

THE

APRIL 12/13 ,2025

PEW BUDDY

PALM SUNDAY (C)

*“Blessed is the king who
comes in the name of the
Lord. Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest.”*

~Luke 19:38

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

KING? REALLY?

By Father John Foley, SJ

This Sunday, called “Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion” has two halves to it: palms and passion. They stand in jarring contrast to each other. Let us look.

1) *The palms, thrown from the people's hands, proclaim Jesus' kingship.*

In the Mass, we hold palms during the ritual procession, just as those did who lined the road long ago. This opening part of this Mass is more than just another historical reenactment; it is a proclamation of Jesus as king. This moment is the first half of the jarring contrast. You may never have dwelt on this kingly aspect, but there are multiple clues in the First Gospel (the one that takes place just before the palm procession itself). First, he rode on a colt, the animal that was used for royalty's entrance into a city. The disciples spread their cloaks over the colt's back as they would do for a king. Crowds along the way greet Jesus as a royal hero. They smooth their coats on the roadway, then cover these with palm branches cut from the fields. This was in order to soften the pathway for the kingly one and to keep the dirt off of him. They cry out, **“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”**

2) *The soldiers, mocking and doing their best to destroy his kingship.*

The Mass itself and its Passion Reading commemorate the ridiculed and foolish tale of Jesus' kingship. Soldiers tie him up and yell, **“King of the Jews,”** to deride this poor, ridiculous captive. They jam a “royal” crown made of thorns on his head. They wrap a fake robe of purple around him (the color reserved for kings because of the rarity of this hew in those days). They spit on him. They strike him. They laugh. They make a tortured fool out of this great “king.” The First Reading had already told us why such torture happened. Because the King chose it. The reading says, **“I have not rebelled; I have not turned around. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting.”**

Have you ever been made a fool in front of people? Do you remember how it felt? You or I would have cried out, **“My God, why have you abandoned me?”** The Responsorial Psalm says exactly these words, and Jesus will say them from the cross. But are these the words of a king? Does such a total surrender represent kingly action? No?

Jesus, king of kings, **“did not regard equality with God as something to cling to”**—for safety or honor or for whatever else. As the greatest king he emptied himself out, became like a slave, obedient even to death on the cross (Second Reading). This was in allegiance to God and in service of the people. What a jarring contrast. It is put to rest because Jesus knew who he was, even under the worst duress and strife. He was, no matter what, *the one who loves.*

Is this our imagined Kingly greatness? No. It is the opposite. The real basis of rulership is service to God's people, no matter what. The good ruler pulls a kingdom together and makes it safe, a place of abundance. If he/she accomplishes such a goal (and in the USA, we are experiencing this) no kingly suffering could be too great. Palm/Passion Sunday is a large-scale revelation of kingship's real meaning. **Love.**

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

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 **4:00PM 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!

ST. MARGARET MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

St. Margaret is blessed with many parishioners who give generously of their time each month to distribute food for those in need. We continue to serve over 185 families each month, thanks to our volunteers. The next Food Distribution is **Thursday, April 17, 2025**. Food Distribution and Registration is from **9:30AM-11:30AM**. Volunteers are needed from **7:00AM-12:00PM**. If you already volunteer, let your team leader know that 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.

HOLY WEEK

APRIL 12-20, 2025

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, April 12, 2025, 4:00PM - St. Margaret Church
Sunday, April 13, 2025, 8:00AM, 10:00AM & 5:30PM
- St. Margaret Church

Jesus, humbling himself out of love for us, did not shield his face from buffets and spitting, but offered his life on the cross. He relied on his Father's love. The memorial of the entrance of Christ into Jerusalem takes place at all Masses along with the blessing of Palms. The Gospel of the Passion of the Lord is also read.

Chrism Mass

Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 10:30AM - St. Joseph Cathedral, 412 North Street, Baton Rouge

The Mass of Chrism is properly concelebrated by the bishop with his clergy and is a sign of the unity and communion of priests with their bishop. The blessing of the Oils takes place during this liturgy. All parishioners are invited to attend; the parish office will be closed so that our staff might attend the service as well.

Wednesday of Holy Week

Wednesday, April 16, 2025, 7:00PM - St. Margaret Parish Hall - Youth Group Passion Play Premier Performance.

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM

Thursday of the Lord's Supper

Thursday, April 17, 2025, 7:00PM - St. Margaret Church
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Begins after Mass and Ends at Midnight in the St. Margaret Room of the Hall of Saints.
Before the feast of Passover, Jesus celebrates the Last Supper in which he gives us His body and blood. The Washing of the Feet takes place at tonight's liturgy.

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

Saturday, April 19, 2025, 8:00PM - St. Margaret Church
Alleluia! The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone! If we have died with Christ, we shall also rise with him and pass from death to life.
New Catholics will be welcomed into the Church tonight!

Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

Friday, April 18, 2025, 12:00 Noon - Stations of the Cross, 3:00PM - Good Friday Service - St. Margaret Church; 6:00PM & 7:30PM - Passion Play presented by the Youth Group - St. Margaret Parish Hall
Entrusting his life to the Father, Jesus bore our infirmities, and, obedient unto death, won for us eternal salvation. The Veneration of the Cross takes place at this liturgy.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Sunday, April 20, 2025, 8:00AM, 10:00AM & 5:30PM
- St. Margaret Church
On this day of days, we offer a joyful sacrifice of praise to the Father who raised his Son from the dead. Let us be intent upon the life Christ offers us. Children are invited to bring their Easter baskets to Mass for a blessing!

JESUS CHRIST IS LORD

CHRISM MASS INVITATION

On **Tuesday, April 15, 2025**, at **10:30AM** at St. Joseph Cathedral in Baton Rouge, Bishop Duca will celebrate our annual Chrism Mass. The Mass of Chrism is properly concelebrated by the bishop with his clergy and is a sign of the unity and communion of priests with their bishop. The blessing of the oils takes place during this liturgy. All parishioners are invited to attend; the parish office will be closed this day so that our staff might attend the service as well!

YOUTH GROUP PASSION PLAY

Members of the St. Margaret Youth Group have been hard at work, preparing for three showings of their Passion Play: **Wednesday, April 16, 2025**, at **7:00PM** and **Good Friday, April 18, 2025**, at **6:00PM** and **7:30PM**. All parishioners are invited to one of these three viewings in the parish hall. Come support our youth group and experience this powerful prayer!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES

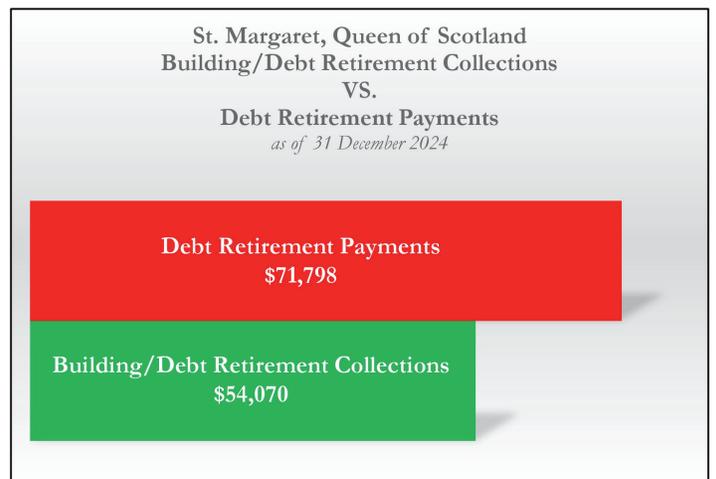
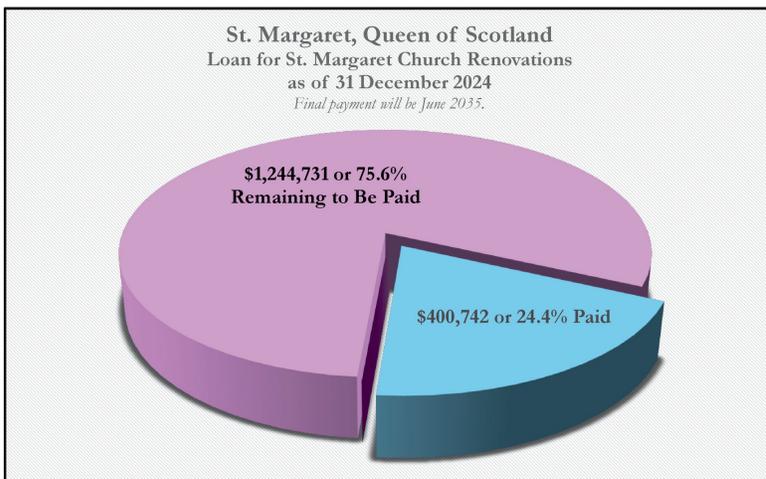
The Parish Office will be closed on **Tuesday, April 15, 2025**, so our staff can attend the Chrism Mass and on **Friday, April 18, 2025**, for Good Friday. The Parish Office will reopen on **Tuesday, April 22, 2025**. Please take care of any business you may have around these closures. Have a Blessed Easter!

THEOLOGY IN A BOTTLE

Our next "Theology in a Bottle," our adult education ministry, will be **Sunday, April 27, 2025**, at **6:45PM** in the St. Margaret Room. Chris O'Neill, Director of Marriage and Family Life for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, will present "One Sip at a Time: The Theology of Desire." Join us to learn more about your faith!

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR SEMINARIANS

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!



TO THE GLORY OF GOD

At the name of Jesus, every knee should bend.

WE PRAY ON BENDED KNEE FOR 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, Tony Buras, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Addi Coxem, Bill & Cynthia Cummer, Shirley Darouse, Hattie Davis, Rhonda Dedman, Mark DeMarche, Irene Good DeMars, Shelli Domiano, Cecil Ellenberger, Bob Evans, Marlana 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, Patricia Matthews, 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, Brittnay Stilley, 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.



**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!



TRUE NORTH
Trusting Jesus in a Wild World
Totally Catholic Edition

STEWARDSHIP THIS WEEK

Thanks to your generosity, the **Regular Collection** for the weekend of **April 5/6, 2025**, totaled:

\$13,175.00.

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

\$5,040.00.

The Second Collection next weekend will be for the **Diocesan Priest's Retirement Fund!**

Thank you for your kindness and generosity to our ministries!

**TO
GIVE...**



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

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

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD

Saturday, April 12, 2025, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Sidney Alexander, Savanna Balado, Bergeron-Plauche' Families,
Philip Brabham, Harold Cavallero, Jr., Harold Cavallero, Sr.,
Mary Lee Cavallero, Vanessa Chavez, Karen Chemay, Bill Dantin,
Larry J. Evans, June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Anthony & Anna Friedman,
Judy Friedman, Homer Gaspard, Linda C. Gaudin, Ricky Genre,
Hailey & Aaron Gross, Pam Hartley, Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz,
Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Ray J. Louviere, Adam Mocsary, Judy Monistere,
Family of George Muscat, Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III,
June Koles Olah, Sidney Ourso, Linda Perronne, Lynette Pfiffner,
Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner, Priests & Religious, Chuck Raborn, Sr.,
Stella Rotar, Anne Sherman, Vera Trosclair, Joe Vassil and Yancy Watkins

Sunday, April 13, 2025, 8:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, April 13, 2025, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, April 13, 2025, 5:30PM Mass

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Monday, April 14, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Monday of Holy Week)

Lynette Pfiffner

Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Tuesday of Holy Week)

George & Eric Navarre

Wednesday, April 16, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Wednesday of Holy Week)

Melissa Labranche

Thursday, April 17, 2025, 7:00PM Mass (Holy Thursday)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Friday, April 18, 2025, 3:00PM Communion Service (Good Friday)

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Gather Hymnal Number 1031

Isaiah 50:4-7

God has given me a well-trained tongue.

Philippians 2:6-11

He emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave.

Luke 22:14-23:56

This is my body,
which will be given for you.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Easter Sunday

April 19/20, 2025

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Colossians 3:1-4

John 20:1-9

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday!

Seminarian Crawfish Boil Ticket Sales!

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

1:00PM—Passion Play Practice, Parish Hall

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

Monday, April 14, 2025

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

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

Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 2025

Parish Office Closed!

10:30AM—Chrism Mass, St. Joseph Cathedral, Baton Rouge

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

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

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

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

6:00PM—Vocations Committee Meeting, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

7:00PM—First Passion Play Performance, Parish Hall

Thursday, April 17, 2025

Holy Thursday!

9:30AM—Food Distribution, St. Margaret Grounds

4:00PM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church

7:00PM—Mass of the Lord's Supper, St. Margaret Church

9:00PM—Eucharistic Adoration, St. Margaret Room

Friday, April 18, 2025

Good Friday!

Parish Office Closed!

Holy Land Special Collection!

8:30AM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church

10:30AM—Passion Play Final Rehearsal, Parish Hall

12:00PM—Stations of the Cross, St. Margaret Church

3:00PM—Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, St. Margaret Church

6:00PM—Passion Play Performance, Parish Hall

7:30PM—Passion Play Performance, Parish Hall

Saturday, April 19, 2025

Holy Saturday!

Retirement Fund for Diocesan Priests Special Collection!

9:00AM—Altar Server Practice for Vigil Mass, St. Margaret Church

10:00AM—OCIA Practice for Vigil Mass, St. Margaret Church

8:00PM—Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, St. Margaret Church

