

THE

JULY 18/19, 2026

PEW BUDDY

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

*"Then the righteous will
shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father."
~Matthew 13:42*

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

PULLING OUT WEEKS

By John Kavanaugh, S.J.

The subject, forgiveness, is hefty enough for Jesus to devote a well-known parable to it. In it, servants ask the master whether they should pull out weeds that have grown up within the wheat-field.

“No,” he replies. “If you pull up the weeds you might pull up the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest” (Gospel).

So, if you or I have sinned, then we have weeds growing up along with the good that is in us. Would we like that failed part of us to be uprooted? No. Instead, God lets us develop, without destruction, steadily forgiving our weeds.

So, what kind of reality is forgiveness?

For one thing, it reverses an attitude at the bottom of entire ancient cultures and still perhaps at the root of modern (American) entertainment. If someone harms me or my loved ones, then I have the right and duty to destroy them. They are bad persons, not good, and no punishment is too severe.

Do not get me wrong, this kind of “justice” does in fact work. Take a look at the heroes in movies fighting person to person across the tops of skyscrapers, bare-knuckle blows to the face, spinning kicks to the head, all leading ultimately of course to the fabulous plummet over the side, in which we are entertained with magnificent slow-motion shots of the crook’s terror as he heads for the inevitable splotch. Justice is established. Everyone is relieved and happy. Except, of course, the bad guy.

Just for fun, pretend that you are that bad guy. Is there a reason you are committing crimes, ones that merit such punishment? Is it possible that one part of you went haywire but that there is much good in you, much that could be brought back to life? Is there a part of you that says, “I wish I could stop this ugliness and be pardoned”?

If so, maybe you could look at the point of Sunday’s Gospel. When someone hurts us with their wrongs (or vice versa), maybe we can avoid rushing up to them to rip out weeds. Mixed with all the crab grass there are lovely flowers, and God loves very much all that they are.

Look, the crimes we commit don’t really agree totally with our inner self! None of the weeds growing up in us are wonderful, but they are only a part of who we are. Our urge to steal, to impress others falsely, to get what we want no matter what, to be lazy, petulant, or etc. (please fill in the kind of wrong you yourself are drawn to). These are not a full description of who we are.

Let us do our best to tolerate the thorns and keep our hands off them. Our own weeds are treated with care. What if Jesus had said from the cross, “Father, damn them to hell forever because of what they are doing to me”? He said instead “Forgive them, they know not what they do.” He knew there was good wheat in them, even alongside terrible weeds.

Forgiveness is letting go of an angering injury and giving God a chance to love. Wouldn’t you like to be loved and forgiven this way?

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

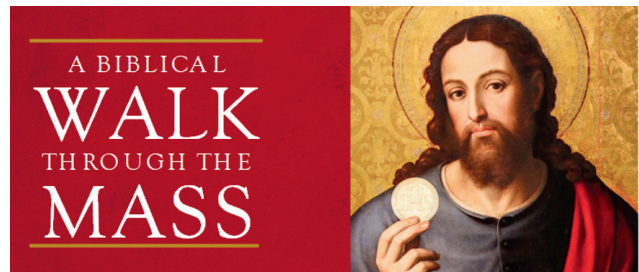
WHY BECOME CATHOLIC? INQUIRE HERE!

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!

BIBLE STUDY - A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS

The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. In his video-based study A Biblical Walk Through the Mass, Dr. Edward Sri explores the roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.

Join us for A Biblical Walk Through the Mass at St. Margaret beginning Thursday, **August 27, 2026**, from **6:00PM-8:00PM** in the St. Margaret Room of the Hall of Saints every Thursday for 5 weeks. For more information or to register for the study, call Jennifer Batson at 817.269.7482 or via email: jen.batson64@gmail.com.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Please give a warm welcome to these newly registered St. Margaret parishioners and their families: **Elizabeth Aegerter, Victoria Reynolds, Larry, Lauren & Caroline Sampey, Christopher & Emily Blanchard, Caroline Blanchard, Jordan & Wallace Cavalier, Jr., Benjamin, Lacie, Caroline Caves, Brittany & Madison Templet, and Celeste, Thomas, Jr. & Harris Williams**. 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!

LORD, GIVE EAR TO MY PRAYER



**CIAO!!!
FROM ITALY**

When: SUMMER 2021
Where: ROME, ASSISI, & FLORENCE
Learn More: JULY 29, 2026, 6:00 PM
ST. MARGARET HALL OF SAINTS

Dear St. Margaret Youth & St. Thomas Aquinas Students
Join us on July 29, 2026, at St. Margaret for an interest meeting on our first-ever YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY!
St. Margaret & St. Thomas Aquinas will be traveling to ITALY next summer! Please attend this meeting with your parent(s) if you are interested!

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO:
Baileigh Henderson
bohenderson@stmargaretstthomas.com
Michelle Bates
michelle.bates@stafalcon.org



Can you believe it?! Time to get ready for another great year of PSR!
Classes will begin
Sunday, August 23, 2026.
Begin the registration process here (we are online this year!):



SEMINARIAN SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The KC Ladies Auxiliary is hosting a Back-to-School Supply Drive to support our 22 diocesan seminarians for 2026/27. Let's show our love and encouragement to these devoted men as they continue their journey of discernment.

If you would like to contribute, please bring your donated items to any Mass on August 1st or 2nd. The KC Ladies Auxiliary will be outside the church to gratefully receive your offerings.



- Notebooks (College-ruled, Single Subject)
- Thank You Cards w/Envelopes
- Gifts Cards (Amazon preferred)
- Postage
- Pocket Folders
- Pens (preferably G2 or Sharpie Ultra Fine)
- Sticky Note Pads
- Laundry Detergent (Woolite Darks Defense preferred)
- Black Sport Socks
- Dryer Sheets
- Shampoo & Body Wash

Supplies will be collected the weekend of August 1/2, 2026.

O LORD, GLORIFY YOUR NAME

Lord, you are good and forgiving.

PRAY FOR THE HEALING GOODNESS OF OUR LORD

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, 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, Randy Heitman, Brian Helmstetter, Lani Herbert, Mary E. Herbert, Marsha Hoffman, Bill Hoover, Suzanne Howze, Melanie Johnston, Frank Kovach, David Landeche, Barbara Lebovitz, Bill Louviere, Gregg Mader, 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, Brittnay Stilley, Danette Stilley, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Sharon Stolf, Elaine Taylor, Carolyn Toole, Trysten Tucker, Barney Wall, Lucy Whiddon, Dominick David Wright, Judy Wright, 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 **July 18/19, 2026**, totaled:

\$13,063.00.

The **Second Collection** next weekend will be for our
St. Margaret Service Ministries!

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
Barbara Stallcup by Lucie & Joe Hanewinkel.

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Thomas Chapel is given in memory of
Shirley Darouse by the Seven Sisters Apostolate.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Leroy Amato, Bergeron-Plauche' Families, Susan Brantley, Karen Chemay,
Elizabeth Cornwall, Frances Dantin, Jeff Day, Larry J. Evans,
June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre, Hilton Hoover,
Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Howard Kidder, Alberta & Francis Kronlage,
Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Ray & Connie Louviere, Manina Family,
Judy, Mitch, Andrew & Tony Monistere, George Muscat, Patti Niehaus,
Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, Stephen & Nan Ourso, Lynette Pfiffner,
Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner, Anne Sherman, Judy Sherman,
William F. Sherman, Sr., MD, Barbara Stallcup and Vito Tallia, Sr.

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

Al & Jackie Cox, Shirley Darouse, Lloyd Dominguez, Donivan Jones,
John LaGrange, David Landeche & Family, Margie & Joe Liuzza, Audrey Maduell,
Charlie Martin, Steve Prokop, Sr., E.D. Purvis, Sherry Rider Smith,
Gerard Lou Staub and Dorothy Stier

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

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

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

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Monday, July 20, 2026, 5:30PM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Brandon Mayeaux

Tuesday, July 21, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Donivan Jones

Wednesday, July 22, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Feast of St. Mary Magdalene)

Lynette Pfiffner

Thursday, July 23, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

George & Eric Navarre

Friday, July 24 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Dot & Joe Torres

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

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gather Hymnal Number 1137

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

A prayer about God's attributes
and the Jews' response to them.

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit helps and intercedes for us.

Matthew 13:24-43

Three familiar parables about
the kingdom of heaven.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 25/26, 2026

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Romans 8:28-30

Matthew 13:44-52

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Young Women's Ministry of India Second Collection!

Monday, July 20, 2026

1:00PM—**St. Faustina's Stitches**, St. Jean Vianney Room

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

Tuesday, July 21, 2026

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

5:30PM—**GriefShare**, St. Ignatius Room

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

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

6:30PM—**OCIA Inquiry Session 3**, St. Jean Vianney Room

Thursday, July 23, 2026

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

Friday, July 24, 2026

Happy Birthday, Deacon Tim Messenger!

Saturday, July 25, 2026

St. Margaret Service Ministries Second Collection!

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

6:00PM—**High School Youth Group**, Off Campus



Jumping Padre at VBS Activities



VBS Morning Meeting



Thank you to all our volunteers!



Vacation Bible School Joy-Filled Finale



Fun was had by ALL!