

THE

MAY 31/JUNE 1, 2025

PEW BUDDY

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (C)

*"Behold I am sending
the promise of my
Father upon you."*

~Luke 24:49

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

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225.567.3573

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stmargaret@diobr.org

Website:

stmargaretstthomas.com

THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST

By Eleonore Stump

At the start of the story about the ascension, Christ and the apostles are in Jerusalem. After his final talk with them there, Christ is ready to ascend to the Father. In his ascension, he goes directly upwards towards heaven.

One might suppose that there is something childish about the miracle that has him levitating into the sky. He has just vanished on other occasions during his resurrected life. Why does he now not simply vanish, in a dignified way, one might say, and this time not return?

The question contains the answer within it. How would those who loved him know that this time he would not return? Why would those who loved him not still somehow suspect that around any corner he might still after all return again? And even if he said he would not return, it might still be possible for a loving and hopeful heart to expect him around any corner.

Watching him ascend slowly into the sky does have a kind of finality about it. And so perhaps Christ protects those who love him from endlessly watching for him through this mode of leaving his resurrected earthly life.

But there is also something important to notice in a little remarked bit of the story: Christ, who is in Jerusalem, walks with his apostles to the Mount of Olives, where Bethany is, and ascends from there.*

Christ's mode of ascension is straight upwards, and no place on earth is closer than another to the destination when the destination is straight upwards. So there is something odd in Christ's walking some distance from Jerusalem in order to ascend from some place outside Jerusalem. Why does Christ not simply ascend from where they all are already in Jerusalem?

The answer is Bethany. Christ walks from Jerusalem to ascend from Bethany or some place very near it. It is worth remembering, then, that Bethany is the home of Mary of Bethany.

Is it reasonable to suppose that the resurrected Christ could walk into Bethany or its environs with at least eleven other men and not be noticed there? And is it plausible that, if he were noticed there, someone would not have alerted Mary of Bethany? Finally, it is worth adding that when the apostles walk back to Jerusalem after the ascension and settle down together there, the text says that there were women there with them. Would there be such a group of women that did not include the Mary who loved Christ so intensely?

So it is reasonable to conclude that one part of Christ's last act on earth was to make sure that he consoled and took his leave of a woman in Bethany whose heart cleaved to him.

* Acts 1:12 says that after Christ's ascension the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, and Bethany was a village located on the slope of the Mount of Olives.

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

YUMMY PIZZA ON THE PADRE

Come join us for our final “Yummy for Your Tummy” of the year, “Pizza on the Padre” to be held in the St. Margaret Room on **Saturday, June 14, 2025**, following the **4:00PM Vigil Mass**. Fr. Paul will provide the pizza but bring your desserts to share and to grow in community while getting to know your fellow parishioners!

MAUSOLEUM ADDITION UPDATE

The St. Margaret Cemetery Committee invites you to visit the cemetery to see our nearly completed mausoleum addition and new columbarium. If you are interested in obtaining a spot for you and your family members, please call Tammy at the parish office to discuss availability and pricing.

ST. MARGARET’S LADIES AUXILIARY FUN FUNDRAISER

The KC Ladies Auxiliary are sponsoring a fun fundraiser, Painting with a Twist. The event will be at 204 E. Thomas Street in Hammond on **Thursday, June 12, 2025**, from **5:30PM** until **8:00PM**. Be ready to paint for 6:00PM. The cost to participate is \$39 per person. This event is open to painters 18 years or older. The Picture to Paint is called: “A New Day”. See the picture and Register by going to the link below:

<https://www.paintingwithatwist.com/studio/hammond/event/4019674/> or use the QR code here. Passcode: FUN (all caps) If you have any questions, call or text Julie Desselles (504) 256-8248.

Painting
with a
Twist



NEWLY BAPTIZED MEMBER

Congratulations to the family and friends of the newest Catholic welcomed into the faith at St. Margaret during the month of May, **Hayes Dill**. 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!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE CHANGE

Due to Vacation Bible School activities, Eucharistic Adoration will begin at 1:00PM on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. Come spend an hour or so with Jesus in the prayerful silence of Eucharistic Adoration on **Wednesdays** between **7:30AM** and **8:00PM**. If you can commit to an hour weekly or would like additional information, contact Gretchen Johnson at 225.921.4071 or gretjohnson5@yahoo.com.

CRY OUT TO GOD WITH JOY



INTERCEDE



PRAY

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECT

“...Fatherhood is first a spiritual reality, because fatherhood has its origins in God who chose to reveal Himself to us as Our Father, sending his only Son for the sake of our salvation. Fathers therefore have a special and unique role ‘in revealing and in reliving on earth the very fatherhood of God’ (FC 25). Fathers have a vital, unique, and important role to play in the personal and spiritual development of their children, and in reflecting the love of God the Father himself. Fathers are called to show the world the virtues of a tender protector, while living out the virtues of humility and courage.

In all circumstances, but especially in difficult circumstances, a father needs to be encouraged to faithfully accept the role entrusted to him by God and support the mother of his child. Through our prayers and through the intercession of St. Joseph, patron of fathers, may fathers come to know the irreplaceable role they hold in the lives of their children, and the responsibility they share in welcoming God’s gift of new life!...”

Read the full article by Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux, at bit.ly/fabre-fatherhood.

ACT (choose one)

- Pray a decade of the Rosary (bit.ly/how-to-pray-rosary), followed by this Prayer to St. Joseph (bit.ly/Joseph-Rosary-Prayer) for all expectant mothers and fathers, especially those who are in difficult circumstances. May they be guided and inspired by the example of Mary and Joseph in welcoming new life.
- Choose one of your favorite foods, beverages, snacks, or treats to fast from for one day for the featured intention.
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for the featured intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

Use the simple activity guide located at uscgb.org/joseph-spiritual-bouquet to create a spiritual bouquet seeking the intercession of St. Joseph, patron of fathers. (While the activity guide suggests offering the bouquet in honor of Father’s Day, it can be offered at any time of year!) Pray for expectant mothers to be lovingly supported by the fathers of their children in welcoming new life.

For additional prayers, resources, and ideas on supporting mothers in your local area: www.WalkingWithMoms.com

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WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Please give a warm welcome to these newly registered St. Margaret parishioners and their families: **Paxton & Jourdan Page, Joseph & Noah Taylor, Maria Jimenez, and Tommy, Rebecca, Oran, Trygg, Fiona & Loxley Waller.** 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!



TOGETHER IN HOLINESSTM

FORMATION SERIES

The St. John Paul II Foundation presents the
Together in Holiness Formation series

Year-round marriage enrichment for small communities of spouses that equips them with the formation, encouragement, support, and practical tools to grow together in holiness and to form their children in the Catholic faith.

Interested? Start Here!



Also available for Spanish-speaking couples through captioned videos and translated materials.

For more information, contact
thformation@forlifeandfamily.org

FOR THE LORD IS AWESOME

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

CALL ON THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD FOR HEALING

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

Vincent Alfano, Gwen & Walter Barado, Susan Basso, Clark Bergeron, Cindy Brasington, Tony Buras, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Shirley Darouse, Hattie Davis, Rhonda Dedman, Mark DeMarche, Irene Good DeMars, Shelli Domiano, Bob Evans, Marlena Everett, Elise "Breezy" Fischer, Dan Flaherty, Judy Hahn, Theresa Ivanyisky, Delta Kovach, Tristian Harrison, Fulton Charles Hebert, Brian Helmstetter, Lani Herbert, Mary E. Herbert, Marsha Hoffman, Barbara Lebovitz, Bill Louviere, Gregg Mader, Patricia Matthews, Carrie Odom, Lawrence Pelotto, Pete Pfiffner, Adrian Phillips, Jr., Steve Plauche, Herb Pretus, Mary Prokop, Lester Sanchez, Reynell Shorts, Bonnie Smith, Sherry Smith, Mary Stabile, Brittney Stilley, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Vito & Annie Tallia, Trysten Tucker, Rita Rayborn Wagner, Jackie Wedge, Debbie 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 **May 24/25, 2025**, totaled:

\$12,706.00.

The **Diocese of Vijayawada, India**
Second Collection totaled:

\$25,554.00.

The **Second Collection**
next weekend will be for
the **Building & Maintenance Fund!**

Thank you for your kindness
and generosity to our ministries!

**TO
GIVE...**



St. Margaret Catholic Church COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

ALL BLOOD TYPES NEEDED



DONATE TODAY TO RECEIVE AN EXCLUSIVE **BEACH BLANKET**

Donors should eat a healthy meal and hydrate well before donating

St. Margaret's Hall

30300 Catholic Hall Rd
Hammond, LA 70403

SUNDAY, JUNE 8TH
8:30AM - 12:00PM

SCAN TO
SCHEDULE
APPOINTMENT



PLEASE SCHEDULE YOUR
APPOINTMENT TODAY
Walk-In's Welcome

Save time by completing the
pre-screening questionnaire

(Must Be Done on the Day of Drive)

PRE-SCREENING
QUESTIONNAIRE
<https://bit.ly/46FYcmJ>



**Everyone who donates blood at this drive will
receive 2 (two) FREE Dessert coupons at Don's
Seafood! (Coupons have no expiration date.)**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret is requested in memory of
Sidney Ourso by Christian Phillip Wayne, III.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Saturday, May 31, 2025, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Sidney Alexander, Marcia Artigues, Bergeron-Plauche' Families, Philip Brabham,
Karen Chemay, Jeanne Davis, Larry J. Evans, June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr.,
Homer Gaspard, Linda C. Gaudin, Ricky Genre, Fr. Paul Gros,
Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Francis Kronlage, Vernon & Dorothy Landry,
Connie & Ray Louviere, Michael Jude Mayeux, Judy Monistere, Patty Niehaus,
Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, June Koles Olah, Sidney Ourso,
Victor & Mary Pepitone, Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner,
Chuck Raborn, Sr. and Anne Sherman

Sunday, June 1, 2025, 8:00AM Mass

Jerry Adamcewicz, Lloyd Dominguez, Fulton Charles Hebert, Adam Hymel, Jr.,
John LaGrange, Margie & Joe Liuzza, Charlie Martin, Gill Scioneaux
and Gerard Lou Staub

Sunday, June 1, 2025, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, June 1, 2025, 5:30PM Mass

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Monday, June 2, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Margie & Joe Liuzza

Tuesday, June 3, 2025, 7:00AM Mass

(Memorial of St. Charles Lwanga & Companions)

Shelly Aucoin

Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Donivan Jones

Thursday, June 5, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Memorial of St. Boniface)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Friday, June 6, 2025, 7:00AM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Lynette Pfiffner

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

The Ascension of the Lord

Gather Hymnal Number 1079

Acts 1:1-11

Jesus rose from the dead and returned to prepare the disciples to preach his kingdom and continue his work.

Ephesians 1:17-23

Believers are called to profess belief in the triune God whose greatness over all is manifested in Jesus Christ.

Luke 24:46-53

Jesus instructs the disciples to return to Jerusalem.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Pentecost Sunday

June 7/8, 2025

Acts 2:1-11

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

John 14:15-16, 23b-26

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, June 1, 2025

Annual Mission Appeal Second Collection!
Coffee & Donut Ministry!



Monday, June 2, 2025

Vacation Bible School!

8:00AM—**VBS Prayer**, St. Margaret Church
5:00PM—**Mondays with Mary**, St. Margaret Church

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Vacation Bible School!

8:00AM—**VBS Prayer**, St. Margaret Church
8:30AM—**St. Matthew's Guild**, St. Cecilia Room
6:30PM—**Knights/Ladies Faith Formation**, St. Margaret Room
7:00PM—**Knights of Columbus Meeting**, St. Margaret Room
7:00PM—**Ladies Auxiliary Meeting**, St. Maria Goretti Room



Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Vacation Bible School!

Happy Birthday, Deacon Byrd Corbett!

8:00AM—**VBS Prayer**, St. Margaret Church
9:00AM—**Child Nutrition Program**, St. Margaret Grounds
1:00PM—**Eucharistic Adoration**, St. Margaret Church



Thursday, June 5, 2025

Vacation Bible School!

8:00AM—**VBS Prayer**, St. Margaret Church
4:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church

Friday, June 6, 2025

Vacation Bible School!

8:00AM—**VBS Prayer**, St. Margaret Church
11:30AM—**VBS Finale**, St. Margaret Church
3:00PM—**VBS Volunteer Appreciation Party**, St. Margaret Grounds



Saturday, June 7, 2025

Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection!

3:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church
5:00PM—**KC 4th Degree, Knights/Ladies Officer Installation**, St. Margaret Room