



May 10, 2026 | VOLUME 56 NUMBER 19 | Sixth Sunday of Easter

*May the blessing of the  
Divine be a radiant  
benediction upon all mothers  
everywhere on this blessed  
Mother's Day*

A photograph showing a child's hand on the left holding a pink carnation flower, reaching towards a woman's hand on the right. The woman's hand is open, palm up, as if to receive the flower. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and brown.

Happy  
*Mother's*  
Day

# A Letter From Our Pastor



## Miracles and Moms

Today, we celebrate our moms, surely one of God's greatest ideas in all creation. On Wednesday, we celebrate the first apparition of Our Blessed Mother in Fatima, Portugal. In October 1917, one of the most well-witnessed and documented miracles of all time, the Miracle of the Sun, occurred. It spun around, appeared to dance, and rapidly approached the Earth, only to recede back to its original distance. Many witnessed it changing colors. Some estimated the crowd that witnessed this miracle at 70,000, including newspaper reporters who documented it.

I've read that up to 8 million pilgrims visit Fatima each year. As amazing as the miracle that occurred there is, I find God's hand at work all around us in some very common ways. Most of us miss miracles that occur regularly, such as the creation of human life. Yet the more we learn about our bodies, the more miraculous we appear. How unfathomable is the work of God we take for granted?

Another miracle is that of the love of moms. What a critical and essential experience it is. Your whole world is changed—especially your priorities. It is not uncommon for women who have even walked away from God and His Church, risking their salvation, to return in awe after giving birth. They might have been willing to put their own eternal destination on the line, but they aren't about to place their children in jeopardy. And we've all heard countless stories of moms giving their lives for their children. I personally witnessed a mom who had escaped a burning house return inside to search for a daughter who, unknown to her, had exited out of the back of the house. Her heroism, love, and concern for her daughter ended her earthly life that day but made a lasting impression on my life and all who witnessed it.

My thanks to all you moms out there, the glue that keeps our families and society together. For centuries, God used prophets to make His love known to us. Now He uses Momma Mary and our own mothers. Let us be sure to express our love for the miracles of our own mothers while we can.

And many, many thanks to the Uffmans and all the others who gave so much of their time, talents, and treasures this past weekend to make our Festival such a joyous and prosperous event.

***Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Blessings,

*Fr. Eddie*

*Thank You*

With grateful hearts, we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who made our parish festival such a joyful success!

To our many volunteers—your time, energy, and generosity brought every detail to life. From planning and setup to food and games, your dedication made the weekend truly special.

We offer special thanks to our Festival Chair, Connor Uffman, and the entire festival committee for their leadership, vision, and countless hours of work behind the scenes. Your commitment made this event possible.

A special thank you to our generous sponsors—your support and partnership were a true blessing to our parish community.

And to all who came out to support and enjoy the weekend—thank you for being part of our parish family and sharing in the fun and fellowship.

We are truly blessed by each of you!



# 55 & ALIVE BUS TRIP TO GRAND COUTEAU Tuesday, June 2, 2026

## TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- **St. Charles Borromeo Church – Guided Visit** – A stop at the historic St. Charles Borromeo Church in Grand Coteau offers a peaceful glimpse into Louisiana’s rich Catholic heritage. Dating back to the 19th century, the church is known for its beautiful architecture, serene grounds, and its connection to the miraculous healing of Mary Wilson. Visitors can explore the sacred space, learn about its history, and enjoy a quiet moment of reflection in this cherished landmark.
- **Academy of the Sacred Heart – Guided Tour & Mass** – A tour of the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau highlights its long-standing tradition of education and faith. Established in 1821, the campus features picturesque grounds, historic architecture, and a legacy that continues to inspire today. Fr. Eddie will celebrate Mass in the chapel.
- **Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto Replica – Prayer Stop** – A visit to the Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto replica in Grand Coteau offers a quiet, prayerful experience. Surrounded by natural beauty, this peaceful site invites reflection and provides a meaningful connection to one of the world’s most beloved pilgrimage traditions.

## PROPOSED ITINERARY

*(departure time confirmed)*

7:45 am	Board Bus at STM
8:00 am	Bus Departs
9:30 am	St. Charles Borromeo Church Tour
10:05 am	Board bus
10:15 am	Academy of the Sacred Heart Tour
11:45 am	Mass in school chapel
12:20 pm	Board bus
12:30 pm	Lunch at Big Hill Café
2:00 pm	Board bus
2:10 pm	Grotto Replica tour
2:40 pm	Board bus for return trip to STM

## \$65.00 includes Lunch

*Payment accepted in exact cash or check (made payable to St. Thomas More Church).*

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**Registration deadline: May 26**

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*You are warmly invited to join us in praying the Rosary on the first and third Sundays of each month at 9:30 am, just before the 10 am Mass.*

*In this prayer, we meditate on the mysteries of Christ's life through the loving intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, drawing closer to her Son and preparing our hearts more fully for the Eucharist.*

### STM Youth Gathering – May 15

Calling all STM 5th–8th graders! Join us in the Activity Center on Friday, May 15, for an afternoon of fun, friendship, and faith.

The gathering will begin at 3:15 pm and end at 4:25 pm. Pickup begins at 4:30 pm. Guardians should park and come inside the Activity Center to pick up their child. Snacks will be provided.

STM students returning to extended care should check in with Gretchen and then proceed to the Activity Center. They will be escorted back to extended care when the event concludes. Students being picked up from the Activity Center do not need to check in with Gretchen.

A waiver must be on file to participate. If you submitted one last year, you do not need to complete another.

**Entrance fee: one canned or dry good for our monthly food drive.**

Registration is required to attend and will close on May 14 at 8:00 am. Please visit [stmbr.org/news/youth](http://stmbr.org/news/youth) to register.



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### SANCTUARY LIGHTS

The sanctuary lights in the church and in the chapel will burn in memory of Thomas Kleinpeter the week of May 10, as requested by Woman's Hospital Labor and Delivery Unit.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Tuesday, May 12 - 6 p.m.:** Bradley Jenkins, Baby Fischer, Myrtle Joyner; Special Intention: Lucy Machina

**Wednesday, May 13 - 12 p.m.:** Deceased Members of 3<sup>rd</sup> Order of Mary

**Thursday, May 14 - 8:45 a.m.:** Holy Souls in Purgatory

**Friday, May 15 - 12 p.m.:** Holy Souls in Purgatory

**Saturday, May 16 - 4:30 p.m.:** STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors

**Sunday, May 17 - 8 a.m.:** Deceased Members of Rose Rabalais Family, Lucy Lemoine, Harold John Cannon, Dang Van Xuyen, Chu Van Tran and Choe Thi Le, Anna Huong Nguyen, Anna Tua Nguyen, Baby Fischer;

**10 a.m.:** Marie Schittone; **5 p.m.:** Onelio Sotolongo

### PRAYER LIST

#### FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL

Kindly remember in your prayers the following individuals who are seriously ill: Louis LaBauve, Becky Cline, Tim Bonnin, Joe Bonnin

#### 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, MASA Landry Helmke, E-5 David Meyers, SGT Nicholas Lee, SSgt Carlos Burn, CPO John W. Arceneaux (Add/edit: [receptionist@stmbr.org](mailto:receptionist@stmbr.org).)

## Happy Mother's Day: 10 pope quotes on the significance of motherhood

A mother's love for her child reflects God's love for each and every human person, according to previous popes of the Catholic Church. Throughout the years, these Church leaders have recognized the importance of the mothers in our lives, including the mother we all share, Mary, Mother of God.

For Mother's Day, here are 10 quotes from the last five popes (before Pope Leo XIV) providing insight into the meaning of motherhood:

1. "Thank you, women who are mothers! You have sheltered human beings within yourselves in a unique experience of joy and travail. This experience makes you become God's own smile upon the newborn child, the one who guides your child's first steps, who helps it to grow, and who is the anchor as the child makes its way along the journey of life."  
—Pope St. John Paul II, in his letter to women, June 29, 1995
2. "A society without mothers would be a dehumanized society, for mothers are always, even in the worst moments, witnesses of tenderness, dedication and moral strength. ... Dearest mothers, thank you, thank you for what you are in your family and for what you give to the Church and the world."  
—Pope Francis, during his general audience on Jan. 7, 2015
3. "The presence of a mother within the family is so important for the stability and growth of this fundamental cell of society, that it should be recognized, commended and supported in every possible way."  
—Pope Benedict XVI, in an address during his apostolic journey to Cameroon and Angola, March 22, 2009
4. "Always remember that by her children a mother belongs to that future which perhaps she will not see."  
—Pope St. Paul VI, in his address to women on Dec. 8, 1965
5. "My mother used to tell me when I was a boy: 'When you were little, you were very ill. I had to take you from one doctor to another and watch over you whole nights; do you believe me?' How could I have said: 'I don't believe you, Mamma?' 'Of course I believe, I believe what you tell me, but I believe especially in you.' And so it is in faith. It is not just a question of believing in the things that God revealed, but in him who deserves our faith, who has loved us so much and done so much for our sake."  
—Blessed Pope John Paul I, during his general audience on Sept. 13, 1978
6. "Motherhood involves a special communion with the mystery of life ... . In the light of the 'beginning,' the mother accepts and loves as a person the child she is carrying in her womb. This unique contact with the new human being developing within her gives rise to an attitude towards human beings — not only towards her own child, but every human being — which profoundly marks the woman's personality."  
— Pope St. John Paul II, in his apostolic letter, *Mulieris Dignitatem*, Aug. 15, 1988
7. "With great affection I urge all future mothers: Keep happy and let nothing rob you of the interior joy of motherhood. Your child deserves your happiness. Don't let fears, worries, other people's comments or problems lessen your joy at being God's means of bringing a new life to the world."  
— Pope Francis, in his post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, March 19, 2016
8. "A mother joins with God to bring forth the miracle of a new life."  
— Pope Francis, in his post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, March 19, 2016
9. "(T)here is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life ... . Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those 'brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves.'"  
— Pope St. John Paul II, in his encyclical, *Evangelium Vitae*, March 25, 1995
10. "(W)e are the objects of undying love on the part of God. We know: He has always his eyes open on us, even when it seems to be dark. He is our father; even more he is our mother. He does not want to hurt us, he wants only to do good to us, to all of us. If children are ill, they have additional claim to be loved by their mother. And we too, if by chance we are sick with badness, on the wrong track, have yet another claim to be loved by the Lord."  
— Blessed Pope John Paul I, during the Angelus on Sept. 10, 1978



*by Katie Yuker, Our Sunday Visitor*

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## OUR PARISH FAMILY

### IN SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt condolences and prayers to our cantor, Stephanie Schiro, and her family as they mourn the loss of her father, **Jeremy Schiro**. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

**Fall 2026 Confirmation Registration for 7th and 8th graders is open and will close on July 17. Parents are asked to please note that a mandatory parent meeting will be held on July 26, 2026. Visit [stmbr.org/news/confirmation](https://stmbr.org/news/confirmation) to register.**

### Monthly Food Collection – Next Weekend!

As part of our ongoing effort to support the food pantry at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, we invite you to bring canned goods and non-perishable staples to Mass next weekend, May 16-17.

Please place your donations in the storage bench at the back of the church. Every item helps make a difference in someone's life. Thank you for your continued generosity and compassion! 

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:** *In a caring environment dedicated to celebrating the Catholic faith and modeling the life of Jesus Christ, St. Thomas More Church provides worship, education, ministerial and social opportunities for the spiritual growth of the parish family.*

## Stay connected!



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



Sign up for the e-newsletter on our parish website, under [Links/Resources](#)



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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  
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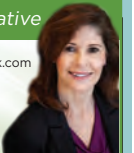
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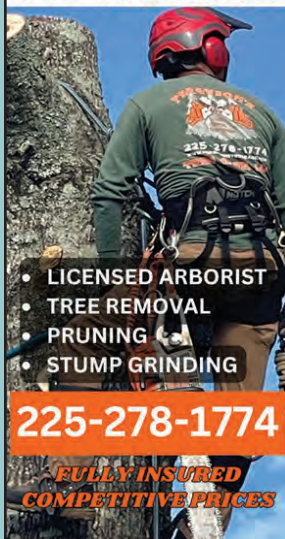
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