



October 5, 2025 | VOLUME 55 NUMBER 40 | Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



A Letter From Our Pastor



Dear Parish Family,

You may have noticed a patrol car and an officer in our parking lot when you drove up to Mass. We haven't received any threats, and we are in no more danger here than we have been every Sunday, or at any church throughout our land. However, as Habakkuk decries the violence of his day, there is no denying our land is a bit out of control, and every church has a minuscule chance of some random act of violence. I have consulted several knowledgeable individuals in preventing or at least minimizing our exposure to such an event, and the unanimous and overriding recommendation is to have a police presence on the grounds.

Additional recommendations include locking our doors once Mass begins, especially the side doors, as entry there would be much more troublesome than at the rear. We will leave one main entry door unlocked with an usher to oversee entries once Mass begins. Ideally, we will have one of our parishioners who is or has been involved in law enforcement at that post, with special attention from the officer on patrol.

Furthermore, all of our Mass coordinators are female, and we have asked the Men's Club if they could provide a male to sit with their family in a designated pew, to address any non-threatening but irrational behavior that may arise.

Lastly, we would like to inform you all that the protocol for any such event is to exit the building in an orderly yet speedy manner. All doors are or will be equipped with emergency release so that they can be exited through, even while locked. If exit is not possible, we should cover in, under, or between the pews. If those options do not deter or protect against the actions of an intruder and aggression occurs against those who pose no threat to the intruder, we are advised to confront and overtake the individual.

Let me reiterate, there has been no specific threat or hint of danger directed towards STM. We are just as safe as before, and as any other church, school, or mall in our country today; these are simply some proactive steps I felt responsible for enacting, given the sad regression of our society.

Once again, I ask any parishioners with police, military, or especially medical training to contact our office, along with your preferred Mass time. Feel free to call me with any questions or suggestions.

God bless!

Fr. Eddie

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

Pope Leo asks everyone to pray the rosary for peace throughout October



**BLESSING OF THE PETS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 @ 12 NOON
ELC YARD (ON SHERBROOK)**

Help Us Care for What Is Sacred

Each weekday or weekend, as we gather to celebrate the Eucharistic feast as a community, our altar is set with vessels and linens that honor the importance of the sacrament being celebrated. These vessels and linens—just like the fine china and special linens we bring out for holidays or important occasions in our homes—need to be handled and cleaned with care.

The vessels are cleaned as soon after Communion as possible by Eucharistic Ministers or other volunteers. However, the cleaning of the linens must be done off-site, as they require more time and care than can be given in the few minutes at the end of Mass.

Altar linens hold great significance in the Catholic Church because they are used in the sacred liturgy, where they come in contact with the Precious Body and Blood of Christ. Proper care, handling, and cleaning of these linens reflect reverence for the Eucharist and uphold the dignity of the Mass.

The linens that get the most use and need the most care are the purificators and the corporals.

- Purificators are used to wipe the chalices after each person receives the Precious Blood and may also be used to wipe crumbs of the Precious Body from the ciborium.
- The corporal is placed on the altar to catch any particles of the consecrated hosts that may break off or any drops of the Precious Blood that may be spilled as the vessels are moved.

With four Precious Blood stations at each weekend Mass, plus at least two at any weekday, funeral, or wedding Mass, we can go through up to 32 purificators in a week, with up to four corporals needing to be cleaned as well.

Volunteers are needed to help clean and press these linens in a timely manner, so we always have the necessary number of linens on hand for Mass.

Because these linens may contain particles of the Precious Body and Blood of Christ, they should not be washed with regular laundry. Specific instructions on the cleaning and care of Mass linens will be provided to all volunteers.

Volunteers should have access to:

- A container large enough to soak at least 10 purificators and a corporal
- A washing machine
- An iron

If you are interested in helping with this ministry of altar linen care, please contact Kay Fetterman at fettermank@stمبر.org.



ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH

MASS ON THE GRASS and Parish Picnic



10.26.25 | 10 am - 1:00 pm | STM Field

Hamburgers, hot dogs, jambalaya, Cane's lemonade & sweet tea, and water will be provided. Bring your lawn chairs, picnic blankets, and pop up tents.

SIGN UP TO DECORATE YOUR TRUNK!

STMBR.ORG/NEWS/PICNIC

Donate individually wrapped candies for our trick or treaters. Drop by church office by Thursday, Oct. 23!



The Book of the Names of the Dead: A Tradition of Love and Remembrance

How deeply we long to have our loved ones beside us—especially after they have passed away. Our hearts yearn to express that longing in a tangible way. In her wisdom, the Church has given us a meaningful tradition: writing their names in a book and coming together as a community to pray for them.

We pray for the dead by name because a name carries the weight of identity and memory. It reminds us of who they were and evokes their presence in a way no single word can. While we might say someone was kind, funny, or generous, those descriptions fall short. A name, more than any adjective, captures the depth and uniqueness of a person—it comes closest to expressing the fullness of their life.

The names written in the book are far more than ink on a page—they reflect the people we hold in our minds and hearts. Each name calls to memory a life, a presence, a relationship. And when we see those names, we are moved to pray for them. We pray with hope that they now behold the light of God's face, and that they rejoice with the saints and angels in the heavenly Jerusalem.

One day, our names too will be written in the book by someone who carries our memory in their heart. When that moment comes, what memories will your name awaken?

Beginning October 12, the Book of the Names of the Dead will be placed in the church vestibule for parishioners to write the names of their beloved departed family members and friends. This year, we are using a new book, so we invite you to include the names of all deceased loved ones—not only those who have passed away in the past year.

As we near the sacred season of remembrance, let us honor those who have gone before us with our prayers, our love, and the simple yet powerful act of writing their names. In doing so, we affirm that they are not forgotten—they live on in our hearts, in our faith, and in the eternal presence of God.



New Youth Bible Studies - Volunteers Needed

St. Thomas More is excited to begin two 8-week Bible Studies this fall: **Encounter** for middle schoolers and **Venture** for high schoolers. Both programs are from Ascension Press and include engaging weekly videos and lessons.

With the age of Confirmation now moving to 7th grade, it is more important than ever to provide meaningful opportunities for our newly confirmed youth to stay connected, deepen their faith, and grow as lifelong disciples of Christ.

We need parishioners to help lead these studies and walk alongside our young people. No teaching experience is necessary—just a willingness to share your time and love for Christ.

Please prayerfully consider giving back to our youth by serving in this ministry. Together, we can nurture the next generation of the Church!

Please contact Bridget Day in the church office if you can help - call 225.275-3940; dayb@stmbr.org.



Thank You for a Great Popcorn Sales Weekend!

A big thank you to our wonderful and supportive community for making our Popcorn Sales Weekend a success! Your generosity helps make all the fun and learning our Scouts enjoy possible throughout the year.

The funds raised go directly toward activities like:

- Camping trips
- Pinewood Derby races
- Raingutter Regatta
- Scout adventures
- Community service projects

We couldn't do it without you. Thank you for helping us build future leaders!

If you'd like to learn more about STM Scouts, please email scouting228@gmail.com.

-Photo by Michelle Fontenot

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

October 2025

Every October, the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the **first Sunday in October is observed as Respect Life Sunday**. Catholics are called to treasure, defend and protect the most vulnerable, from the beginning to the end of life, and at all stages in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.



Last day to register is Monday, Oct. 6
- drop by or call the church office
to register.

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



Join Team STM!

Born to Run

November 8, 2025

**[stmbr.org/news/
born-to-run](http://stmbr.org/news/born-to-run)**

Stroke Scan Plus and St. Thomas More will again be hosting lifesaving, wellness ultrasound screenings on Tuesday, Oct. 28, and Wednesday, Oct. 29, in the Mother Teresa Room.

Do you have high blood pressure or high cholesterol, diabetes, or family history of heart disease, stroke, abdominal aneurysm, or internal cancers? If so, do not miss this opportunity for early detection of a possibly serious disease. These screenings are typically NOT performed at your annual check-up, and insurance companies may not pay for them unless you are symptomatic.

Stroke Scan Plus will be offering them to you for **\$169** for all seven (7) combined ultrasound screenings (Stroke, AAA, Thyroid, Liver, Kidneys, and Gallbladder). Blood testing will incur an additional cost. Insurance is NOT necessary, and appointment are limited. **Stroke Scan will be available at the church for you to register on Saturday, Oct. 11 - Sunday, Oct. 12, or call 832-437-7355 to schedule an appointment today for you or a loved one.** Prevention is your key to quality health!

www.strokescan.com

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Permanent Deacon

Rev. Mr. Joe Scimeca

Permanent Deacon

Rev. Mr. Paul Soileau

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



youtube.com/stthomasmorebatonrouge

Fr. Eddie will be away from the parish October 6-9, 2025, attending the annual Priest Continuing Formation Days—a time for spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and physical renewal. Communion services will be held while Father is away (no confessions). Mass intentions have been rescheduled as noted below.

FLOWER DONATION

The flowers on the altar next weekend, Oct. 11-12, are donated in memory of Rose Mary and Fred Kelpé as requested by family.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Carolyn and John Perkins the week of Oct. 5 as requested by Cookie and Kerry Uffman.

The sanctuary light in the chapel will burn in memory of Lynette Harelson the week of Oct. 5 as requested by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fetzer.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Oct. 7 - 6 p.m.: **Communion Service**; Intentions moved to 10/14

Wednesday, Oct. 8 - 12 p.m.: **Communion Service**

Thursday, Oct. 9 - 8:45 a.m.: **Communion Service**; Intention moved to 10/16

Friday, Oct. 10 - 12 p.m.: Ronnie Gauthier

Saturday, Oct. 11 - 4:30 p.m.: Beulah Lanclos, Mille and Nick Quartararo,

Mery Sanches, Beverly Rabalais, Norman Russell, Anthony Pinchon Jr.,

Dorothy and Leven LeJeune; Special Intentions: Ruth and Irving Fleming,

Donna Fleming Southhall

Sunday, Oct. 12 - 8 a.m.: Juanita Coutee; 10 a.m.: Thomas Webre; 5 p.m.:

STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors

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, 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 Vigil, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 5 p.m.

Weekday Masses

Tues., 6 p.m.; Wed., 12 noon; Thurs., 8:45 a.m.; Fri., 12 p.m.

Reconciliation

Wed., 11:15 - 11:45 a.m.; Thurs., 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.,

Sat., 3:15 - 4:15 p.m. (and by appointment)

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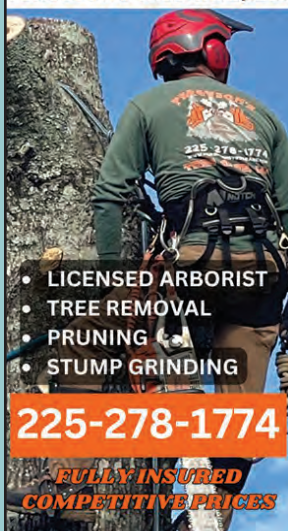
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