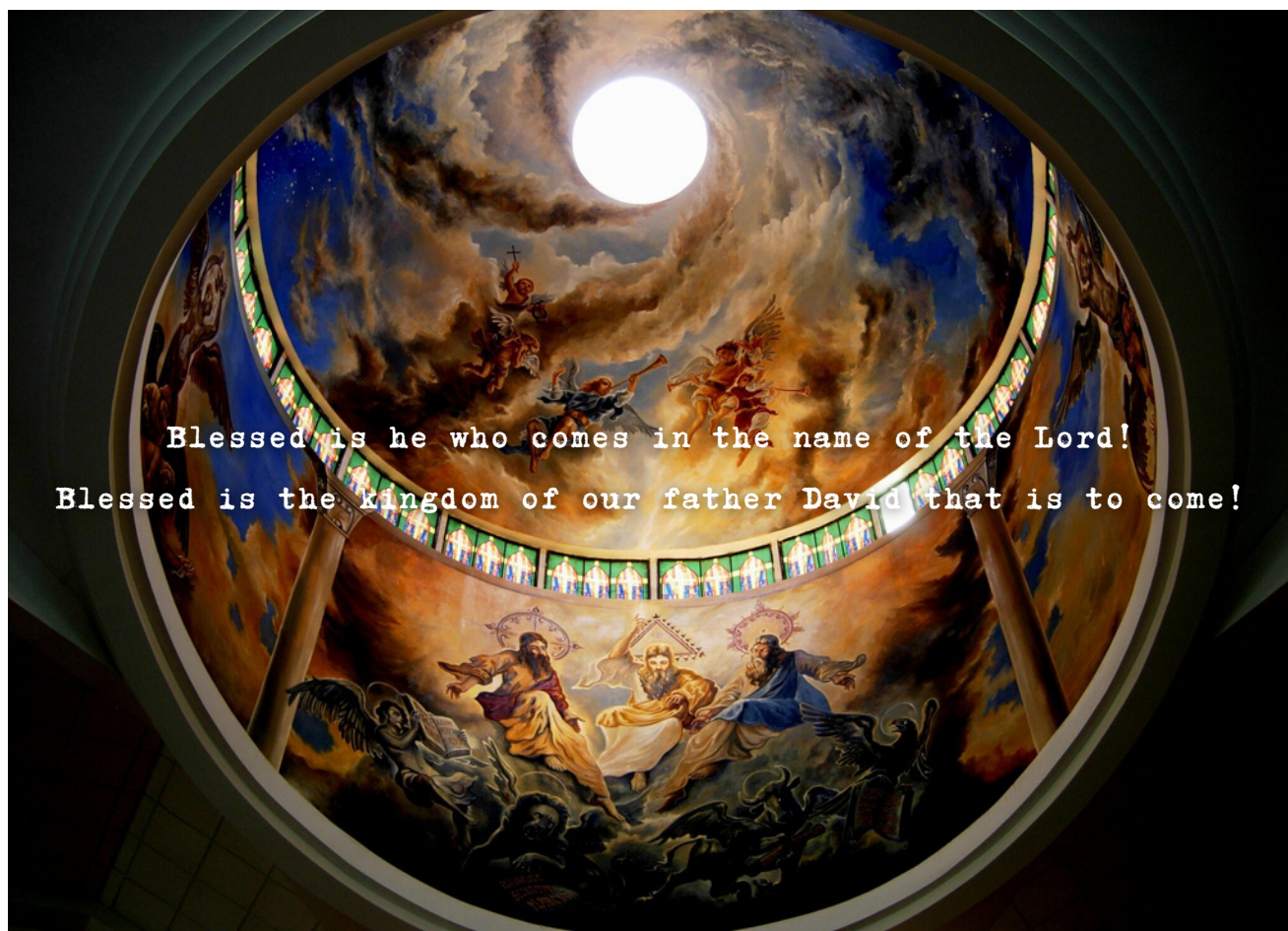




November 23, 2025 | VOLUME 55 NUMBER 47 | Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



A Letter From Our Pastor

CTK!



Today, we celebrate Christ as the King of our hearts and lives. Our liturgical year comes to a close, and we begin a new one next Sunday as we enter into the Advent season of preparation for the Coming of Christ.

Instituting this Feast of Christ the King in 1925, Pope Pius XI proclaimed: “Pax Christi in regno Christi” (the peace of Christ in the reign of Christ). This means that we live in the peace of Christ when we surrender our lives to Him every day, accept Him as our God, Savior, and King, and allow Him to rule our lives. In short, we die to self and seek to live for Him!

Let us also recall that Eucharistia, the Greek word from which we get our Eucharist, means thanksgiving. How appropriate that we still give thanks as a nation for all God has bestowed on us, especially considering that our nation’s soul continues to slide further and further from His rule, and we struggle with the temptation to self-rule our lives. Now would be a good time to examine just how completely Christ is our King.

We have many things to be thankful for this year: no hurricanes, a bountiful harvest, our many freedoms, peace from wars and terrorist attacks, the joy of our loved ones, and God’s gift of eternal life!

I will be out of state this week, beginning Tuesday, as my LA family joins my SC family for the holiday. Due to our priest shortage, we will offer Communion services for our regularly scheduled Masses on Tuesday and Friday. I’m attempting to secure a priest for a vigil Mass on Wednesday evening at 6:00 and offer the blessing of the bread and wine for your meals. As of my deadline for this letter (11/11), no priest has yet been arranged. If no priest is found, Deacon Paul will hold a communion service and bless your offerings. There will be no Mass or Communion service at noon on Wednesday.

God bless — and a happy Thanksgiving to all!

Fr. Eddie

Advent Is Coming: A Season of Waiting and Hope

Advent is a season of waiting and joyful expectation for Christmas— the celebration of the birth of Christ, the Nativity of Our Lord. This year, Advent begins on November 30 and concludes on the afternoon of December 24. During these four weeks leading up to Christmas, we prepare our homes and, more importantly, our hearts to welcome the Savior.

Advent also marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. It brings Ordinary Time to a close and invites us to begin anew—with hope, patience, and prayer—as we look forward to the coming of Christ in our lives and in our world.

May this Advent be a time of quiet reflection, renewed faith, and deepening love for God and one another.



Celebrate Thanksgiving at STM

Join us as we give thanks together!

St. Thomas More Parish will celebrate Thanksgiving with a 6:00 p.m. Vigil Mass on Wednesday, November 26.

Parishioners are invited to bring the bread or wine from their Thanksgiving meal for a special blessing.

The collection taken during this Mass will support the work of our St. Vincent de Paul Conference, an STM ministry that assists those in need within our community. Your generous contributions help provide rent assistance, food, and clothing to individuals and families in serious hardship. Thank you for your continued generosity toward this important Thanksgiving collection.



Please note:

- A communion service will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. on **Tuesday**, November 25.
- There will be no confessions or 12:00 noon Mass on **Wednesday**, November 26 – join us for the Thanksgiving vigil.
- There will be no confessions or Mass on Thanksgiving Day, **Thursday**, November 27
- A communion service will be held at 12:00 noon on **Friday**, November 28
- The parish office will be closed from Wednesday through Friday, November 26–28, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Happy Thanksgiving to all our parishioners and friends!



#iGIVECATHOLIC



WHAT

#iGiveCatholic on #Giving Tuesday is:

- A one day, 24 hour giving challenge.
- A global day of giving. It is a call to share our blessings with our Catholic parishes, schools and ministries.

WHY

This year, your iGiveCatholic gifts will help St. Thomas More create a safer and more secure environment for all who worship with us.

WHEN

#GivingTuesday is **December 2, 2025** (ADVANCE GIVING is Nov. 17 - Dec. 1)

HOW

DONATE ONLINE

- igivecatholic.org/organization/stmchurchbr

DONATE BY CHECK

- payable to STM Church and note *I Give Catholic* on the memo line

You're invited to our annual
Outdoor Movie Night
 hosted by the STM Knights of Columbus
 featuring the festive family favorite
Arthur Christmas!
Friday, December 5 @ 7:00 PM
STM Field



Join Arthur on his whirlwind mission to deliver the last Christmas present and celebrate the season with excitement, fun, and holiday wonder!

Watch the movie while enjoying hot dogs with fixings, popcorn, and hot cocoa!

Admission is free, but donations are strongly encouraged:

- Blankets, socks, gloves, scarves & knit hats for the Bishop Ott Homeless Shelter
- Nonperishable food items for the St. Paul Church's food pantry

Bring your blankets, chairs, and holiday spirit as we gather to share fun, community, and the joy of giving!



STM Angel Tree Project:
 Select an Angel this Weekend

Wrapped gifts should be returned to church or the church office by Dec. 7

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

Southeast Baton Rouge Coalition

St. Jean Vianney St. Thomas More St. Patrick

Men's ACTS Retreat #3: January 29 - February 1, 2026



Registration is now open!

Sign-up is First Come/First Served
Home Parish Preferences

Men's Registration Deadline: Sunday, Dec. 7 at midnight

Men's Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/Qn1vykyEYfuyVtRt6>

or scan qr code ----->



For questions, contact Kelly Serio, Retreat Director

Email: kbsmatt5@gmail.com

What is an ACTS Retreat?

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

ACTS is an acronym based on the activities and fruits of the retreat.

Adoration - Responding through prayer & worship to receiving God's gifts of grace, mercy, and love

Community - Participation in the One Body of Christ as Church

Theology - Deepening our relationship with God to better understand & fulfill His will for our lives

Service - Answering the call to discipleship by following the model Christ gave us.

The Retreat Experience

While utilizing prayer, service, and teaching, the ACTS Retreat meets people where they are in their spiritual journey and invited them to experience God in a manner that is both personal and communal. In this way, the ACTS Retreat fulfills the mission of "Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ among Catholic Communities through ACTS."

It's a Spiritual Reflection & Spiritual Surrender

The ACTS Retreat experience is rooted in the Pascal Mystery in that retreatants are invited to reflect on the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Throughout the weekend, they are invited to prayerfully consider how they can respond to His love by spiritually surrendering to Jesus to have new life with him.



You're Invited

ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION

Thursday, December 4
8:45 am Mass - Church
9:30 am Coffee Social - Activity Center
10:00 - 11:15 am Reflection
11:30 am Lunch

The STM Senior Ministry, 55 & Alive, invites you to Mass followed by prayer and reflection led by Deacon Paul Soileau. Attendees are encouraged to bring a Bible. An early Christmas meal and fellowship will be enjoyed after the reflection.

Registration is required by December 1. Use the form below to register, or call the church office at 225.275.3940.

"Advent, this powerful liturgical season, invites us to pause in silence to understand a presence."
— Pope Benedict XVI



NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

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

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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)

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Earl J. Bulot the week of Nov. 23 as requested by Mudean Bulot.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Nov. 25 - 6 p.m.: *Communion Service*

Wednesday, Nov. 26 - 6 p.m.: STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors

Thursday, Nov. 27 - 8:45 a.m.: *No Mass*

Friday, Nov. 28 - 12 p.m.: *Communion Service*

Saturday, Nov. 29 - 4:30 p.m.: Lynette Harelson

Sunday, Nov. 30 - 8 a.m.: Ricky Metz III; **10 a.m.:** STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors; **5 p.m.:** Mark Midboe, Lou and Emery Bares

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