

THE

JUNE 20/21, 2026

PEW BUDDY

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

*"So do not be afraid;
you are worth more
than many sparrows."*

~Matthew 10:31

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-Thursday,
8:00AM-3:00PM, and

Friday from 8:00AM-12:00PM!

We are closed for lunch from
12:00PM-1:00PM.

We are closed on Monday!



CONTACT US

By Phone:

225.567.3573

By Email:

stmargaret@diobr.org

Website:

stmargaretstthomas.com



DEACON FORMATION: ANSWERING THE UNIVERSAL CALL TO HOLINESS

By Deacon John Ryals, Jr.

So, you have a thought in the depths of your mind or a feeling deep in your heart about serving God more fully. Maybe it's been on your mind for many years or life circumstances have suddenly brought it to light. Pay attention. The Holy Spirit is moving you toward a deeper relationship with Jesus. Every human possesses a universal call to holiness – some as clergy, some as lay ministers, and others serve other ministerial functions – each to his/her own station in life.

Here, I would like to share my journey of living out my calling as a permanent deacon – a journey full of questions, doubt, persistence, and, above all, faith. The journey began with six discernment sessions held monthly. Each session focused on a different aspect of the diaconate journey, such as a deacon's role, duties, responsibilities, opportunities for service, missions of charity, and legal qualifications in Church law. These sessions were informative and informal, and gave each discerning man an opportunity to learn about what it means to be a permanent deacon. Then, for those deciding to continue, the application process began. Those accepted into the program started classes in August.

There are four pillars of the Diaconate Formation Program that support the vocation of Deacon – Human Formation, Spiritual Formation, Intellectual/Theological Formation, and Pastoral Formation. Human Formation involves growing in knowledge of an identity as a servant and ability to foster collaborative relationships in this role. Spiritual Formation incrementally builds a life centered on a sincere and personal love of Christ and a commitment to service in light of the Gospel through prayer. Intellectual/Theological Formation encourages the development of gifts and talents through study and creative critical thinking. Lastly, Pastoral Formation focuses on actively living a life of service to the poor, marginalized, oppressed, and spiritually impoverished. Each pillar is essential for a balanced and holistic diaconate formation process.

More practically, those accepted into the program, known as Deacon Aspirants, attend theology classes at Franciscan University in Baton Rouge two times per week; perform liturgical duties of the various minor Church orders, such as lector and acolyte at Mass; engage in pastoral activities, such as service projects, serving the poor, teaching others about our Faith and how we live it; and, strengthening spiritual growth through prayer and spiritual direction. Over the five-year diaconate formation program these activities become increasingly impactful. Alongside these activities, deacon aspirants develop strong and loving relationships with their fellow classmates, Church members, and the Body of Christ as a whole.

In short, becoming a permanent deacon was, for me, a fulfillment of the man I am meant to be – a servant of Jesus. We are all called by our Baptism to holiness. By becoming a permanent deacon, I am one step closer to fulfilling this calling. I pray that you will likewise answer His call. May God bless you in your own journey toward holiness.

†Deacon John

P.S. Please contact me if you would like to talk more about the deacon formation process at jryals@diobr.org.

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

LOOKING TO SUPPORT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL?

Help make this year's VBS a fun and faith-filled experience for all of our children! We've created an Amazon Wish List with supplies and items needed for crafts, games, snacks, and activities throughout the week (use the QR code below). Donations of any size are greatly appreciated and help make VBS possible for our parish families. Thank you for your generosity and support of our youth ministry!



FOOD DISTRIBUTION ANNUAL REGISTRATION

Please let your friends and neighbors, who get food through the Food Distribution Program, know that registration is **Monday, June 29, 2026**, from **8:30AM** to **11:30AM**. Everyone must register even if they registered previously. There is a cap on the number of people who can register, so it is a first come/first served registration. We do not pass out food that day. People will enter as usual from West Bates by St. Margaret Cemetery.

WHY BECOME CATHOLIC? INQUIRE HERE!

Are you thinking about becoming Catholic but have questions? Do you know of someone in your family who is interested in learning more about the faith? Join us for our final OCIA Inquiry Session on **Wednesday, July 22, 2026**, at **6:30PM** in the Hall of Saints. This session's topic will be "Why Become Catholic?" presented by Fr. Paul Gros. Fr. Paul will discuss all reasons why one should or would want to become Catholic. We are here for you!

TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES

Some of you may have noticed that the live stream of our Masses has not been occurring and the recent YouTube videos have not been available. We are currently in the process of troubleshooting the system to see what the issues may be and correcting them. Hopefully, the live stream and YouTube videos will be back online soon. Thank you for your continued patience!

PRAISE THE LORD, O MY SOUL

MARITAL HARMONY TALKS

On **Saturday July 18, 2026, 9:30AM** until noon, Evan Lemoine, a Louisiana-born, internationally renowned expert on St. John Paul II's teachings on the Theology of the Body, will give two talks to married couples at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Baton Rouge on the topic "Growing in the Five Dimensions of Marital Harmony." The cost is \$25 per person and registration in online at: <https://stagnesbr.flocknote.com/signup/259615>

Evan and his wife founded the Amar al Maximo Institute in 2013 in Guadalajara, Mexico, and have dedicated their lives to spreading the beauty of God's design for human love and sexuality. They are parents of three children. For over 14 years Evan has inspired youth and adults through thousands of talks and conferences.

A link to a 4-minute video of Evan explaining his life mission: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ajZM3cva4M>



GROWING IN THE 5 DIMENSIONS OF MARITAL HARMONY
BASED ON ST. JOHN PAUL II'S THEOLOGY OF THE BODY



Saturday, July 18th
Married Couples | \$25 per person

9:30AM-NOON
7:30 AM CONFESSIONS
8:30 AM MASS

St. Agnes Catholic Church
749 East Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802



Evan Lemoine



FOR MORE INFORMATION

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: GOOD FOR THE SOUL

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, please contact Gretchen Johnson at gretjohnson5@yahoo.com or 225.921.4071.

A PRAYER FOR FATHERS

Heavenly Father,

You entrusted your Son Jesus to the care of St. Joseph, an earthly father who guided, protected, and loved Him.

We ask you to bless all fathers, grandfathers, and father figures today.

Pour out upon them your grace, wisdom, patience, and strength.

Help them to lead their families with a spirit of faith, and provide them with the courage to navigate life's challenges.

We also remember fathers who have gone before us, that they may rest eternally in your heavenly peace.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BE NOT AFRAID, I AM WITH YOU

Lord, in Your great love, answer me.

HEALING POWER: PRAYING FOR OTHERS

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

Tina Allen, Louis Bartus, Nancy Bergeron, Cindy Brasington, Carol Bates, Joyce Butler, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Kathleen Coleman, Shirley Darouse, Hattie Davis, Betty Sue Deakles, 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, Melanie Johnston, Frank Kovach, David Landeche, Barbara Lebovitz, Bill Louviere, Mike Matherne, Patricia Matthews, Dwaine McDaniel, Maggie Millet, Joseph Mocsary, Erica Montz, Evelyn Moreland, Fay Murray, Amelie Oriol, Meghan Page, Gasper Guy Palermo, Terry Parrino, Pete Pfiffner, Adrian Phillips, Jr., Steve Plauche, Wayne Poche, Herb Pretus, Marie Prine, Kim Prokop, Brooklyn Sansone, Valerii Sekisov & Family, Ricky Simoneaux, Mary Stabile, Barbara Stallcup, Brittnay Stilley, Danette Stilley, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Sharon Stolf, 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 **June 13/14, 2026**, totaled:

\$12,972.00.

The **Mission Krewe Second Collection** totaled:

\$3,099.00.

The **Special Collection** next weekend will be for **Peter's Pence (Holy Father)**!

Thank you for your kindness and generosity to our ministries!

TO
GIVE...



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret Church is given in memory of
Lawrence T. Evans by Tammy & Eddie Resetar.

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Thomas Chapel is given in memory of
Rita Kropog by the Broussard Family.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, June 20, 2026, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Bergeron-Plauche' Families, Susan Hammett Brantley, Karen Chemay, Merrill Cooper,
Jeff Day, Larry J. Evans, June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Adam Fuselier,
Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre, Fr. Paul Gros, John Haluska, Jr., Hilton Hoover,
Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Alberta & Francis Kronlage, Vernon & Dorothy Landry,
Lawrence Leon, Ray & Connie Louviere, Manina Family, Gina & Adam Moscary,
Judy, Mitch, Andrew & Tony Monistere, George Muscat Family, Patti Niehaus,
Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner,
Antonio Quintana, Mary Resetar, Anne Sherman, Judy Sherman,
William F. Sherman, Sr., MD, Kate Sziber and Vito Tallia, Sr.

Sunday, June 21, 2026, 8:00AM Mass

Jerry Adamcewicz, Shelby Aucoin, Al & Jackie Cox, Lloyd Dominguez, Erin Gautier,
Donivan Jones, Rita Kropog, David Landeche, Margie & Joe Liuzza, Charlie Martin,
E.D. Purvis, Sherry Rider Smith and Gerard Lou Staub

Sunday, June 21, 2026, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, June 21, 2026, 5:30PM Mass

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Monday, June 22, 2026, 5:30PM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Sterling & Jeanette Higginbotham

Tuesday, June 23, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Donivan Jones

Wednesday, June 24, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist)

St. Margaret Youth Group

Thursday, June 25, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Lynette Pfiffner

Friday, June 26, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Jeff Day

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 Sales*)
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

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gather Hymnal Number 1125

Jeremiah 20:10-13

Suffering Jeremiah laments
and praises God.

Romans 5:12-15

Christ's grace overshadows Adam's sin.

Matthew 10:26-33

Jesus counsels the apostles
to not be afraid.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 27/28, 2026

2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a

Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Matthew 10:37-42

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, June 21, 2026
Happy Fathers Day!

Monday, June 22, 2026
5:00PM—**Mondays with Mary**, St. Margaret Church

Tuesday, June 23, 2026
8:00AM—**Child Food Summer Program**, Church Grounds
8:30AM—**St. Matthew's Guild**, St. Cecilia Room
5:30PM—**GriefShare**, St. Ignatius Room

Wednesday, June 24, 2026
7:30AM—**Eucharistic Adoration**, St. Margaret Church
5:00PM—**VBS Decorating**, Hall of Saints

Thursday, June 25, 2026
Steubenville South (Alexandria, LA)!
11:30AM—**Steubenville South Group Leaves**, Church Grounds
4:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church

Friday, June 26, 2026
Steubenville South (Alexandria, LA)!
9:00AM—**Food Distribution In Service**, St. Margaret Room

Saturday, June 27, 2026
Peter's Pence (Holy Father) Special Collection!
Steubenville South (Alexandria, LA)!
3:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church



2026/27 Ladies Auxiliary Officers



2026/27 Knights of Columbus Officers

