



August 17, 2025 | VOLUME 55 NUMBER 33 | Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



A Letter From Our Pastor

SET THE WORLD ON FIRE

**“Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?
No, I tell you, but rather division... Father against son and son against father...”**



These words of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, from our Gospel today are very alarming! Taken out of context, they can be very confusing. This is a clear example of how we are to read Scripture in its entirety, not as separate, stand-alone pericopes. Yet this is a difficult truth, even when correctly understood.

The Prince of Peace is telling his disciples to establish true peace in our world, society, families, and individual hearts; some hard times of unwanted change must be endured just as a broken bone needs to be painfully “set” to allow it to heal. We can’t skip over the tough love that is often involved in rooting out harmful and destructive choices. And these “corrective sufferings” are never more difficult than when they involve someone you love deeply.

A parent who has no choice but to allow their child to hit bottom so they will finally be motivated to implement change or seek help knows what I’m speaking of. For those in the downward spiral of drugs, your prayer is that moment that comes before the drugs end or otherwise ruin your loved one’s life.

A dear friend once called me and asked if I could help move his son in with his girlfriend. I responded that I only wished the best for his son and his girlfriend, but as a deacon, I could not participate in something so contrary to God’s plan for love. It would be scandalous. He responded that he wasn’t in favor of it either, but he surmised they were going to do it regardless of his opinion, so he chose not to say anything that might endanger their relationship. Parenting can be so tough! Likewise for friendships and all loving relationships.

Yet, eternal souls may hang in the balance. Both ours and theirs!

It is challenging to take actions that could jeopardize a relationship. We do need to meet them where they are. Love them where they are. But sometimes we have to love someone enough to risk losing them. What an irony of life that that may be the most genuine love of all.

May God grant each of us the courage, wisdom, and strength to love each other as He loves us.

God bless,

Fr. Eddie

WHY DO WE HAVE A FEAST FOR THE QUEENSHIP OF MARY?

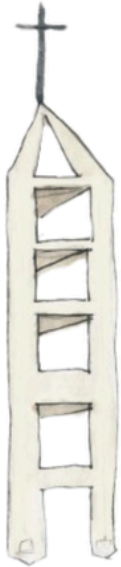
For many of us, the language of kings and queens may seem like they belong to history or a medieval movie. Royalty have absolute authority over a kingdom and their subjects, a concept that is foreign to many of us today. While Jesus doesn’t rule a political kingdom, we honor and recognize him as the King of Kings, Lord of Heaven and Earth. To God alone belongs absolute authority over all of existence.

We may think of queens as the spouse of the king, but there is another key relationship: the king’s mother. In Biblical history, we see instances where the mother of the king is given due as a queen herself, complete with a throne! Mary’s guiding influence over her Son is seen most notably in the Wedding Feast at Cana. Mary is not Queen on her own merit. She is “full of grace” and “blessed” in “all ages” because of the reign of her Son.



Friday, August 22, 2025

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Join us!

STM PARISH AUCTION

Saturday, August 23rd
STM Gymnasium



For tickets and details, visit
stmbr.org/auction



Get your First Pick Raffle tickets now!

Nursing Home Volunteers Needed

The parish is in need of volunteers to minister to residents of Flannery Oaks Guest House on Flannery Road. Volunteers will facilitate communion services, lead the recitation of the rosary, and visit with the residents. If you are interested in being trained in nursing home ministry, please **contact Deacon Paul Soileau at soileaup@stmbr.org**.

Knights of Columbus Sportsmen's Raffle

The STM Knights of Columbus Council 5530 is holding its Annual Sportsmen's Raffle on Tuesday, September 10, at the KC Hall, located at 291 S. Flannery Road. Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM (free), followed by the raffle drawing at 6:30 PM.

Raffle prizes include a traditional firearm, cash, or a variety of alternate prizes such as a backyard pellet egg smoker, Blackstone griddle, K2 cooler, binoculars, or a crawfish boiling kit.

Proceeds from this raffle directly support the charitable work of our council, benefiting clergy, Catholic schools, individuals with disabilities, and other local needs.

To purchase raffle tickets, please contact: John Serbeck at (281) 814-4856 (call or text).

We sincerely appreciate your continued support.

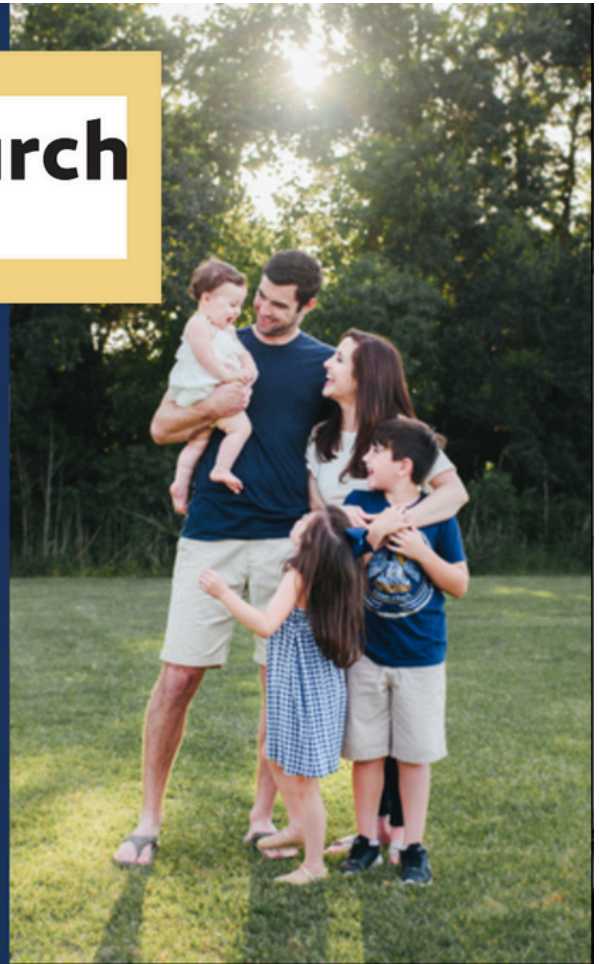


domesticchurch
UNITED STATES

Do you want to...

- *Grow closer to God as a couple?*
- *Enjoy more peace in your marriage?*
- *Find supportive community with other couples in the parish?*
- *Nurture your own personal prayer life?*
- *Encourage your children in the faith?*

Come learn about a lay movement designed for Sacramentally married couples that started in Poland with the help of St. John Paul II.



Informational Meeting

**Sunday, August 24th
11:00am**

***childcare available**

Join us after 10 am Mass in the Sanctuary

*Childcare available in the Mother Theresa Room

WWW.DOMESTICCHURCHFAMILIES.COM

Questions?

Kevin and Angela Beyer (225) 993-4300
batonrouge@domesticchurchfamilies.com

How do I become Catholic? An Invitation to Come and See

The Catholic Church always welcomes new members into its community. For those who are born into a Catholic family this welcome occurs usually as an infant when the parents of the family bring their child to receive baptism. But how does an adult or an older child become Catholic?

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the present-day process by which people enter the Catholic faith. It is a process designed to welcome and prepare new members into the Church and prepare them for the initiation sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. It also prepares those individuals already baptized in another Christian faith or baptized Catholic for full communion with the Catholic Church.



Who is OCIA for?

- Adults or school age children (7+) who have never been baptized
- Christians baptized in another faith
- Catholics who were baptized but have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation
- Catholics who have been away from the Church and would like a refresher

There is no cost or commitment to participate in the OCIA process. **We will have an introductory session on Tuesday, August 26, from 6:30-8 pm, in the Mother Teresa Room, located next door to the church office.** Please **contact Tricia Greely (greelyt@stmbr.org)** at the parish office for more information by email or phone 225-275-3940.

FLOWER DONATION

The flowers on altar next weekend, Aug. 23-24, are donated in memory of Anthony "Freddy" Pichon Jr. as requested by Frances A. Reed.

SANCTUARY LIGHT

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Mickey Deville the week of Aug. 17 as requested by Lyn Deville.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Aug. 19 - 6 p.m.: Anthony "Freddy" Pichon Jr.

Wednesday, Aug. 20 - 12 p.m.: Maria Luisa Cabeje

Thursday, Aug. 21 - 8:45 a.m.: Holy Souls in Purgatory; Special Intention: Deana Delage Family

Friday, Aug. 22 - 12 p.m.: Josephine Luce

Saturday, Aug. 23 - 4:30 p.m.: STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors

Sunday, Aug. 24 - 8 a.m.: Brad Sylvester, Jim Stiglets, Anthony Pichon; Special Intention: Fleming Family; 10 a.m.: Ronnie Jackson; 5 p.m.: Holy Souls in Purgatory

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL

Please remember in your prayers the following persons: Becky Cline, Buddy Vidrine, Baron Lacour, Laurie Bolanoff, Diane Green, John Pecoraro, Jr., Hunter Pecoraro, Loressa Watts, Destiny Kelley, Marcia Sells, Byron Ellis, Tim Bonin, Joe Bonin, Tara Manzullo, Lloyd Hebert, Bubba Howell, Frank DePaula, Julie Zerst, Geraldine Gauthier, Wendall Blouin, Camilla Barlow, Kathy Mois.

PRAYER LINE FOR IMMEDIATE PRAYER REQUESTS

For serious or urgent prayer requests, call Sharon Hebert at 225.978.1246 (leave your name and phone number if there is no answer), or send a request by email to kennyshar69@att.net.

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Please remember in your prayers: Capt. Austin Starks, PFC Alyssa Richardson, SSG Brian Edwards, SPC Havyn Henley, PO3 Tytan Henley, MAJ Nate Conlon

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. (To add the name of a loved one, call 225.275.3940 or email receptionist@stmbr.org.)

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Eddie Martin

Permanent Deacon

Rev. Mr. Joe Scimeca

Permanent Deacon

Rev. Mr. Paul Soileau

Administration

Ms. Sarah Neau

Formation/Liturgy

Mrs. Tricia Greely

Religious Education

Ms. Bridget Day

Executive Secretary

Mrs. Ellen Guidry

Receptionist

Mrs. Daphne Bihm

Music Director

Mrs. Mallory Sollie

Sacristan

Mrs. Kay Fetterman

Maintenance

Mr. Alex Ho

Custodial

Mr. Roosevelt Hamilton

Mr. Rommell Richard



A Ministry to Catholic Women

Women of STM are invited!

Diocese of BR Magnificat Prayer Breakfast

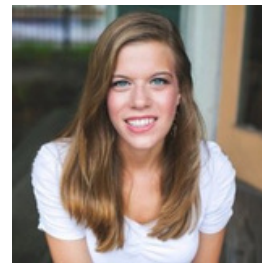
August 23, 2025 | 9 am - 12 pm

Oak Lodge Reception Ctr.

2834 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd.

Ticket price: \$27

Speaking at the breakfast will be Casey Spehe. A little about Casey: She first experienced the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit at a retreat in 2000. It was there Casey's Catholic faith came fully alive. She earned a master's degree in Catechesis and Evangelization at The Augustine Institute. Over the past fifteen years Casey has traveled the country speaking on matters of faith. Today Casey and her husband, Kevin and their children are active members of St Benilde Parish in Metairie. Casey is a leader in the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of New Orleans and spends any extra time outside of family as a Catholic speaker and evangelist.



An online registration link can be found at

stmbr.org/news/magnificat

or register by phone or text by contacting

Dianne Lencse at 225-235-3021

or Gwen Gillis 225-505-7050

Stay connected!



STM website: stmbr.org



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