



September 21, 2025 | VOLUME 55 NUMBER 38 | Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



A Letter From Our Pastor

CRAFTY CHRISTIANS



Our readings today highlight how crafty and original we can be in striving for the passing things of this world and advise us to raise our spiritual game to the same level of effort.

The first reading laments the many ways merchants of the Old Testament used their ingenuity to cheat others, particularly the poor, in the marketplace by rigging scales and other methods of measurement.

Our Gospel reading seems to complement the dishonest practices of the steward who knows his employment is about to end. He writes off portions of debts owed to his master so that the debtors would treat him favorably once unemployed. Some theologians speculate that he was only writing off the commission he would have earned, and thereby the lesson of the story is to pass on immediate gratification to set up future, greater rewards. But the text does not state that. Rather, the cunning of the steward is being recognized. His efforts are contrasted with how little cunning we use in our spiritual efforts.

“For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light...”

How easily we dismiss the plight of those in need with excuses or minimal effort to assist them. How lacking is our effort for Kingdom building when compared with the creativity and effort we put into achieving secular goals?

Let’s all take a little time this week to compare the effort we put into secular and spiritual endeavors and make certain our priorities are as they should be.

Safety Concerns:

On another subject, I would like to be proactive towards ensuring our safety as we worship, however slight the probability of an incident may be. Towards that end, we are investigating means to increase our church security.


A team of parishioners recently met with a security analyst and learned that a police presence is the best deterrent. It will not be cheap, but we intend to contract with BRPD as soon as possible. Locking the doors once Mass begins is another significant but straightforward step that we will likely implement soon (once we install panic bars on our front doors).


We are looking into several other possibilities, some that involve organizing the many treasures sitting in our pews at every Mass. Please consider informing our office if you have medical, fire, police, or military training. It would be wonderful if we had a team of experts that could help us plan and be ready to react to any incident we may experience, especially medical ones!


God bless!
Fr. Eddie

Altar Server Training & Refresher

A training session will be held on:

 Saturday, September 27

 9:30 - 10:30 AM

 In the Church

To register for training,
please visit stmbr.org/news/altar-server

Back this year!

TRUNK-OR-TREAT

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 26, 2025

Mass on the Grass

AND PARISH PICNIC

Details coming soon! Volunteer opportunities!

Walgreens

Vaccination clinic

ST THOMAS MORE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

DRIVE THRU

Walgreens pharmacy staff will administer the following vaccines:

FLU - AGES 3 AND UP

SAT. OCT. 4 3:30 - 5:30 PM

SUN. OCT. 5 - 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM

STM SCHOOL PARKING LOT

Free with or without insurance. If you have insurance, bring insurance card with you.

Vaccines subject to availability. State, age, and health-related restrictions may apply.

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55 & Alive Senior Ministry is offering

A Rosary of Remembrance

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2025

8:45 AM • MASS IN THE CHURCH

9:30 AM • SOCIAL IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER COFFEE SHOP

10:00 AM • ROSARY IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER HALL

BRUNCH FOLLOWS THE ROSARY

Mass and Rosary will be offered in memory of our deceased, beloved family and friends.
Names and pictures of those being remembered (not exceeding two per guest) will be recited and displayed.

Come. Join us in prayer as we remember our loved ones.

Register by filling out the response below and dropping it by the church office.

In order to prepare, your response is needed by October 6, 2025.

.....
A ROSARY OF REMEMBRANCE (please print)

I WILL ATTEND: _____


DECEASED TO BE REMEMBERED (NOT TO EXCEED 2 NAMES):

1. _____ 2. _____

I WILL BRING A 5 X 7 OR 8 X 10 FRAMED PICTURE: YES ☐ NO ☐



Parents of children preparing to receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are reminded of the mandatory parent meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 1, in the activity center at 6:30 pm. At least one parent needs to attend. Contact Bridget Day with any questions, dayb@stmbr.org, 225.275.3940.



St. Thomas More Parish

YOUTH GATHERING




WHO Parishioners in grades 5 - 8

DATES Fridays: Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 12

TIME 3:15 - 4:30 pm

PLACE Parish Activity Center

REGISTER stmbr.org/news/youth





stm scouts

POPCORN SALES

Sept. 27-28 | After all Masses



Pope Leo XIV
@Pontifex

I would like us to begin building a culture of reconciliation together today. We must meet one another, heal our wounds, and forgive the wrongs we did and did not do, but whose effects we still carry. There are no enemies — only brothers and sisters. What we need are gestures and policies of reconciliation.

**- STEP AWAY - LISTEN DEEPLY -
- RETURN RENEWED -**



Men of STM are invited to prayerfully consider a Jesuit Silent Preached Retreat in Grand Coteau, Louisiana, November 6–9, 2025, at Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat House.

Set amid the peaceful beauty of Grand Coteau and the refreshing fall air, this silent preached retreat offers men the opportunity to step away from daily distractions and enter into a time of quiet prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal.

Rooted in the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the retreat includes daily conferences (talks) by a Jesuit retreat director, opportunities for personal prayer, and moments of silent contemplation—nourished by delicious meals and a spirit of fraternity in stillness.

Openings remain for this grace-filled weekend.

Come as you are—leave renewed in mind, heart, and spirit. To reserve a spot or if you have any questions, call Charles Pourciau at 225.421.9734.

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

Stay connected!



STM website: stmbr.org



facebook.com/stmchurchbr



Sign up for the e-newsletter
on our parish website, under
Links/Resources



[youtube.com/
stthomasmorebatonrouge](https://youtube.com/stthomasmorebatonrouge)

OUR PARISH FAMILY

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the family of **Lynette Harelson**. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

FLOWER DONATIONS

The flowers on the altar in front of the ambo and under the crucifix are donated in memory of Carolyn and John Perkins the weekend of Sept. 27-28, as requested by Cookie and Kerry Uffman.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Sept. 23 - 6 p.m.: Beverly Rabalais, Rosemary and Fred Kelpe, Anthony Speyrer, Katrina Lan Pham, Leo Quang Tran, John the Baptist Trung Luu

Wednesday, Sept. 24 - 12 p.m.: Carolyn Perrault

Thursday, Sept. 25 - 8:45 a.m.: Rose Broussard

Friday, Sept. 26 - 12 p.m.: Anthony "Freddy" Pichon Jr.

Saturday, Sept. 27 - 4:30 p.m.: Lilian Marie Ferbos

Sunday, Sept. 28 - 8 a.m.: STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors; 10 a.m.:

Barry Sanders, Anthony Pichon, Rose Broussard, Thomas Webre, Carolyn and John Perkins; 5 p.m.: Virgil Davis

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, Lloyd Hebert, Bubba Howell, Frank DePaula, Julie Zerbst, Geraldine Gauthier, Wendall Blouin, Camilla Barlow, Kathy Moise, Rose Marie Cronin, Allyce Trapp Alexander.

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 (To add/edit names: email receptionist@stmbr.org.)

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Weekday Masses

Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Wednesday at 12 noon

Thursday at 8:45 a.m.

Friday at 12 p.m.

Reconciliation

Wednesdays from 11:15 - 11:45 a.m.

Thursdays from 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.

Saturdays from 3:15 - 4:15 p.m.

(also by appointment)