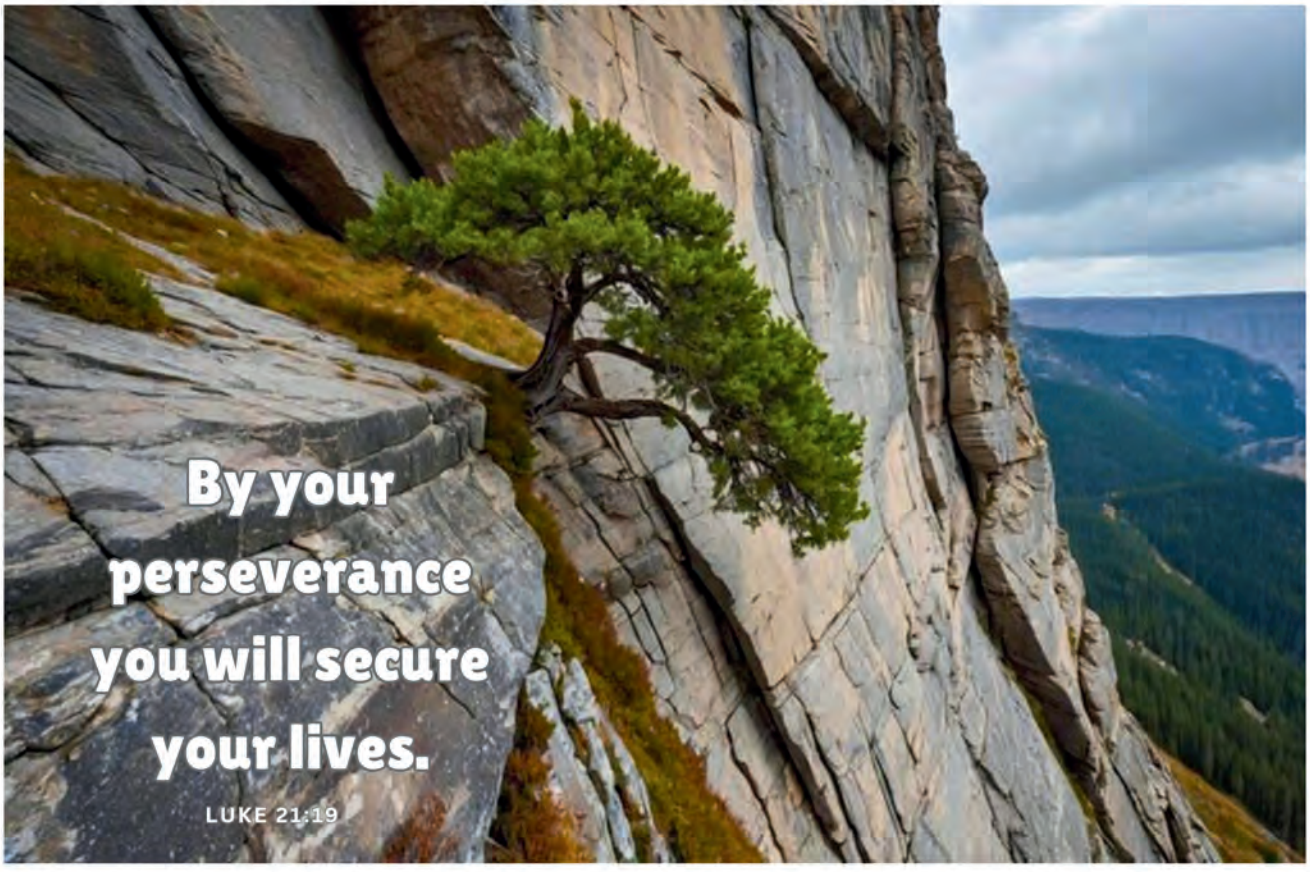
St Thomas More Catholic Church

November 16, 2025 | VOLUME 55 NUMBER 46 | Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time



11441 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70815 | 225.275.3940 | **www.stmbr.org**

A Letter From Our Pastor

END TIMES!

Last week, our readings focused on the immeasurable gift of eternity in the life to come. Today, we address the end of Jerusalem and the world.

Malachi, in our first reading, touches on a trap we can fall into, which hit me as an epiphany during my dad's funeral. He warns that the day is coming when the "proud and all evildoers will be stubble!" The last thing I'd ever do is group my dad with evildoers. My father was one of the most humble, compassionate, and giving men I've ever known. However, he was proud of having done well in life. I wondered why God left him on this earth for most of the last year of his life when his mind was almost gone. It was to strip him of his pride, although minuscule in my opinion. He was reduced to complete dependence on us - not even able to find the kitchen across the hall from his bedroom! The last time I saw him alive, all he could do was apologize repeatedly, "I'm so sorry, son; I lost it." Stripped of all pride, God's perfect timing arrived, and he was taken home!

St Paul reminds us to work hard until the end and points out that he who does not work, should not eat. This takes on additional meaning if you consider the analogy that eating can represent the reward of eternal life. Those who are 'good people,' but don't work to build the kingdom, may get a big surprise on judgment day.

Jesus reminds us that no one will know the day of the destruction of Jerusalem or the Day of Judgment. So pay no attention to false prophets and their predictions. He also gives us a puzzling message when taken at face value: "You will be handed over to persecution... some of you to death... but not a hair on your head will be damaged." This only makes sense when you incorporate Christ's gift of the afterlife, where all is made perfect, into the passage.

Let each of us fight the drag of pride on our souls, work tirelessly for the Kingdom, and never forget that all that we do is solely and truly a gift from God and for His glory.

God bless,
Fr. Eddie

Fall Fun Fest

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16
10 AM OUTDOOR MASS
FOLLOWED BY LAWN GAMES AND A PICNIC
OF HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS, JAMBALAYA,
CANE'S SWEET TEA AND LEMONADE

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Confirmation Registration

Registration for Spring Confirmation for 8th and 9th graders is open and space is limited. Registration closes on January 1st. Find registration link at **stmbr.org/news/confirmation**.

Small Group Leaders Needed for Spring Confirmation

With the recent changes to the age for the Sacrament of Confirmation, our group of candidates has grown, and we are in need of additional small group leaders for our 8th and 9th graders.

If you are confirmed as well as energized by your Catholic faith and open to sharing it with our teens, we invite you to consider serving in this important role. Small Group Leaders will meet with candidates to discuss lesson topics, which will be provided in advance, making it easy to guide the conversation and build connections.

Please find the session schedule under Confirmation at **stmbr.org/news/confirmation**.
Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity to accompany our young people on their journey of faith!

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please email Bridget Day dayb@stmbr.org or call the church office, 225.275.3940

Youth Gathering

Youth in grades 5 - 8 are invited to the next STM Youth Gathering on Friday, Dec. 12, 3:15- 4:30 pm in the Activity Center. Registration is required. Visit **stmbr.org/news/youth** to register.

MEN'S ACTS RETREAT ANNOUNCED

The Southeast Baton Rouge coalition of St. Jean Vianney, St. Thomas More, and St. Patrick's is hosting a Men's ACTS Retreat from January 29 through February 1, 2026.

An ACTS Retreat is a parish-based event that offers parishioners an opportunity to experience the love of Jesus and, in turn, to foster a desire for intentional discipleship. ACTS Retreats are given by parishioners for parishioners, with the support of parish clergy, and in this way serve to build Christian community within the parish.

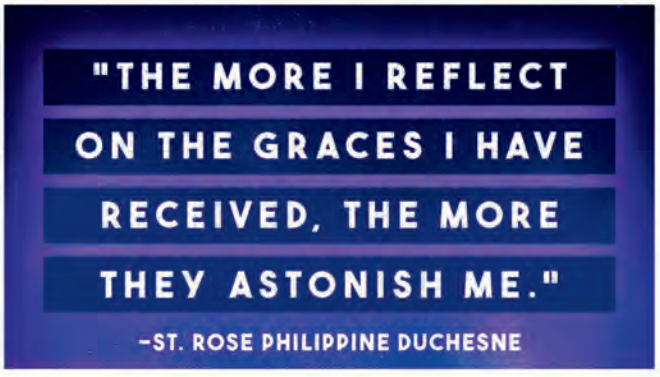
Sign-up will open on Wednesday, November 19, and run through Sunday, December 7. Acceptance will be on a first-come, first-served basis, with preference given to members of the host parishes.

Please stay tuned for more announcements about this retreat soon!

Please be aware that there will be changes to the daily Mass/Confession schedule Thanksgiving week.

- **Communion services** will be held on Tuesday, **Nov. 25**, and Friday, **Nov. 28**.
- Mass on Wednesday, **Nov. 26** will be for Thanksgiving at **6 pm** (no confessions - no Rosary - no noon Mass).
- Mass/confessions canceled on Thursday, Thanksgiving Day.

Mass intentions previously scheduled for Nov. 25 have been moved to Dec. 2.



Advent reflection booklets available next week

Our parish Advent reflection booklets, *Turn Toward a New Light*, will be available in the church the weekend of November 23–24. These booklets are a wonderful way to prepare your heart and mind for the coming of Christ during this sacred season.

The First Sunday of Advent is November 30—let us begin this holy time together by turning toward the light of Christ. One per family, please.

New Weekly Rosary Before Noon Mass

Join us in praying the Rosary at 11:30 am before the 12 noon Mass on Wednesdays. This Rosary will be offered for the Fatima intention — for the conversion of sinners, in reparation for sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the conversion of Russia, and peace in the world.

save the date
outdoor movie night
december 5

STM Angel Tree Project: Select an Angel this Weekend

St. Thomas More Parish continues its tradition of helping those in need through the annual Angel Tree Project. This year's tree includes wishes from St. Vincent de Paul, Xavier Catholic School, Volunteers of America, parish nursing homes, and STM families.

The Angel Tree will be in the back of the church through November 30 (also at the Outdoor Mass on November 16). After choosing an angel, please wrap or bag your gift, attach the ornament, and return it by December 7 to the church or office.

Questions? Contact Megan Campagna at 225-276-1257 or mscampagna@cox.net.

Visit stmbr.org/news/angel-tree for volunteer opportunities.

Let's come together as a parish family to share joy and hope this Christmas season!

Please Donate Food This Weekend

Please consider donating the goods noted below this weekend, Nov. 15-16, to benefit the food pantry at St. Paul the Apostle on Gus Young. Donations may be left in or around the storage bench in the back of the church before or after any Mass. Thank you! *There will be a container on the field at 10 am Mass to collect donated goods.

Thanksgiving goods:
- **Boxed stuffing mix (like Stovetop)**
- **Instant mashed potatoes in boxes or packets**
- **Jars of turkey gravy or dried gravy mix packets**
- **Dry macaroni**
- **Canned vegetables: yams, green beans, corn, peas, etc.**
- **Canned cranberry sauce**
- **Cornbread mix**
- **Canned pumpkin or fruit pie filling**
- **Pie crust mix (boxed)**

Always needed:
- **Rice, cereal, oatmeal, dried pastas**
- **Canned soups, broths**
- **Canned vegetables/fruit of all types**
- **Dried and canned beans**
- **Canned protein: chicken, fish**
- **Breakfast bars**
- **Peanut butter**
- **Shelf stable milk**

ST THOMAS MORE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

#iGIVECATHOLIC ON GIVING TUESDAY

Help us fund new security measures

- SECURITY DETAIL AT WEEKEND MASSES
- INSTALLATION OF PANIC BARS ON CHURCH DOORS

ADVANCED GIVING
NOV. 17 – DEC. 1

GIVING TUESDAY
DEC. 2

IGIVECATHOLIC.ORG/ORGANIZATION/STMCHURCHBR

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

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Mery Sanchez the week of Nov. 16 as requested by the LOUIS Team.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Nov. 18 - 6 p.m.: Lynette Harelson, Darryl J. Bratko, Lisa Bishop, Jon Babaotisita, Maria Tuc, Domino Toan, Anna Tua, Anna Huonz
Wednesday, Nov. 19 - 12 p.m.: Joseph Cronan
Thursday, Nov. 20 - 8:45 a.m.: Juanita Coutee
Friday, Nov. 21 - 12 p.m.: Holy Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, Nov. 22 - 4:30 p.m.: Deceased Members of Clement Family
Sunday, Nov. 23 - 8 a.m.: STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors; **10 a.m.:** Suzanne Jung, Ngac Van Tran and Tin Thi Nguyen, Chu Van Tran and Choe Thi Le, Thomas Webre, Carolyn and John Perkins, Mickey Deville, Florence and Ames Talbot, Terrance James Douglas, Special Intention: Sanders Family; **5 p.m.:** Mark Midboe

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, Sharon Mann, Louis LaBauve, Melani Cagle

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., and 5 p.m.
Weekday Masses
Tuesday, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 12 noon (w/Rosary, 11:30 am)
Thursday, 8:45 a.m.
Friday, 12 p.m.
Reconciliation
Wednesday, 11:15 - 11:45 a.m.
Thursday, 8:00 - 8:30 a.m.,
Saturday, 3:15 - 4:15 p.m.
and by appointment