



June 14, 2026 | VOLUME 56 NUMBER 24 | Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

The  
harvest is  
abundant  
but the  
laborers  
are few;  
so ask the  
master  
of the  
harvest  
to send out  
laborers  
for his  
harvest.

# *A Letter From Our Summer Seminarian*



I'd like to extend my gratitude to Father Eddie, the staff, and all the parishioners of St. Thomas More for making me feel so welcome during my first week at STM.

I had a feeling I would enjoy this assignment when I got to skip work on my first day to go on a field trip! The group that made the trip was called 55 and Alive, and since I happen to be a 57-year-old seminarian, I fit right in. We made a micro-pilgrimage to Grand Coteau and visited the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, the Academy of the Sacred Heart, and the Shrine of St. John Berchmans. We have deep Catholic roots here in South Louisiana, and it's always inspiring to be reminded of that.

This week I also got to watch *The Chosen* with the Catholic Daughters, eat crawfish with the Men's Club and the Knights of Columbus, and shadow Father Eddie as he shepherds his flock. Everyone I have met has been so warm and welcoming. I'm looking forward to spending the summer here with all of you and getting to know you better.

What an honor it was for me and my fellow seminarians, Aeli Poydras and Grant Caillouet, to serve at James—excuse me, Father James Vu's—Mass of Thanksgiving this past Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. We didn't have time to rehearse, so it was a lot to put together at the last minute, but everything went smoothly. We filled the sanctuary with two priests, two deacons, three seminarians, and two young altar servers, who did a great job considering they didn't even know what they were walking into that morning!

On the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, or Corpus Christi as it used to be called, Father James gave a beautiful homily connecting the Eucharist to worship. In his closing remarks, he called me, Aeli, and Grant to the front of the sanctuary by name and encouraged everyone to pray for vocations.

That makes an interesting connection with this week's Gospel reading (Matt. 9:36–10:8), where Jesus summons His twelve apostles by name and sends them to the lost sheep of Israel. Yes, it's certainly true that we need more shepherds, but we also need more sheep. It's tragic how many people have left our beautiful Catholic faith over the last few decades. I should know—I was one of them.

The good news is that, for the first time in a long time, the Catholic Church is growing. Praise God! At least in the United States, we're seeing significant numbers of adults converting to the faith or, like me, returning to it. We don't have to become missionaries and travel to distant lands to evangelize. There are lost sheep right here among us, and a few of them are probably walking through the doors of St. Thomas More Church in Baton Rouge.

Let's remember that opportunities for evangelization are everywhere, even inside the church itself. And one of the simplest ways to evangelize is with a smile or a warm greeting.

Thank you, all of you, for the warm welcome you have given me. I am very happy that I get to spend the summer with you.

God bless,

*Ryan*



**REMINDER: Father Eddie will offer a presentation on the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist on **Wednesday, June 17, at 6:00 p.m. in the church.** The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith, where Christ Himself remains truly present among us in the Blessed Sacrament. All parishioners are invited to attend and deepen their love for this great gift.**

## FEAST OF ST. THOMAS MORE CELEBRATION

Please join us on Monday, June 22, as we celebrate the Feast of St. Thomas More, patron of our parish.

The evening will begin with a special Feast Day Mass at 6:00 pm, where we will join the Church in commemorating St. Thomas More, giving thanks to God for the grace manifested in his life, and seeking his intercession.



Following Mass, we will gather in the Activity Center to watch *A Man for All Seasons*, the Academy Award–winning film that tells the story of St. Thomas More's steadfast faith, integrity, and courage during one of the most challenging periods of his life.

A devoted husband, father, lawyer, scholar, and public servant, St. Thomas More remained faithful to Christ and to a conscience formed by his faith even when doing so cost him his position, his freedom, and ultimately his life. His example continues to inspire Catholics today as we seek to live our faith with conviction, wisdom, and charity in our families, workplaces, and communities.

As our parish patron, St. Thomas More continues to guide and inspire us through his example of faith, integrity, and courage. This celebration offers a wonderful opportunity to deepen our appreciation of his life and legacy and to reflect on how his witness can guide us in our own discipleship.

Refreshments will be served. We encourage all parishioners, families, and friends to attend and share in this special feast day celebration.

**Monday, June 22**

**Feast Day Mass: 6:00 PM**

**Film Showing Immediately Following Mass**

*Pray for us, St. Thomas More, that we may be people of faith, integrity, and courage.*

**Please note: The Knights of Columbus Chicken Dinner originally scheduled for June 21 has been moved to Sunday, July 19.**

### Vocation Talk by Summer Seminarian Ryan Gaudet

The parish is warmly invited to join us for the 6:00 p.m. Mass on Tuesday, **June 30**, and remain afterward for a special presentation by our summer seminarian, Ryan Gaudet, as he shares his vocation story. A light reception will follow in the Activity Center.

Ryan will reflect on how God has worked in his life and what led him to discern a call to the priesthood. This is a wonderful opportunity for parishioners of all ages to hear a personal witness of faith, discernment, and trust in the Lord's guidance.

The evening is sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, whose continued support of vocations and spiritual growth enriches our parish community.

We encourage everyone to attend Mass and stay afterward to hear this inspiring witness of faith, and to keep Ryan and all those discerning vocations in your prayers.



### MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION: JUNE 20-21

Summer can be a difficult time for families struggling to make ends meet. With school out, many children no longer have access to the breakfasts and lunches they receive during the school year. As you shop this week, please consider picking up a few extra nonperishable food items for our parish food collection. Your donations help stock the food pantry at St. Paul the Apostle Parish, providing much-needed support to families in the Gus Young community and reminding them that they are not alone.

### HELP Save the LIVES of BABIES!

YOU can HELP Save the LIVES of Babies by supporting the Pregnancy Problem Center's **Baby Bottle Campaign** to be held at Masses **June 20-21**. Baby Bottles containing a written message from the Pregnancy Problem Center will be available to take home, pray for the at-risk unborn babies, and then return the bottle with your donation to church the following weekend, June 27-28. Your generosity will help the Pregnancy Problem Center save the LIVES of BABIES! Checks made payable to Pregnancy Problem Center will be accepted. Questions? Call 924.1400 or visit [pregnancyproblemcenterbr.com](http://pregnancyproblemcenterbr.com). Online donations: [pregnancyproblemcenterbr.com/donate/](http://pregnancyproblemcenterbr.com/donate/)



### SANCTUARY LIGHTS

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Joseph B. Richard Sr. the week June 14, as requested by Shelley Dedeaux.

### MASS INTENTIONS

**Tuesday, Jun. 16 - 6 p.m.:** Adolph Sorina, Dang Van Xuyen, Ngac Van Tran and Tin Thi Nguyen, Chu Van Tran and Choe Thi Le

**Wednesday, Jun. 17 - 12 p.m.:** Olepty Bonaventure

**Thursday, Jun. 18 - 8:45 a.m.:** Betty Speyrer

**Friday, Jun. 19 - 12 p.m.:** Lynn Dufrene

**Saturday, Jun. 20 - 4:30 p.m.:** For All Fathers, Living and Deceased

**Sunday, Jun. 21 - 8 a.m.:** For All Fathers, Living and Deceased;

**10 a.m.:** For All Fathers, Living and Deceased; **5 p.m.:** For All Fathers, Living and Deceased

### 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))

# ST THOMAS MORE G.A.L.S.

Give A Little Service



## WHAT WE DO:

- ♡ Pray Together
- ♡ Prep Epiphany House Blessing Kits
- ♡ Coordinate Angel Tree Project
- ♡ Organize Meal Trains
- ♡ Give Parents Night Off @ Christmas
- ♡ Cook and Serve Shelter Meals
- ♡ Help w/Youth Events & Treats

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Name: .....

Cell: .....

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\$30 Membership Dues

\$20 T-shirt (optional)

Adult Size T-shirt (circle one)

S    M    L    XL    2XL

Make checks payable to  
STM Church.

# JOIN

# NOW

Membership dues help fund ministry activities, educational resources, fellowship events, outreach initiatives, and other programs that support the spiritual growth and engagement of our members, parishioners, and the wider community throughout the year.

## 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

## VBS STARTS THIS WEEK — JOIN US IN PRAYING

Almighty and ever-living God,

we entrust to Your fatherly care our Vacation Bible

School. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon all who will participate—children, youth, and volunteers— that, formed

by the Word of God and strengthened by grace, they may come to know and love Your Son, Jesus Christ more deeply.

Guide and protect all who will serve in this effort, and open the

hearts of all who will attend, that this time of instruction and

fellowship may bear lasting fruit in faith, hope, and charity within

our parish. May this work of Your Church build up Your people in

holiness and love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



## Youth Faith Formation

**PSR registration for parish youth not attending Catholic school opened June 1. [stmbr.org/news/psr](https://stmbr.org/news/psr)**

**Registration for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist preparation for rising second graders also opened June 1 for 2026–2027. [stmbr.org/news/sac-prep-reg](https://stmbr.org/news/sac-prep-reg)**

**Registration for Fall 2026 Confirmation for students entering grades 7–8 is now open. [stmbr.org/news/confirmation](https://stmbr.org/news/confirmation)**

## Stay connected!



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

### ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

11441 Goodwood Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70815

[stmbr.org](https://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