

THE

OCTOBER 17/18, 2026

PEW BUDDY

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

*"Then repay to Caesar
what belongs to Caesar
and to God what
belongs to God."*

~Matthew 22:21

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

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



The Roman Catholic Diocese of
BATON ROUGE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Bishop's Letter to the Faithful of Baton Rouge Regarding World Mission Sunday 2026

17/18 October 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Today, we celebrate World Mission Sunday, a powerful reminder of our shared responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to all nations. It is a day when Catholics around the world unite in prayer and solidarity to support the missionary work of the Church.

We are all called to be a part of this mission work. In his last words before ascending to heaven, Jesus told us, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19), and for 2,000 years the Church has been at work in this task. And we are far from finished! Two-thirds of the people alive — 5.5 out of 8.1 billion — still have no relationship with Christ or his Church. Bringing people to Jesus is the work of the Church, and all of us together have a part to play. Today, we have a singular means to do so: World Mission Sunday.

The second collection we take up on World Mission Sunday helps extend the Church's missionary work to places where the Church barely exists, where the Gospel has never been heard before, and where the Church is too young, too persecuted, or too poor to sustain herself.

On World Mission Sunday, we stand in solidarity with the missionaries, priests, religious sisters and brothers, and lay leaders serving in the 1,130 mission dioceses — spanning Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania, and the Middle East — that depend on our prayers and financial support to continue proclaiming Christ and building His Church.

The year's World Mission Sunday celebration is unlike any other in our lifetime for two reasons.

First, this World Mission Sunday marks the 100th anniversary of its establishment by Pope Pius XI in 1926. This centenary is an opportunity to mark it with renewed missionary zeal. This year's theme, "One in Christ, United in Mission," chosen by Pope Leo XIV, invites us to rediscover the profound unity we share in Christ through

baptism and how our baptismal identity overflows into the mission to bring others into communion with God and us.

Secondly, the beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen on September 24 reminds us of the importance of the missions. While many know him best for his TV presence, books, and charismatic eloquence, he repeatedly said, "My greatest love has always been for the missions of the Church." For 16 years, as National Director of The Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States, he poured his talents into World Mission Sunday and distributed the proceeds diligently to the missions. We can surely count on his intercession for World Mission Sunday 2026.

Pope Leo XIV recognizes how important World Mission Sunday is for the Church. He spent a large part of his priestly ministry as a missionary in Peru, serving communities in the Andean highlands and rural villages, and has noted how dependent he was on the support of the Church universal through World Mission Sunday.

Last year, he became the first pope in history to record a short video that could be played before Mass, in which he appealed, "Please help me help missionaries everywhere." That's what World Mission Sunday does: to help Pope Leo care for the 1,130 missionary dioceses and territories under his supervision through the Dicastery for Evangelization.

Please respond to his appeal as generously as you can.

I am praying that World Mission Sunday will be a blessing for our diocese and help foster increased zeal for the missions within all of us. Let us pray together that the Holy Spirit will renew in us the fire of the early Church, that we might truly be One in Christ, United in Mission, and that we will grow in missionary awareness, solidarity, and responsibility.

Hope in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "+ Michael G. Duca". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Most Reverend Michael G. Duca
Bishop of Baton Rouge

ALL SAINTS DAY EVENTS

Our All Saints Candlelight Mass will be on **Saturday, October 31, 2026**, at **4:00PM** at St. Margaret Church. We will honor our beloved dead who have died since last All Saints Day. The Blessing of the Graves will immediately follow the **10:00AM** Mass on **Sunday, November 1, 2026**, which will be held at the cemetery (weather permitting, bring your chairs). Please make plans to join us to honor our beloved dead! We will also pray for all of our beloved deceased inscribed in our Book of Remembrance through the month of November. This Book of Remembrance is in the back of the church. *Remember to inscribe the names of those who have died since last year and are **NOT** already in the book from a prior year.*

EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION

Our Respect Life Ministry invites all, especially those who have lost an unborn baby, to join them in a candlelight Rosary procession to the plaque of the Unborn in St. Margaret Cemetery beginning in front of the church on **Sunday, October 25, 2026**, after the **5:30PM** Mass beginning in front of the church.

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 BAILEIGH
HENDERSON WITH
ANY QUESTIONS.

2026
ST. MARGARET
FALL FESTIVAL
T-SHIRTS

ORDER FORM



The image is a promotional poster for 2026 St. Margaret Fall Festival T-shirts. It features a central image of a brown t-shirt with the text "ST. MARGARET, QUEEN OF SCOTLAND fall festival NOVEMBER 15, 2026". The background is decorated with autumn leaves. Text on the left lists pricing: Short Sleeve \$25, Long Sleeve \$30, and mentions "COMFORT COLORS BRAND". It also states "ORDER FORMS MAY BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE OR WITH THIS CODE!". Below that, it says "ORDERS DUE BY OCTOBER 28!" and "CONTACT BAILEIGH HENDERSON WITH ANY QUESTIONS." At the bottom, it says "2026 ST. MARGARET FALL FESTIVAL T-SHIRTS". On the right, there is a vertical "ORDER FORM" label and a QR code.

TRUNK OR TREAT!

The Catholic Daughters will host the Sixth Annual St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland Trunk or Treat on **Friday, October 23, 2025**. The fun will begin at **6:00PM**. Decorate your trunk and bring treats to share. Be sure to wear your favorite costume! Come join us for trick or treating, pizza, chips, and drinks. Please contact Tracy Andry at tkandry@charter.net or 225.485.5215 to sign up your trunk.

Family Movie Night in the parish hall will follow the fun outside. *We will also be hosting a diaper drive for the Woman's New Life Clinic, size newborn to size 7.* Hope to see you there!

SING A NEW SONG TO THE LORD

Give the Lord glory and honor.

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, Sal Faldetta, 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, Brittney 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 10/11, 2026, totaled:

\$10,589.00.

The **Second Collection**
next weekend will be for
the **Youth Group!**

Thank you for your kindness
and generosity to our ministries!

TO
GIVE...



CEMETERY REMINDERS

All Saints Day is fast approaching and many of you will be cleaning up the graves of your loved ones in our cemetery. Our groundskeeper, Jason, works very hard at making our cemetery a beautiful and safe place to visit. When making your loved one's resting place a thing of beauty, please be sure to observe the rules of the cemetery. No weed killer of any kind is allowed on the grounds. Only latex paint (*no oil-based paint*) is allowed on the graves. For safety reasons, no glass is allowed in the cemetery. All flowers left after All Saints Day around the graves in the grass need to be removed by **December 1, 2026**, or will be disposed of. Any other items left in the cemetery **cannot** remain in the grass. If you have any questions concerning our cemetery, please call Tammy in the parish office. *If you are interested in having your loved ones grave pressure washed for a fee by our groundskeeper, please call the parish office for contact information.*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret Church
is given in memory of **George & Eric Navarre** 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 17, 2026, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Coy Behler, Karen Chemay, Shirley Darouse, Larry J. Evans,
June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre, Hilton Hoover,
Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Earline Kraemer, Alberta & Francis Kronlage,
Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Ray & Connie Louviere, Manina Family, Patti Niehaus,
Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, June Koles Olah, Lynette Pfiffner,
Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner, Ashley Rouse, Anne Sherman, Judy Sherman,
William F. Sherman, Sr., MD, Aaron Szyszak and Vito Tallia, Sr.

Sunday, October 18, 2026, 8:00AM Mass, St. Thomas Chapel

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

Sunday, October 18, 2026, 10:00AM Mass

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

Sunday, October 18, 2026, 5:30PM Mass

George & Eric Navarre

Monday, October 19, 2026, 5:30PM Mass

(Memorial of Ss. John Brebeuf & Isaac Jogues)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Tuesday, October 20, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Shirley Darouse

Wednesday, October 21, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

George Navarre

Thursday, October 22, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

Friday, October 23, 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*)

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Gather Hymnal Number 1176

Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

"There is no God besides me."

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

Paul greets the Thessalonians in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Matthew 22:15-21

Give to God what belongs to God.

Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 24/25, 2026

Exodus 22:20-26

1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10

Matthew 22:34-40

OUR CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sunday, October 18, 2026

Propagation of the Faith Special Collection!

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 19, 2026

8:00AM—Catholic Schoolhouse, Hall of Saints

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

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

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

Tuesday, October 20, 2026

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

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

5:30PM—Catholic Daughters Rosary, St. Margaret Room

6:00PM—Catholic Daughters Meeting, St. Margaret Room

6:30PM—OCIC, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

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

5:00PM—Junior Youth Group, St. Margaret Room

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

6:30PM—OCIA, Parish Hall

6:30PM—OCIC, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

Thursday, October 22, 2026

4:00PM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church

Friday, October 23, 2026

6:00PM—Trunk or Treat, Church Parking Lot

Saturday, October 24, 2026

Youth Group Second Collection!

Visit Our Fostering Hope Ministry Table!

3:00PM—Confessions, St. Margaret Church



Hope Fest Attendees

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! bohenderson@stmargaretstthomas.com

