

THE

APRIL 18/19, 2026

PEW BUDDY

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

*"Were not our
hearts burning
within us?"*
~Luke 24:32

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 PEDALING PADRE

By Father Paul Gros

Dear Parish Family,

Peace in the Lord Jesus Christ as we continue celebrating the Easter Season. I want to begin this article with a heartfelt “thank you” to everyone who volunteered and assisted in our Holy Week celebrations, from the Easter Vigil through Divine Mercy Sunday and the First Holy Communion of our second graders.

This year, our community was blessed to welcome 14 people into the Catholic Church—including six baptisms—while two baptized Catholics received the Sacrament of Confirmation and nine children received their First Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday. It has been a beautiful time for the St. Margaret community, and I am still basking in the joy of these celebrations!

Sabbatical Opportunity

I also want to share some personal news regarding the upcoming year. Last year, I felt a calling to request time away from ministry to participate in a 30-day Ignatian silent retreat and engage in continuing education. Last fall, I petitioned Bishop Duca for the opportunity to take a sabbatical during October, November, and December, leading up to Christmas 2026.

Canon Law (universal Church law) allows priests the opportunity to take time away for continuing education and, particularly, spiritual renewal. Our local diocesan law (the Pagella) allows priests to take a four-month sabbatical every seven years following their ordination. Remarkably, this is something I have never done in my 17 years of priesthood.

This past March, Bishop Duca granted my request with the caveat that Fr. Kumar remains present to serve the parish’s sacramental and ministerial needs in my absence. I will return for a few weddings already marked on my calendar, but any other weddings scheduled from this point forward will be handled by him.

Consequently, I will be away from St. Margaret from October through December. I will spend October in a 30-day silent retreat, followed by two months of continuing education and formation with Fr. Mark Toups. I very much look forward to this “little break” and expect to return to ministry recharged and renewed! I wanted to ensure the community was aware of these plans well in advance. If you have any questions, I would be happy to answer them.

Please keep Fr. Kumar and me in your prayers!

Sincerely,

Fr. Paul

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

THEOLOGY IN A BOTTLE

Our next “Theology in a Bottle,” our adult education ministry, will be **Sunday, April 19, 2026**, at **6:45PM** (*following the 5:30PM Mass*). Dr. Christopher Ragusa, Assistant Professor of Theology at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University, will present “The Last Gulp: The Dignity of the Human Person & the End of Life.” Join us to learn more about your faith!

READY FOR SOME CRAWFISH?

Come join us for the 2026 Crawfish Boil in honor of our seminarians. This is a great time to visit with the seminarians and fellow parishioners. The crawfish boil will be held on **Sunday, April 26, 2026**, at **12:30PM**. With your ticket, you will receive 3 pounds of crawfish, corn and potatoes. 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!

WELCOME TO ST. MARGARET, BISHOP DUCA

Our seventh and eighth graders will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the **4:00PM** Mass on **Saturday, April 25, 2026**, and Bishop Duca will be our celebrant. Please join us in prayer for these young men and women in these next steps of their sacramental journey!

FIRST COMMUNION RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to our second grade students who received Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament last weekend at our First Communion celebration - **Finn Bourque, McKenna Thomas, Maryellen Olah, Baleigh Comish, Beckett Thompson, Aubrey Good, Elinor Kahrs, Oaklyn LeBeouf and Lila Craig**. Congratulations, and continue to keep Christ close to you on your spiritual journey!

MAY CROWNING

On **Sunday, May 3, 2026**, after the **10:00AM** Mass, our PSR students will participate in our annual May Crowning in the piazza in front of the Church. Young people (and old ones too!) are invited to bring live flowers to place at the base of the statue of the Blessed Mother. During the month of May, we pray for all of our Mothers as we ask the Blessed Mother’s intercession that we might grow to be more like her in faith, love and charity! Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us!

PRESERVE ME, O GOD

CONGRATULATIONS, HUNTER LAYRISSON

Congratulations to St. Margaret's own, Hunter Layrisson, a 12th grade student at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Hunter competed in the state finals of the Knights of Columbus Catholic Youth Leadership Award. Her outstanding application and interviews resulted in Hunter winning 1st place out of 158 girl entries. Hunter will be awarded a \$5,000 cash prize at the Knights of Columbus State Convention in May. If you would like to give a message to Hunter, send an email to dctorbes1@cox.net.

PRISON MINISTRY 4th DAY OF FELLOWSHIP & FORMATION

CURRENT AND INTERESTED PRISON MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

"I Was in Prison and You Visited Me"
(Matthew 25)

Volunteers will talk about encountering Christ in the unexpected setting of a prison:

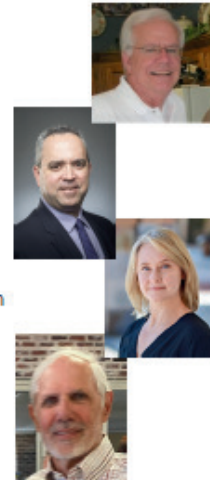


Jay Jackson - 26 years in the ministry, served as Catholic Chaplain at Angola. Is frequently sought out by prisoners to represent them in parole and clemency hearings. "Always remember that God loves them as much as He loves you".

Bernie Corripio - 19 years in the ministry that has helped him understand more deeply what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. He leads the twice a month cell block ministry to Hunt Correctional.

Lynette Arlati - Already making a big difference, Lynette started in prison ministry two years ago. She is the volunteer Assistant Catholic Chaplain at LCIW and leads the Kolbe Prison Ministry program in the women's prison. "So that all may encounter the healing and redemptive love of God"

Bob Jelley - In 26 years in the ministry Bob has witnessed more miracles there than anywhere else. "How amazing that we receive more in return from those who have nothing to give back". He leads the St. George team going monthly to Angola.



Encounter, Accompaniment, and Solidarity - Catholic Social Teaching in Prison Ministry - Father Fred Kammer, SJ

In his many years of service, Father Fred has helped the incarcerated and marginalized as a lay volunteer, attorney, priest, administrator and advocate. He is a member of the Central and Southern Province of the Jesuits and an expert in Catholic Social Teaching.



MAY 9, 2026

8:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. ST. GEORGE CATHOLIC CHURCH
KLEINPETER ACTIVITY CENTER (KAC)
7808 ST. GEORGE DRIVE, BATON ROUGE, LA 70809
LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED
TO REGISTER USE THE QR CODE OR LINK:

<https://diobr.org/pm-event>

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

CONTACT
jlavastida@diobr.org



FOR IN YOU I TAKE REFUGE

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING

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

Tina Allen, Gwen & Walter Barado, Louis Bartus, Clark Bergeron, Nancy Bergeron, Cindy Brasington, Amber Stille Cocchiola, Kathleen Coleman, Shirley Darouse, Hattie Davis, Betty Sue Deakles, Rhonda Dedman, Adeline Evans, Jimmy Giannobile, Wendy Gill, David Guillot, Hannah Guillotte, Joseph Hanewinkel, Joe Hanewinkel, III, Ann Hassenbouhler, Tristian Harrison, Fulton Charles Hebert, Tommy Hebert, Brian Helmstetter, Lani Herbert, Mary E. Herbert, Marsha Hoffman, Bill Hoover, Suzanne Howze, Teresa Ivanyisky, Melanie Johnston, Frank Kovach, Barbara Lebovitz, Bill Louviere, Mike Matherne, Patricia Matthews, Dwaine McDaniel, Maggie Millet, Joseph Mocsary, Erica Montz, Fay Murray, Meghan Page, Terry Parrino, Pete Pfiffner, Adrian Phillips, Jr., Steve Plauche, Wayne Poche, Herb Pretus, Marie Prine, Kim Prokop, Lester Sanchez, Brooklyn Sansone, Valerii Sekisov & Family, Ricky Simoneaux, Mary Stabile, Brittney Stille, Danette Stille, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Sharon Stolf, Annie Tallia, Carolyn Toole, Trysten Tucker, Barney Wall, Lucy Whiddon, Dominick David Wright, Judy Wright, Gunner Wrinkles, 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
April 11/12, 2026, totaled:

\$14,775.50.

The **St. Margaret Service Ministries**
Second Collection totaled:

\$2,858.00.

The **Special Collection** next weekend
will be for the **Catholic Home Missions!**

Thank you for your kindness
and generosity to our ministries!

TO
GIVE... 



TENUTA TORCIANO WINERY
From the Tuscan Wine Region in San Gimignano

Wine Tasting & Dinner

Enjoy an evening of cheese & charcuterie with complementing wines and delicious extra-virgin olive oil & balsamic from Italy with a family member from the vineyard, as well as an Italian-catered dinner from Vincent's of Metairie!

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026
6:00 PM, DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM
ST. MARGARET PARISH HALL
\$100 Per Ticket

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS OR TABLES OF 8
MAY BE PURCHASED.

Please Contact Janeen or Tugga
Broussard for More
Information or to Purchase a
Ticket!

Tugga (504) 628-5528
Janeen (504) 628-5526

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret is given in honor of
Shirley Darouse by Kim Navarre.

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Thomas Chapel is burning
for **all the Holy Souls in Purgatory**.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday, April 18, 2026, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Bergeron-Plauche' Families, Susan Hammett Brantley, Elroy Cain, Karen Chemay, Barbara Connick, Jeff Day, Larry J. Evans, Pete Fisher, June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Pam, Vincent, Angelo & Joseph Gaeta, Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre, Hilton Hoover, Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, George Kerner, Alberta & Francis Kronlage, Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Irene M. Leon, Ray & Connie Louviere, Manina Family, Judy, Mitch, Andrew & Tony Monistere, Patti Niehaus, Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, Sidney Ourso, Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner, Joseph, Mary & Raymond Resetar, Jerry Scalisi, Anne Sherman, Judy Sherman and Vito Tallia, Sr.

Sunday, April 19, 2026, 8:00AM Mass

Jerry Adamcewicz, Lloyd Dominguez, Donivan Jones, Clarence & Faye Landeche & Family, David Landeche & Family, Margie & Joe Liuzza, Charlie Martin, Pam Newman, E.D. Purvis, Gerard Lou Staub and Charles & Marie Stumpf & Family

Sunday, April 19, 2026, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, April 19, 2026, 5:30PM Mass

George & Eric Navarre

Monday, April 20, 2026, 5:30PM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Lynette Pfiffner

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Marie Babineaux

Wednesday, April 22, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Hazel & Alton Anderson

Thursday, April 23, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Friday, April 24, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Easter Weekday)

Jeanne Dakin Guillot

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

Monday-5:30PM (after Mondays with Mary)
Tuesday 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 Kumar Kolakani (*Assistant Pastor*)

DEACONS

Deacon William "Byrd" Corbett
Deacon Tim Messenger

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Mary E. Herbert
(*Pastor's Administrative Assistant*)
Tammy Resetar (*Receptionist
& Cemetery Liaison*)
Peggy Desselle (*Contributions Manager
& Wedding Coordinator*)

PASTORAL STAFF

Baleigh Olah Henderson
(*Religious Education, Youth Minister,
& Communications Coordinator*)
Debbie Corbett (*Safe Environment &
Baptismal Coordinator*)

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Third Sunday of Easter
Gather Hymnal Number 1067

Acts 2:14, 22-33

Peter compares Christ to King David.

1 Peter 1:17-21

You are ransomed by the blood of Christ.

Luke 24:13-35

The two recounted how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 25/26, 2026

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

1 Peter 2:20b-25

John 10:1-10

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, April 19, 2026

- 11:15AM—Parish School of Religion (Grades K-6), Hall of Saints
- 6:45PM—Confirmation Practice (Grades 7 & 8), St. Margaret Church
- 6:45PM—Parish School of Religion (Grades 9-11), Parish Hall
- 6:45PM—Theology in a Bottle, St. Margaret Room

Monday, April 20, 2026

- 8:15AM—Catholic Schoolhouse, Hall of Saints
- 1:00PM—St. Faustina's Stitches, St. Elizabeth Seton Room
- 5:00PM—Mondays With Mary, St. Margaret Church

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

- 8:30AM—St. Matthew's Guild, St. Cecilia Room
- 6:00PM—Adult Confirmation Class, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

- 7:30AM—Eucharistic Adoration, St. Margaret Church
- 1:00PM—Staff Faith Formation, St. Elizabeth Seton Room
- 6:00PM—Youth Appreciation Banquet, Parish Hall

Thursday, April 23, 2026

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

Friday, April 24, 2026

- 5:30PM—Junior Youth Group Funnies with the Nunzies, Off Campus

Saturday, April 25, 2026

Catholic Home Missions Special Collection!

- 3:00PM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church
- 4:00PM—Confirmation (Grades 7 & 8), St. Margaret Church

