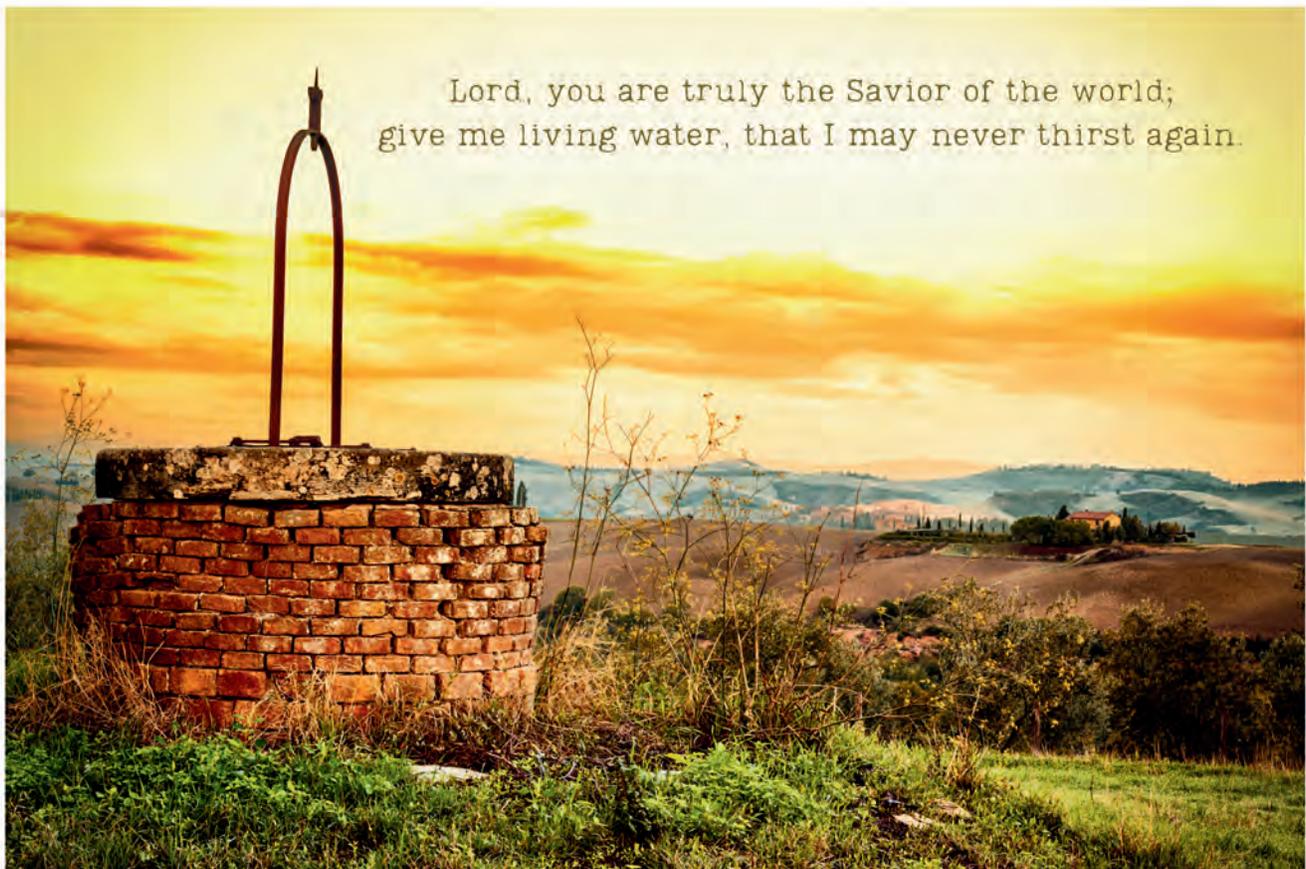




ST THOMAS  
MORE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

March 8, 2026 | VOLUME 56 NUMBER 10 | Third Sunday of Lent



# A Letter From Our Pastor

## A SAFE AND HOLY JOURNEY THIS LENT



**Side Door Locking:** Next weekend, we will begin locking our side doors once Mass begins. This is out of an overabundance of caution, as experts have advised me that we are most vulnerable to someone with ill intent entering through our side door entrances. The main doors will remain open. There has been no threat, and I'm guessing the odds of an occurrence are one in a billion, but I could never forgive myself if it happened one day and I had failed to implement this simple safety procedure.

**Woman at the Well:** One of the issues that impedes some of us from accepting our role as God's arms and legs is a feeling of unworthiness, especially due to past mistakes or sins we've committed. Here is a woman who was an outcast even among outcasts — the "bottom of the barrel" in first-century Judaism: a reviled Samaritan who was reviled even among and by the Samaritans. She had been through five husbands and was currently living with a man who was not her husband — unacceptable even to the pagan-laden morality of her fellow Samaritans.

And yet, Jesus chooses her to be the apostle who will announce and introduce salvation to all those who detest her and look down upon her. Notice how gently her transformation comes about. She first sees Him as a man, a despised Jew. Then she sees Him as a prophet and, finally, as the promised Messiah. By the end of their interaction, she, who had been so scorned and isolated, is running into town and sharing her discovery, bursting with excitement that crushes her previous guilt and low self-esteem.

Also notice, as with the woman caught in adultery, Jesus doesn't sidestep her sins. He doesn't tell her, "I'm OK, you're OK," as our society pressures us to do today. He does judge her actions, but doesn't allow her actions to define her or alter His love for her. He forgives her and inspires her to move forward and save her entire town.

Like the woman at the well, God has great things in store for each of us. What is He calling you to?

A holy and safe transformation to each of you this Lent!

Blessings,  
*Fr. Eddie*



## Fish Fry Friday!

March 13, 2026

5-5:30 pm | Act. Ctr. Drive-thru

5:30-7:30 | Cafeteria Dine-in

\$10/fried fish, fries, cole slaw, roll

cash, check and Venmo

DIVINE MERCY  
CHAPLET NOVENA  
FOLLOWING 6PM MASS  
TUESDAYS THRU APR. 7

STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
FRIDAYS IN LENT  
5:30 PM

## 45th Annual St. Thomas More Parish Festival

Eagles Ranch – The Way, Truth, & The Life

May 1, 2 & 3, 2026

### Festival Season Is Here – Preorder Your Merchandise Today!

Our parish festival is just around the corner, and we can't wait to celebrate together! Be sure to visit the official festival website to preorder this year's festival merchandise.

Preordering online is the best way to guarantee the items and sizes you want. Ordering in advance also helps us prepare and ensures a smooth pickup process.

#### 👉 Visit the festival website to:

- View this year's exclusive festival shirts and merchandise
- Choose your sizes and styles
- Place your secure preorder
- Find event details, schedules, and volunteer information

Only limited sizes and quantities will be available after preorders close, so we strongly encourage everyone to order through the website.

Thank you for your continued support — we look forward to a wonderful festival together!



[stmfestival.com](http://stmfestival.com)



SPONSORED BY FESTIVAL CAJAN BOOTH

FESTIVAL 2026

# Pastalaya Fundraiser

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026  
ACTIVITY CENTER • 9 AM - 12 NOON  
CARRY OUT

CHICKEN, PORK &  
SAUSAGE PASTALAYA,  
WHITE BEANS, ROLL  
\$10/DINNER

NEW THIS YEAR:  
BOUDIN EGG ROLLS  
2 FOR \$4

PRESALES: [STMBR.ORG/NEWS/PASTALAYA](http://STMBR.ORG/NEWS/PASTALAYA)  
AND SOLD AT THE DOOR



# ST. JOSEPH ALTAR

March 19th, 2026

*Come celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph*

**STM Activity Center**

**9:30 - 5:00 pm**

Altar blessing @ 10:00 am



## St. Joseph Feast Day Schedule

**8:45 AM | Daily Mass  
(Church)**

**9:30 AM | Fellowship After  
Mass (Coffee Shop)**

**10:00 AM | Altar Blessing  
(Parish Hall)**

**10:00 AM – 5:00 PM | Public  
Viewing & Devotion**

**11:00 AM – 1:00 PM |  
Traditional St. Joseph Gravy  
Lunch Served**

## St. Joseph Altar Remembrance

A Remembrance Table will be included at the St. Joseph Altar to honor loved ones who are no longer with us.

Families are invited to bring a framed photo of their loved one. Please write your name on the back of the frame and drop it off at the church office by Tuesday, March 17.

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

We are happy to promote the following events sponsored within our Diocese. These opportunities strengthen our wider Church community and offer meaningful ways to grow in faith and fellowship. For complete details, contact the event host.

- **Tenebrau - A Sacred Concert of Scripture and Song** - Wednesday, April 1, Grace Episcopal Church, St. Francisville, 7 pm; tickets: \$25. Co-sponsored by Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, [www.felicianacatholic.org](http://www.felicianacatholic.org)
- **One Day Retreat for Men and Women**, Presented by Jesse Romero - St. Agnes Catholic Church, Tuesday, March 28, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm (w/lunch), \$40/person. Retreat topics: Catholic Evangelization Marriage and Family, Spiritual Leadership in Families, [www.stagnesbr.com](http://www.stagnesbr.com)
- **The Catholic Church and Marriage: The Call to Holiness and Sexual Ethics**, Presented by Dr. Brian Pedraza - Thursday, May 14, St. George Catholic Church Activity Center, 6 - 8 pm; registration required: [diobr.org/rlc-event](http://diobr.org/rlc-event)

**Lenten Day of Adoration –  
Spend Time with Our Lord**

During this Lenten season, we are invited to draw closer to Christ in the Eucharist. Our parish will have a **Day of Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament in the church on **Thursday, Mar. 26**, a time to step away from daily life and spend quiet prayer with our Lord.

We are seeking committed adorers to sign up for time slots, **9:30 am - 6 pm**, so that Jesus is never left unattended. Even one hour is a powerful act of love—and if you cannot commit to a full hour, come when you can, even for a few minutes.

Sign up online using the link below, or call the church office. Let us respond generously to His invitation.

[stmbr.org/news/adoration](http://stmbr.org/news/adoration)



*“Could you not watch with me one hour?”  
(Matthew 26:40)*

**SANCTUARY LIGHTS**

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Ernest Bonaccorso Jr. the week of Mar. 8, as requested by the Bonaccorso family.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Tuesday, Mar. 10 - 6 p.m.:** Thomas Webre, Harold Sillinger, Pauline Evangeline Staempfli Morgan
- Wednesday, Mar. 11 - 12 p.m.:** Roy Tucker
- Thursday, Mar. 12 - 8:45 a.m.:** Susan Ricaud
- Friday, Mar. 13 - 6 p.m.:** Martha Belton
- Saturday, Mar. 14 - 4:30 p.m.:** Ernest Bonaccorso Jr.
- Sunday, Mar. 15 - 8 a.m.:** STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors; **10 a.m.:** Mark Midboe, Mickey Deville, Fr. Tom Duhé, Thomas Webre, Frank DePaula; **5 p.m.:** Holy Souls in Purgatory

**PRAYER LIST**

**FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL**

Please remember in your prayers the following persons: Louis LaBauve, Margot Murphy, Laurie Bolanos, Becky Cline, Laura Chapman, Tim Bonin, Joe Bonin, Kathie, Mark Landry, Margaret Minton

**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](mailto: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  
(Add/edit: [receptionist@stmbr.org](mailto:receptionist@stmbr.org).)

**MOBILE BLOOD DRIVE**

**ST THOMAS MORE**  
**March 15, 2026**  
**8AM-12PM**

I'm kind of a  
**BIG DILL**  
I donated blood

All Donors Receive a Free T-Shirt  
For additional information about donating please call 225-765-8843  
OR TEXT OLOL BLOOD DONOR CENTER AT 999-777

**OUR LADY OF THE LAKE**  
Blood Donor Center

## 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

STM MEN'S CLUB

# SPORTSMAN RAFFLE

**\$20 DONATION**  
8 CHANCES TO WIN WITH ONE TICKET

**DRAWING: FRIDAY, MARCH 27**  
**6 PM - AT THE LENTEN FISH FRY**  
**-WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT-**

**FOR PRIZE & TICKET INFORMATION:**  
**EMAIL STMBRMENSCLUB@GMAIL.COM**

Firearms provided by Precision Firearms & Indoor Range  
**-CASH VALUE OPTION AVAILABLE-**

## MEN DOING MORE



## ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

11441 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70815

stmbr.org | Office Phone: 225-275-3940

Office Hours:

Mon.- Thurs.: 8 am - 12 pm and 1 - 5 pm;

Fri.: 8 a.m. - 12 pm

### DAILY MASSES

Tuesday: 6:00 pm

Wednesday: 12 noon (Rosary @ 11:30 am)

Thursday: 8:45 am

Friday: 12 noon (6 pm during Lent)

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm Vigil; Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, and 5 pm

### RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays of Lent from 5:00 - 5:45 pm

Wednesdays from 11:15 - 11:45 am

Thursdays from 8:00 - 8:30 am

Saturdays from 3:15 - 4:15 pm

- and by appointment -

### Emergencies After Hours:

Please call 225.275.3940 and follow voicemail instructions

## Stay connected!



STM website: [stmbr.org](http://stmbr.org)



[facebook.com/stmchurchbr](https://facebook.com/stmchurchbr)



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



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

# SIGMA

ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS

PROCESS  
ELECTRICAL  
MECHANICAL/PIPING  
TECHNICAL STAFFING  
INSTRUMENTATION

LEADERSHIP SOLUTIONS  
FIELD SERVICES  
AUTOMATION

LASER SCANNING  
CIVIL/STRUCTURAL  
CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT  
LAND SURVEYING  
PROCUREMENT

225-810-3100

www.sigmaec.com



Plumbing • Heating • Repairs  
225-927-6520  
est. 1960



George J  
Schwartzburg, MD  
12351 Industriplex Blvd  
926-4400



## RESTHAVEN

GARDENS OF MEMORY & FUNERAL HOME

225-753-1440

www.resthavenbatonrouge.com



## Quality Car Care Center

GOODYEAR



11442 N. Harrells Ferry Rd.

273-2955

## Premier Eyecare & Optical



Comprehensive Eyecare,  
Glasses & Contact Lenses

1 HR. GLASSES 246-8830

ERIC THAI, Doctor of Optometry

www.PremierEyecareOptical.com

Corner of Sherwood at Old Hammond



## Salon James

PAMPERING YOU  
IN ELEGANCE

NAIL • SPA SERVICES • HAIR  
VIP MEMBERSHIPS  
MEN'S LOUNGE • PEDICURE  
WAX • FACIALS/SKIN CARE

20% OFF hair, nails & lashes  
with this ad.

thesalonjames.com

9636 Airline Hwy Ste A4 • 225-636-2220

## O'Neal Food Mart

2863 O'Neal Lane

225-465-3289

## Valero Gas Station

We Serve Breakfast,  
Lunch, Seafood through  
Drive-Thru

Same Day Appointments!



Trans Dental Care  
GENERAL DENTISTRY

HOANG V. TRAN, DDS  
LIEN VU, DDS

10914 Old Hammond Hwy.

Baton Rouge

(225) 615-7334

www.transdentalcarebr.com

- Restorative • Cosmetic
- Oral Surgery
- Endodontics • Pediatric
- Periodontal Treatment
- Sedation Dentistry



225-281-0933

Residential and Commercial Construction

YOUR DESIGN/BUILD GENERAL CONSTRUCTION FIRM

# ELVINDO

CONSTRUCTION LLC

LICENSED & INSURED

(225) 235-8441 | EPARCH08@HOTMAIL.COM

# Humana

Linda Bynum

Sales Representative

bynuminsurance@outlook.com

225-933-0726



DANIEL PALM, DDS  
ALLISON LANSRY, DDS | CATHERINE NEUSSETER, DDS



Baton Rouge | 7604 Goodwood Blvd | 927-7545

Prairieville | 40398 Highway 42 | 622-2545

palmfamilydentistry.com

## IF YOU LIVE ALONE

MDMedAlert!

✓ Ambulance/Police

✓ Family/Friends

✓ GPS & Fall Alert

As Low As

\$19<sup>95</sup> mo.

CALL NOW!

800.808.9294

md-medalert.com



## FERGUSON'S TREE CARE, LLC



- LICENSED ARBORIST
- TREE REMOVAL
- PRUNING
- STUMP GRINDING

225-278-1774

FULLY INSURED  
COMPETITIVE PRICES



Baton Rouge General  
Physicians  
BRGeneral.org

763-4500

8333 GOODWOOD BLVD.

Amanda Watts, MD

Daniel Daire, FNP

Timothy Bella, MD

Shelby Mougeot, FNP

## Regain Control of your Heartbeat

Dr. Mark Pollet, MD, FACC, a leading cardiac electrophysiologist, specializes in diagnosing and treating arrhythmias. Experience personalized care and get back to living your life.

(225) 769-0933

www.BRCardiology.com

8888 Summa Avenue • Baton Rouge



BATON ROUGE  
CARDIOLOGY CENTER



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

St. Thomas More, Baton Rouge, LA

B 4C 05-1276

## STEMMANS AND ALLEY, PLLC

Attorneys and Counselors At Law  
M. Todd Alley (Parishioner)  
2798 O'Neal Lane, Ste. B-3 752-5266

**Sal's Electric, Inc.**  
Licensed • Bonded • Insured  
Commercial • Residential  
225-664-1787 | SalsElectricInc.com

## ROOF LEAKING?



- Repairs
- Roof Replacement
- Gutters

**FREE ESTIMATES**

(225) 930-4930 | www.midcityroofing.com

**NOW HIRING  
MAINTENANCE TECH!**

REGENCY CLUB • SPRING BROOK

**JOIN OUR  
TEAM!**

1STLAKE.com/Jobs

504.455.5059



**NOW OPEN!  
SHERWOOD**  
**URGENT CARE**  
Hrs: Mon-Fri 10am-8pm  
Sat & Sun 8am-6pm  
225-256-5888  
Now accepting primary care  
Walk in or schedule your  
appointment online at:  
SherwoodUrgentCareBR.com

**Clegg's Nursery**  
Our Business is Knowing  
The Business of Growing  
5696 Siegen Lane (225) 292-9153

**Add violin music  
to your event**  
Weddings • Funerals  
Private Gatherings  
**Music by Skyler**  
mactdm32@gmail.com

**WE COMPARED  
OUR OPTIONS!  
WE CHOSE  
CHURCH.**  
Church Funeral Services & Crematory  
remains locally and family-owned, offering  
quality funeral services & cremation at an  
affordable price.  
**CHURCH  
FUNERAL**  
SERVICES & CREMATORY  
225-686-9663  
225-275-4014  
225-293-4714  
Baton Rouge

**PASSION**  
Specializing in  
COLOR • CUTS • HI-LITES • WAXING  
UPDOs • KERATIN TREATMENT  
BRAZILIAN BLOW CUT  
HAIR EXTENSIONS • BAYLAGE  
JAPANESE STRAIGHTENING  
PERMS • RELAXERS • MAKE-UP  
EYELASH EXTENSIONS  
We offer Bridal Party & Prom Packages  
225-275-2424  
13559 Old Hammond Hwy,  
Ste A, BATON ROUGE, LA 70816  
BRING THIS AD IN FOR  
20% DISCOUNT  
(new clients only)  
FREE EYEBROW WAX WITH REFERRAL

**TODD CARUSO**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW, LLC.  
233 Capitol Street  
Denham Springs, LA 70726  
225-271-4941  
Todd Caruso, Parishioner

**TruBlueWater**  
TRU HYDRATION AT ITS FINEST  
225-313-1299  
www.trubluewater.com

**Fourrier  
Insurance Agency**  
Since 1946  
383-0682  
4275 Government St.

**GWEN UYEN LE - REALTOR®**  
(225) 405-7463  
(225) 412-9962 Ext. #156  
Gwen.Le @eXpRealty.com  
GwenLe.eXpRealty.com  
License # 995709638  
Languages: English & Vietnamese

**SUPPORT OUR  
ADVERTISERS!**

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
Place Your Ad Here  
and Support Our Parish!  
**CONTACT ME Sean Altenberger**  
Saltenberger@4LPi.com • (800) 950-9952 x2166

**Hinabor**  
Your Homegrown Supermarket  
Since 1965  
9620 Florida Blvd.  
927-5450  
5383 Jones Creek Road  
751-3380  
www.hinabor.com

**LEGACY  
TITLE**  
SPECIAL PRICING FOR  
ST. THOMAS MORE  
PARISHIONERS!  
**Natalie & Bradford Smith**  
Parishioners, Real Estate Attorneys  
225.296.0060  
Buying, Building or Refinancing  
You have the right to choose  
your own title company!  
Locations in Baton Rouge,  
Prairieville, & Lafayette  
**CREATING A LEGACY. one CLOSING at a time.**

**SHERWOOD**  
TELEVISIONS & APPLIANCES  
SALES & SERVICE  
MINI STORAGE  
LOUIS S. RUFFINO, JR.  
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1969  
11756 Florida Blvd.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70815  
225-275-6900  
www.sherwoodtvandappliances.com

Visit our Gerry Lane managers  
Craig Azar, General Manager  
or Keioike Lutchter,  
General Sales Manager  
to purchase your next  
Buick or GMC!  
gerrylanebuickgmc.com  
**YUKON DENALI**

**SOUTHERN  
FASTENER &  
TOOL CO.**  
Arnold Saucier  
9440 Mammoth Dr.  
927-3333  
"Nobody Does It Better"

**ECI Maintenance**  
Residential & Commercial  
• Home Improvement  
• Lawn Maintenance  
• Fencing  
• Painting  
Follow Us   
225-929-1369

**Gerry Lane**  
**BUICK** **GMC**  
WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE