

THE

OCTOBER 31/NOVEMBER 1, 2026

# PEW BUDDY

## SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS (A)

*"Rejoice and be glad,  
for your reward will  
be great in heaven."*

~Matthew 5:12a



**St. Margaret Church & Parish Office**

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P.O. Box 100 | Albany | LA 70711

**St. Thomas the Apostle Chapel**

31718 Main Street | Springfield | LA 70462

# HOW BLESSED ARE YOU?

*By John Foley, SJ*

On this feast of All Saints, we hear Jesus proclaim “The Beatitudes.” This may tell us about his idea of a saint.

Let us look.

First, what is a “beatitude”? It is a spoken declaration of the blessedness of a person. To be blessed, in plain words, means to be given a spiritual benefit, as for instance, “May the Lord bless you with a safe journey.” Or “you are blest when you show mercy.” Often there is a condition involved: “The people who keep the law will be blest” (see Proverbs 29:18).

Jesus did not invent beatitudes: the First Testament has up to 50 examples of them. By Jesus’ time, people would have recognized one when it was spoken and would have been at home with it. Jesus gave nine of them in the Sermon on the Mount.

But there is something strange about his. Have you noticed?

(a) The first four seem to name bad things and call them good. Blessed are the poor (in spirit), the mourners, the meek, the hungry and thirsty. Jesus seems to be saying that “it is a blessing to be weak and unhappy.” Why would he use the beatitude form in this way? Because he is radically innovative. Radical [from the Latin *radix*, root] means that he is rooted deeply in God, who is the profound wellspring of life and love, not in some other place nearer the surface. These first four beatitudes are actually assurances to people who suffer—the displaced, the abandoned. Jesus is saying that they too are blessed and much loved by God.

(b) The next three more resemble the ancient form: Blessed are the merciful, the clean of heart, and the peacemakers. These three sound reasonable, if a bit bland. But actually, they are a spiritual step upwards from the first four. They are encouragements to people who want to take action in the world on behalf of the Kingdom. Their blessedness consists of being at work with Jesus as a companion.

(c) Then come the last two, which are stunning: “Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.” And “Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you. ...” These sound like curses, not blessings. Who could want them? Yet they too are an enhancement of what precedes them. They presume that you might actually want to participate in Jesus’ ultimate act of love, a love which cuts through false honor, wealth, and pride. Maybe you will be called to take up the cross with Jesus. Such radical love is blessed because it comes from being so close to God, whose very identity is love.

So, we find at least three stages of ascent in the following of Jesus: (1) suffering, (2) working for others, and (3) persecution endured as a result. The saints are examples in each of these areas because of their love for God and others. This is the very root of happiness, or “blessedness.”

The question for you and me is whether we even begin to be attracted in any way to such categories. We can take a review of our lives and get an idea. If we do not fit into them, we can meditate on this question: how strong is our desire for anything at all? Can we “desire to desire” regarding an openness to Jesus and to his Father? We do not have to want persecution yet, but what do we want?

Maybe it is simple: the blessedness he speaks about.

# EVENTS AROUND THE PARISH

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## HONOR OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Please join the Knights of Columbus and Mondays with Mary ministry on **Monday, November 2, 2026**, at **5:00PM** in St. Margaret Church for a special rosary and prayer service to honor the patroness of the Americas, Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are welcome to come hear the telling of the miracle that occurred in 1531 in Mexico with the appearance of Our Lady. More than 30 million indigenous people converted to Catholicism during the next decade. We will affirm our devotion to Our Lady and to protect life, especially the blessed and innocent unborn, those in most need of protection. Please call Glenn Young at 225-964-0947 for more information.

## ATTENTION, ST. MARGARET PARISHIONERS!!

Investors in the property directly across Highway 43 from our St. Margaret Church property are planning to build a convenience store and sell alcohol. The Parish Council will have this item on their agenda for permit approval next **Wednesday, November 4, 2026**, at **6:00PM** in the council chambers. If you are available to attend this meeting to oppose approval of this permit, please attend. For more information, call Joe Erdey, Livingston Parish Council Member, at 985-687-6836.

## DO SOMETHING SPECIAL THIS CHRISTMAS - ADOPT A FAMILY

Your St. Margaret/St. Thomas St. Vincent de Paul Conference is looking for individuals, families, or service-oriented groups interested in adopting a family for Christmas this year. We typically receive requests from our local schools to assist needy families as well as calls from people living in our immediate area pleading for help. Thanks to the generosity of many, last year 108 children experienced the blessing of gifts that included toys, clothing, and food at Christmas. We all recognize that higher living costs and utility expenses will create an even greater need this year for many families in our area. We suggest two gifts per family member, with each gift ranging from \$20-\$40. If you or your organization feel called to adopt a family this year, please contact Tracy Andry at 225-485-5215 by **Saturday, November 14, 2026**, and help make Christmas 2026 special for neighbors in our community who are in need!

## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Please give a warm welcome to our newly registered St. Margaret parishioners and family: **John & Cheryl Laiche**, and **Lisa & Sean Howlett**. 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!

## ADVENT WOMEN'S NIGHT OF REFLECTION

Join the women of St. Margaret on **Monday, November 30, 2026**, at **6:45PM** for a night of reflection this Advent season. Our speaker, Lisa Veron, will share on the topic "Praying with Mary...With Open Hands and a Listening Heart". The event will take place in the St. Margaret Parish Hall. There is no cost to attend, but you must reserve your seats by calling Gloria at 419-348-9674. Seating is limited! You are welcome to reserve a table of 8 for a group of friends, family or ministry group. Hope to see you there!

# BLESSINGS FROM THE LORD

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## REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

Join our Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus on **Saturday, November 7, 2026**, at **9:00AM** to help place American flags on the 140+ graves of those buried in our cemetery who have served our country in the military. These flags will be displayed for the week following through **Veteran's Day, Wednesday, November 11, 2026**. We will meet again the following **Saturday, November 14, 2026**, to pick up the flags. If you have a veteran buried in our cemetery and would like to place the flag on their grave, be at the cemetery for 9:00AM. Please pray for the souls of our departed veterans and their families!

## 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](mailto:glittle1985@gmail.com)), even if it's not ready yet. If you are willing to help prepare and plan, also let us know.

## NEWLY BAPTIZED MEMBER

Congratulations to the family and friends of the newest Catholics welcomed into the faith at St. Margaret during the month of October, **Jackson King** and **Parker LeSaicherre**. May these children grow in the grace and love of Our Lord forever! Contact Debbie Corbett in the parish office if you are interested in having your child baptized!

## A BEAUTIFUL SANCTUARY

The flowers in the Sanctuary this weekend at St. Margaret are in memory of **Eric Navarre** donated by Kim Navarre. 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.



# RIGHT REWARD FROM GOD

Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

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## 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, David Hanner, 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, Gunner Norman, Amelie Oriol, Gasper Guy Palermo, June Catherine Peterson, Petit Family, Pete Pfiffner, Adrian Phillips, Jr., Steve Plauche, Marie Prine, Lauren Rodriguez, Brooklyn Sansone, Valerii Sekisov & Family, Mary Stabile, Brittney Stilley, Danette Stilley, Christine & Joseph Stolf, Sharon Stolf, Elaine Taylor, Carolyn Toole, 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 24/25, 2026**,  
totaled:

**\$11,644.00.**

The **Second Collection** for  
the **Youth Group** totaled:

**\$2,431.00**

The **Second Collection**  
next weekend will be for the  
**Building & Maintenance Fund!**

Thank you for your kindness  
and generosity to our ministries!

TO   
**GIVE...**

## THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

*Solemnity of All Saints*  
**Gather Hymnal Number 1209**

**Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14**

A vision of God's faithful people.

**1 John 3:1-3**

What we shall be has  
not yet been revealed.

**Matthew 5:1-12a**

Jesus teaches the Beatitudes.

**Anticipating Next Week's Scriptures**  
*Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*November 7/8 2026*

**Wisdom 6:12-16**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

**Matthew 25:1-13**

# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Margaret Church is given in memory of **A.R. & Ireene Horrell** by Lucie & Joe Hanewinkel.

The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Thomas Chapel is given in honor of **Hilma Woods** by Christine Stolf.

## SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

### Saturday, October 31, 2026, 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Karen Chemay, Merrill Cooper, Shirley Darouse, Larry J. Evans, June & Peter "Larry" Fos, Jr., Helen & Alex Galladora, Homer Gaspard, Ricky Genre, Barbara Haluska, Hilton Hoover, Mary, Joe L. & William Juhasz, Earline Kraemer, Alberta & Francis Kronlage, Vernon & Dorothy Landry, Ray & Connie Louviere, Manina Family, Judy, Mitch, Andrew & Tony Monistere, Patti Niehaus, Sue Novak, Dr. William T. O'Brien, III, June Koles Olah, Timmy Peacock, Victor & Mary Pepitone, Lynette Pfiffner, Peter J. & Elizabeth Pfiffner, Ashley Rouse, Anne Sherman, Judy Sherman, William F. Sherman, Sr., MD, Sterling Family, Aaron Sziszak and Vito Tallia, Sr.

### Sunday, November 1, 2026, 8:00AM Mass, St. Thomas Chapel

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

### Sunday, November 1, 2026, 10:00AM Mass

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

### Sunday, November 1, 2026, 5:30PM Mass

George & Eric Navarre

### Monday, November 2, 2026, 5:30PM Mass (All Souls' Day)

Savanna Balado

### Tuesday, November 3, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Chuck Raborn, Sr.

### Wednesday, November 4, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Memorial of St. Charles Borromeo)

Eric Navarre

### Thursday, November 5, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Joseph Tantillo, Jr.

### Friday, November 6, 2026, 7:00AM Mass (Weekday in Ordinary Time)

Lynette Pfiffner

# PAROCHIAL DASHBOARD

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## 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, November 1, 2026

**All Saints' Day!**

**Daylight Saving Time Ends!**

10:00AM—**Cemetery Mass**, St. Margaret Cemetery (weather permitting)

11:00AM—**Blessing of the Graves**, St. Margaret Cemetery

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

5:30PM—**Confirmation**, St. Margaret Church

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](mailto:Prayers4frpaul@gmail.com)



## Monday, November 2, 2026

**All Souls' Day!**

10:00AM—**St. Thomas Altar Society**, St. Thomas Chapel

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

5:00PM—**Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, St. Margaret Church

## Tuesday, November 3, 2026

**Election Day! Please Vote!**

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

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

6:30PM—**KC & Ladies Faith Formation**, St. Margaret Room

7:00PM—**Knight of Columbus Meeting**, St. Margaret Room

7:00PM—**Ladies Auxiliary Meeting**, St. Maria Goretti Room



## Wednesday, November 4, 2026

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

5:00PM—**Junior Youth Group**, St. John Paul II 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, November 5, 2026

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

6:00PM—**Fall Festival Meeting**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

## Friday, November 6, 2026

9:30AM—**Divine Readers**, St. Elizabeth Seton Room

## Saturday, November 7, 2026

**Building & Maintenance Fund Second Collection!**

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



## TIME CHANGE THIS WEEKEND

Daylight Saving Time ends this **Sunday, November 1, 2026.**

Set your clocks back one hour.