delores & Keith Wheat, those in the Armed Services and law enforcement, and all who need our prayers.

Want to add someone to this prayer list? Call the parish office.

Want our prayer warriors 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 22/23, 2025,
totaled:

\$14,122.00.

The **Second Collection**
next weekend is for the
Building & Maintenance Fund.

Thank you for your kindness
and generosity to our ministries!

TO
GIVE...



† † † † † †

HSYG
St. Margaret Youth Group Wednesday
Stations of the Cross April 9
6-7PM



We will meet at
Mr. Mike
Fulmer's
residence.
Parents are
welcome!

† † † † † †

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret is given in memory of
Larry J. Evans by his Family.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday, March 29, 2025, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Sidney Alexander, Peggy Bailey & Family, Savanna Balado, Bergeron-Plauche' Families, Philip Brabham, Desi Chacon, Karen Chemay, Bill Dantin, Betty Eckard, Larry J. Evans, June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Homer Gaspard, Linda C. Gaudin, Ricky Genre, Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Ray J. Louviere, Adam Mocsary, Patti Niehaus, Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, Sidney Ourso, Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner, Chuck Raborn, Sr. and Anne Sherman

Sunday, March 30, 2025, 8:00AM Mass

Jerry Adamcewicz, Lloyd Dominguez, Fulton Charles Hebert, Donivan Jones, John LaGrange, Clarence & Faye Landeche, Landeche Family, Charlie Martin, Chucky Martin, Gill Scioneaux, Gerard Lou Staub and Charles & Marie Stumpf

Sunday, March 30, 2025, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, March 30, 2025, 5:30PM Mass

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Monday, March 31, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Merrill Cooper

Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

George & Eric Navarre

Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Lynette Pfiffner

Thursday, April 3, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Friday, April 4, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Lent)

Marguerite Bleakley

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AVAILABLE DURING LENT

A great way to spend an hour or so with Jesus is in the silence of Eucharistic Adoration on **Wednesdays** between **7:30AM** and **8:00PM**. Contact Gretchen Johnson for more information at 225.921.4071 or gretjohnson5@yahoo.com.

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
Sunday-8:00AM, 10:00AM & 5:30PM
St. Margaret Church

Daily Masses

Monday through Friday-7:00AM
St. Margaret Church

Eucharistic Adoration

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

CLERGY & STAFF

PRIESTS

Father Paul August Gros (*Pastor*)
Father Lazaru Panthagani
(*Associate Pastor*)

DEACONS

Deacon William "Byrd" Corbett
Deacon Tim Messenger

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Mary E. Herbert
(*Pastor's Administrative Assistant*)
Tammy Resetar (*Receptionist*)
Peggy Desselle
(*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 1027

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

They ate what they had grown
in the land of Canaan.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

God entrusted to us
the message of reconciliation.

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Father, I have sinned against you
and against heaven.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Fifth Sunday of Lent
April 5/6, 2025

Isaiah 43:16-21

Philippians 3:8-14

John 8:1-11

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, March 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent!

Catholic Relief Services Special Collection!

Lenten Meatless Meals Ticket Sales!

Seminarian Crawfish Boil Ticket Sales!

9:30AM—**Groundbreaking Ceremony**, St. Thomas Chapel

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

1:00PM—**Passion Play Practice**, Parish Hall

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

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



Monday, March 31, 2025

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

Tuesday, April 1, 2025, 2025

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

9:30AM—**Bible Study-Prayer**, St. Ignatius Room

6:00PM—**Adult Confirmation Class**, St. Ignatius Room

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

6:30PM—**Ladies Auxiliary Faith Formation**, St. Maria Goretti Room

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

7:00PM—**Ladies Auxiliary Meeting**, St. Maria Goretti Room

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

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

9:00AM—**Staff Meeting**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

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

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

6:30PM—**OCIA**, Parish Hall



Thursday, April 3, 2025

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

6:00PM—**Lenten Book Study**, St. Margaret Church

Friday, April 4, 2025

9:30PM—**Divine Readers**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

2:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church

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

5:30PM—**Stations of the Cross**, St. Margaret Church

Saturday, April 5, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent!

Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection!

Lenten Meatless Meals Ticket Sales!

Seminarian Crawfish Boil Ticket Sales!

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

