

THE

SEPTEMBER 5/6, 2026

PEW BUDDY

TWENTY-THIRD
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME (A)

*"There am I in the
midst of them."*

~Matthew 18:20



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



PONDERINGS OF THE PEDAL-N-PADRE

By Father Paul Gros

Dear Parish Family,

Peace in the Lord Jesus Christ!

I want to share something very exciting with you all: a new opportunity for our high school youth next summer! From June 1-June 10, 2027, the youth of St. Margaret and St. Thomas Aquinas High School will be taking a 10-day pilgrimage to Italy.

Our draft itinerary includes visits to Florence, Assisi, and Rome. Our students will have the incredible opportunity to:

- Visit all four Major Basilicas in Rome: St. Mary Major, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. John Lateran, and St. Peter.
- Pray at the tombs of St. Francis, St. Clare, and St. Carlo Acutis, as well as St. Pope John Paul II.
- Explore the ancient catacombs and immerse themselves in Italian culture with a cooking class.
- Attend a Wednesday Papal Audience with Pope Leo XIV.

These are just a few of the highlights, and there will be so much more for them to experience! Please pray for all the young people God is calling to make this once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage. Our youth will also be hosting various fundraisers throughout the year to help cover their travel expenses.

A Special Opportunity for Fr. Kumar

I asked Fr. Kumar if he would be open to serving as chaplain for the pilgrimage, and he was overjoyed at the invitation! While I have been blessed to visit Italy many times to experience the rich patrimony of our Catholic faith, Fr. Kumar has never been to Europe. This will be his very first time!

I would like to make a special appeal to our parish family to help sponsor Fr. Kumar's trip so he can share this awesome spiritual experience. Because of our limited group size, the travel company is unable to cover the cost of the chaplain's spot.

The total cost for his trip is **\$5,800**, which covers airfare, lodging, and meals.

If you would like to help sponsor Fr. Kumar, please contact Baleigh Henderson, Pilgrimage Director, at bohenderson@stmargaretstthomas.com, or Peggy Desselle, Contribution Manager, at pdesselle@stmargaretstthomas.com, or drop a check in the collection basket with the notation "*Fr. Kumar Italy Pilgrimage.*" Fr. Kumar and the students will promise to pray for your special intentions while they are visiting these holy sites.

Thank you so much for your generosity, and I look forward to this incredible experience for our young people!

Have a wonderful week!

In Christ,

Fr. Paul

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

In observance of Labor Day, we will not have PSR classes on **Sunday, September 6, 2026**. Classes will resume on **Sunday, September 13, 2026**.

Mondays with Mary will NOT meet on **Monday, September 7, 2026**, due to the Labor Day holiday. We will have **5:30PM** Mass that evening.

A BEAUTIFUL SANCTUARY

The flowers in the Sanctuary this weekend at St. Margaret are in memory of **Alzina & Nicholas Bordelon** donated by Diania Laubacher. If you would like to have flowers given in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion, call the parish office to schedule in advance.

TRIBUNAL CASE SPONSOR TRAINING

The Tribunal will hold a Case Sponsor Training course for new case sponsors on **Tuesday, September 8, 2026**, from **6:00PM** until **8:00PM** in the Westerfield Center. Case sponsors should be charitable, discreet, and in good standing with the Catholic Church. If you feel like God may be calling you and you are willing and able to serve in this role, please RSVP at the link [HERE-https://diobr.org/case-sponsor-training](https://diobr.org/case-sponsor-training)

BIBLE STUDY - HOLY SPIRIT

Beginning **Tuesday, September 22, 2026**, and continuing on Tuesdays for the following five weeks, St. Margaret will offer a Bible Study on the Holy Spirit. Each session will be from **9:30AM** until **11:00AM** and consists of an opening prayer, video lecture and a discussion on the readings. The cost of the materials per person is **\$15.00**. The sessions will take place in the St. Ignatius Room of the Hall of Saints. Come by the parish office to pick up your book and read the first chapter. Men and women of all ages are welcome! For more information contact Christine at caribe500@gmail.com or 504-450-7343.

COMMITTED ADORERS NEEDED

We are blessed to have Eucharistic Adoration on **Wednesdays** between **7:30AM** and **8:00PM**. *We are especially in need of committed adorers for the hour from 10:00AM until 11:00AM.* If you can commit to an hour weekly or need additional information, contact Gretchen Johnson at 225-921-4071 or at gretjohnson5@yahoo.com.

FALL FEST DONATIONS

The fall festival is starting to collect items for the auction and raffle. If you have a new item or a handmade item, or if you have a service you can provide, please contact Gina Little (504-237-7105 glittle1985@gmail.com), even if it's not ready yet. If you are willing to help prepare and plan, also let us know.

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Please give a warm welcome to these newly registered St. Margaret parishioners and their families: **Larry & Stephanie Bleakley, Gatlin, Dani, Bryce & Reese Jones, Ritney & Jaida Bergeron, Lawrence & Karen Kluka, and Jacy, Cody, Eli & Lane Costa**. 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!

LOVE FULFILLS THE LAW

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA SPECIAL COLLECTION

Founded in 1887 by the U.S. bishops, The Catholic University of America is the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States, educating seminarians, religious, bishops, and laity to advance the dialogue between faith and reason. As a comprehensive institution of higher education, Catholic University seeks to impart the truth through excellence in teaching and research, in service to the Church, the nation, and the world. The Catholic University of America educates future leaders to serve both the Church and our Nation. Founded as a national research institution, the University's twelve schools and colleges with 250+ academic programs prepare future priests, educators, scientists, and public servants to become the next generation of Catholic leaders. With five Catholic University alumni in process of canonization, our institution embraces the mandate of Pope Leo XIII at its founding to "give to the Church and the nation her best citizens."



INTERCEDE



PRAY

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

REFLECT

Sadly, our culture often pits a mother against her children, portraying a false "either/or" choice between her children and her dreams. Inaccurate messages spread the idea that a woman's life is "over" once she becomes a mother.

But we know that countless young mothers have become unexpectedly pregnant and have continued to pursue education. And arguably, they do so not in spite of their children, but because of their children. Even if things don't go exactly according to plan—timelines may shift, and dreams may change—the twists and turns can bring unexpected joy, purpose, and growth.

In The Gospel of Life, Pope St. John Paul II commends "brave mothers... who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to [their children] the best of themselves" (EV 86). As members of the Body of Christ, we have a responsibility to help mothers do just that. And

there are simple ways we can help mothers who desire to pursue educational achievements.

We can offer to babysit or do the grocery shopping, so a mom has time to attend an evening class or study for an exam. We can advocate for colleges and universities to provide flexibility for parenting students. We can do these and so many other things. Most importantly, we can pray for mothers to be given the grace and the support they need, and for the wisdom to know how we can help.

ACT (choose one)

- St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was a widowed mother of 5 children and is considered the founder of the Catholic school system in the U.S. Offer this prayer, often prayed by her, for the featured intention: setonshrine.org/prayers-anima-christi.
- Fast from one meal today.
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for the featured intention.

ONE STEP FURTHER

A mother of four who had her first baby in college offers tips on providing support to women facing unexpected pregnancies. Read: "10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting" (respectlife.org/support-her).

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

HEAR THE VOICE OF THE LORD

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HEALING

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

Tina Allen, Louis Bartus, Coy Behler, Nancy Bergeron, Cindy Brasington, Carol Bates, Joyce Butler, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Kathleen Coleman, Hattie Davis, Betty Sue Deakles, Jimmy Giannobile, Wendy Gill, Lisa Goings, David Guillot, Hannah Guillotte, Todd Hagan, Joseph Hanewinkel, Joe Hanewinkel, III, Ann Hassenboughler, Tristian Harrison, Fulton Charles Hebert, Tommy Hebert, Randy Heitman, Brian Helmstetter, The Herbert Family, Marsha Hoffman, Bill Hoover, Paul Horrell, Herbeth Howell, Suzanne Howze, Melanie Johnston, Trevor Kinchen, 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, June Catherine Peterson, Pete Pfiffner, Adrian Phillips, Jr., Steve Plauche, Wayne Poche, Herb Pretus, Marie Prine, Kim Prokop, Lauren Rodriguez, Brooklyn Sansone, Valerii Sekisov & Family, Ricky Simoneaux, Mary Stabile, Judy Staub, Brittnay Stilley, Danette Stilley, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Sharon Stolf, Elaine Taylor, Carolyn Toole, Trysten Tucker, Barney Wall, Robert & Ashley Wheat, 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 **August 29/30, 2026**,
totaled:

\$15,676.00.

The **Special Collection**
next weekend will be for the
Catholic University of America!

Thank you for your kindness
and generosity to our ministries!

TO
GIVE...



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gather Hymnal Number 1158

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Ezekiel is called to warn God's people.

Romans 13:8-10

Christian lives are summarized in love.

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus reaches the process for
reconciliation in the community.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 12/13, 2026

Sirach 27:30-28:7

Romans 14:7-9

Matthew 18:21-35

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret Church is given
in memory of **Gwen Delaune** by Kim Navarre.

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Thomas Chapel is given
in memory of **Alzina & Nicholas Bordelon** by Diania Laubacher.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, September 5, 2026, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Darrel & Cynthia Amato, Nathan & Shannon Amato, Bergeron-Plauche' Families,
Alzina & Nicolas Bordelon, Karen Chemay, Shirley Darouse, Larry J. Evans,
Maureen Felder, June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre,
Rita & Roch Gernon, Hilton Hoover, Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Earline Kraemer,
Alberta & Francis Kronlage, Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Robert Laubacher,
Ray & Connie Louviere, Manina Family, Gina & Adam Mocsary, Patti Niehaus, Sue Novak,
Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner,
Thomas A. Scoper, Anne Sherman, Judy Sherman, William F. Sherman, Sr., MD
and Vito Tallia, Sr.

Sunday, September 6, 2026, 8:00AM Mass, St. Thomas Chapel

Jerry Adamcewicz, Jason Degenhardt, Lloyd Dominguez, Donivan Jones, Paul Kluka,
John LaGrange, David Landeche & Family, Margie & Joe Liuzza, Charlie Martin,
Chucky Martin and Gerard Lou Staub

Sunday, September 6, 2026, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, September 6, 2026, 5:30PM Mass

George & Eric Navarre

Monday, September 7, 2026, 5:30PM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Tuesday, September 8, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Jeff Day

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Memorial of St. Peter Claver)

George & Eric Navarre

Thursday, September 10, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Donivan Jones

Friday, September 11, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Mary Louise Prokop

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*)

OUR 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

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, September 6, 2026

Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection!
Coffee & Donut Ministry!
No PSR Classes Today!

Monday, September 7, 2026

Happy Labor Day!
10:00AM—**St. Thomas Altar Society**, St. Thomas Chapel

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

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

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Parish Office Closed from 8:00AM until 1:00PM!
7:30AM—**Eucharistic Adoration**, St. Margaret Church
9:00AM—**Staff Meeting**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room
6:30PM—**OCIA**, Parish Hall
6:30PM—**OCIC**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

Thursday, September 10, 2026

4:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church
6:00PM—**A Biblical Walk Through the Mass**, Parish Hall

Friday, September 11, 2026

No Extraordinary Events Planned for Today!

Saturday, September 12, 2026

Catholic University of America Special Collection!
3:00PM—**Confessions**, St. Margaret Church

MONTHLY STAFF MEETING

The parish office will be closed on **Wednesday, September 9, 2026**, from **8:00AM** until **1:00PM** for our monthly staff meeting. If you have any business in the office, please visit us outside of this time. Thank you for your consideration!



FEED THE YOUTH!!

Our Youth Group is continually growing! Which means more mouths to feed. We recently changed the schedule, adjusting dinner to accommodate our high schoolers. We anticipate 15 or so kids each week. Please consider feeding our youth! Each meal is greatly appreciated! Contact Baleigh Henderson with any questions! bhenderson@stmargaretstthomas.com



Congratulations new Knights, especially Fr. Kumar!



Not one, but TWO Pedaling Padres!