

THE

OCTOBER 10/11, 2026

PEW BUDDY

TWENTY-EIGHTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME (A)

*"Many are invited, but
few are chosen."*

Matthew 22:14



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



WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE READINGS?

By Fr. Kumar Kolakani

Dear Parish Family,

This Sunday's readings present us with a beautiful image: God's invitation to a heavenly banquet. Through the prophet Isaiah, we hear of the Lord preparing a magnificent feast for all peoples—a feast of rich food and choice wines. In the Gospel, Jesus presents the Kingdom of Heaven as a wedding banquet to which everyone is invited.

Yet Jesus also speaks about the wedding garment. This garment represents a life prepared for God—a life of faith, holiness, repentance, charity, and good works. We receive the garment of sanctifying grace at Baptism, and throughout our lives the Sacraments strengthen us to remain faithful to Christ.

Every Sunday, the Eucharist is a foretaste of this heavenly banquet. The Lord invites us to His table, feeds us with His Word, and nourishes us with the Body and Blood of Christ. Therefore, Holy Mass is not simply an obligation; it is a sacred encounter with Jesus and a preparation for the eternal banquet of Heaven.

Pope Leo XIV recently reminded us that Christ, though rejected by many, became the cornerstone of God's saving plan. God can bring new life and hope even from what appears to be rejected or broken. This is a powerful reminder that God never stops inviting us back to Himself. No matter how far we may have wandered, His mercy gives us the opportunity to return, receive forgiveness, and begin again.

As we continue through October, the Holy Father has encouraged us to pray the Rosary for peace and to accompany our prayers with acts of mercy, reconciliation, and charity. These are practical ways of wearing our wedding garment - allowing our faith to become visible through love.

Let us ask ourselves: Am I ready for the Lord's banquet? Am I wearing the wedding garment of grace? Do my words, choices, and actions reflect the love of Christ?

May we never take God's invitation for granted. Let us come faithfully to the Eucharistic banquet with humble and repentant hearts, participate actively in the Holy Mass, and carry Christ's love into our homes and community.

May the Lord keep us faithful, strengthen us by His grace, and one day welcome us into the eternal banquet of Heaven.

God bless you and your families!

Fr. Kumar Kolakani

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

The St. Margaret Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest for 8th through 11th grade youth. The 500 to 750 word typed essay topic is "The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God." Explain what this quote from former U.S. President and Knights of Columbus member John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural address means and its importance for the flourishing of a nation. The winner of each grade level will receive a \$50 award from the Knights and higher awards for winners of each higher level of the contest up to \$500. This contest encourages today's youth to be more connected to their community and their faith. For more information and to submit essays please contact Glenn Young at rgyoung2@bellsouth.net. Deadline to submit essays is **Thursday, November 5, 2026**.

SAVE THE DATE - 2026 ST. MARGARET FALL FESTIVAL

This year's St. Margaret Festival Day is **Sunday, November 15, 2026**. The Fall Festival Committee is seeking donations for our Festival Auction. Your handiwork (woodwork, metalwork, fabric crafts, paintings, needlework, etc.) or talents (gardening, baking, handyman, updo styling, etc.) can raise funds for our church while also celebrating our diverse community! 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 or glittle1985@gmail.com), even if it's not ready yet. If you are willing to help prepare and plan, also let us know.

SHORT SLEEVE
\$25
LONG SLEEVE
\$30
COMFORT COLORS BRAND
ORDER FORMS
MAY BE FOUND ON
THE WEBSITE OR
WITH THIS CODE!
ORDERS DUE BY
OCTOBER 28!
CONTACT BALEIGH
HENDERSON WITH
ANY QUESTIONS.



**2026
ST. MARGARET
FALL FESTIVAL
T-SHIRTS**

ORDER FORM



ST. MARGARET'S ANNUAL
TRUNK
-or-
TREAT
OCTOBER 23, 2026
6:00PM
**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT TO FOLLOW IN THE
PARISH HALL!**
**CONTACT TRACY ANDRY TO REGISTER YOUR
TRUNK!**
**WE WILL ALSO BE HOSTING A DIAPER
DRIVE FOR THE WOMAN'S NEW LIFE CLINIC.
SIZES NEWBORN TO SIZE 7**

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

MONTHLY STAFF MEETING

The parish office will be closed from **8:00AM** until **1:00PM** on **Wednesday, October 14, 2026**, for our monthly staff meeting. Please take care of any business before or after this time. Thank you for your consideration!

OCTOBER FOOD DISTRIBUTION

St. Margaret Food Distribution is **Thursday October 15, 2026!** (3rd Thursday of the month)
Food Distribution Pick-up time is **8:30AM-10:30AM**.
Volunteers are needed from **7:00AM-11:00AM**.

St. Margaret is blessed with many wonderful volunteers who help with everything from setting up tents, tables/chairs & signs to sorting food, directing traffic and greeting recipients. The Food Distribution Prayer Circle is another way to support people in need. Volunteers meet in the Hall of Saints after we sort the perishable food for Food Distribution. They usually meet around **8:00AM**. Volunteers pray for the recipients and all the people in our area who are physically, emotionally or spiritually in need. If you are a regular food distribution volunteer, let your team leader know that you will be able to help. If you want to get involved, please call 985-969-7477 so we can best utilize your time and talents. For the September 17th Food Distribution 161 Families (459 Individuals) picked up food. We had 52 volunteers provide 171.25 hours of service.

CELEBRATE WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Join Catholics around the world in supporting the Church's mission! Every October, Catholics throughout the world come together to celebrate World Mission Sunday, a day to pray for missionaries and support the work of the Church in places where the Gospel is still being proclaimed and communities are still growing in faith.

The World Mission Sunday collection provides essential support to missionaries, priests, religious sisters and brothers, and lay leaders serving in mission dioceses across Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania, and the Middle East. Your generosity helps these communities continue sharing the Gospel and building up the Church.

This year is especially significant as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday. Our theme, "One in Christ, United in Mission," reminds us that through our baptism, each of us has a role in the Church's mission.

World Mission Sunday will be celebrated in our parish on **October 17/18, 2026**.

Through your prayers and generosity, you can help missionaries bring Christ's love and the hope of the Gospel to communities around the world. Give today and be part of the mission!

You can give here through the diocesan website: <https://diobr.org/world-mission-sunday>

THERE IS NOTHING I SHALL WANT

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

PRAY FOR GOD'S MERCIFUL HEALING

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

Tina Allen, Howard Balthaser & Family, Coy Behler, Cindy Brasington, Carol Bates, Joyce Butler, Amber Stilley Cocchiola, Hattie Davis, Betty Sue Deakles, Jason Fischer, Mary Ann France, Lisa Goings, Hannah Guillotte, Todd Hagan, Joseph Hanewinkel, Joe Hanewinkel, III, Tristian Harrison, Fulton Charles Hebert, Randy Heitman, Brian Helmstetter, The Herbert Family, Marsha Hoffman, Paul Horrell, Herbeth Howell, Carrol Istre, Melanie Johnston, Trevor Kinchen, Frank Kovach, Barbara Lebovitz, Bill Louviere, Gregg Mader, Patricia Matthews, Dwaine McDaniel, Maggie Millet, Evelyn Moreland, Gunner Norman, Amelie Oriol, Gasper Guy Palermo, June Catherine Peterson, Pete Pfiffner, Adrian Phillips, Jr., Steve Plauche, Herb Pretus, Marie Prine, Lauren Rodriguez, Brooklyn Sansone, Valerii Sekisov & Family, Mary Stabile, Judy Staub, Brittnay Stilley, Danette Stilley, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Sharon Stolf, Elaine Taylor, Trysten Tucker, Robert & Ashley Wheat, Lucy Whiddon, 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
October 3/4, 2026, totaled:

\$13,635.00.

The **Building & Maintenance Fund**
Second Collection totaled:

\$2,991.00.

The **Special Collection**
next weekend will be for the
Propagation of the Faith!

Thank you for your kindness
and generosity to our ministries!

TO
GIVE...



THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gather Hymnal Number 1173

Isaiah 25:6-10a

Poetic images of God as a provider,
a warrior, a comforter.

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

God strengthened Paul
and will strengthen the faithful

Matthew 22:1-14

"Many are invited,
but few are chosen."

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 17/18, 2026

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Matthew 22:15-21

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

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

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

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, October 10, 2026, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Karen Chemay, Shirley Darouse, Larry J. Evans,
June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre, Hilton Hoover,
Donivan Jones, Earline Kraemer, Alberta & Francis Kronlage,
Vernon & Dorothy Landry, David LeJeune, Ray & Connie Louviere,
Manina Family, Patti Niehaus, Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III,
June Koles Olah, Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner,
Anne Sherman, Judy Sherman, William F. Sherman, Sr., MD, Vito Tallia, Sr.
and Yancy Watkins

Sunday, October 11, 2026, 8:00AM Mass, St. Thomas Chapel

Jerry Adamcewicz, Fred Armand, Jr., Lloyd Dominguez, Paul Kluka,
John LaGrange, David Landeche & Family, Margie & Joe Liuzza,
Charlie Martin, Eron Puro and Gerard Lou Staub

Sunday, October 11, 2026, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, October 11, 2026, 5:30PM Mass

Susan Hammett Brantley

Monday, October 12, 2026, 5:30PM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Tuesday, October 13, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Larry J. Evans

Wednesday, October 14, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Jeanne Dakin Guillot

Thursday, October 15, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Memorial of St. Teresa)

George & Eric Navarre

Friday, October 16, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday - 7:30AM-8:00PM
Concluding with Benediction
St. Margaret Church

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

CLERGY & STAFF

PRIESTS

Father Paul August Gros (*Pastor*)
Father Kumar Kolakani (*Parochial Vicar*)

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, October 11, 2026

11:15AM—**Parish School of Religion (Grades K-6)**, Hall of Saints

6:45PM—**Parish School of Religion (Grade 7)**, Hall of Saints

6:45PM—**High School Bible Study**, St. John Paul II Room

To send prayer intentions
to Fr. Paul, email:
Prayers4frpaul@gmail.com

Monday, October 12, 2026

8:00AM—**Catholic Schoolhouse**, Hall of Saints

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

5:30PM—**St. Vincent de Paul Meeting**, St. Jean Vianney Room

6:00PM—**Young Adult Book Study**, St. Margaret Room

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

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

9:30AM—**Holy Spirit Bible Study**, St. Ignatius Room

6:30PM—**OCIC**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Parish Office is Closed From 8:00AM until 1:00PM!

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

9:00AM—**Staff Meeting**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

6:30PM—**High School Youth Group**, St. John Paul II Room

6:30PM—**OCIA**, Parish Hall

6:30PM—**OCIC**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

6:30PM—**Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus**, St. Maria Goretti Room



Food Distribution Saints

Thursday, October 15, 2026

8:00AM—**Food Distribution**, Church Grounds

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

Friday, October 16, 2026

No Extraordinary Events Scheduled Today!

Saturday, October 17, 2026

Propagation of the Faith Special Collection!

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



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!
bohenderson@stmargaretstthomas.com

