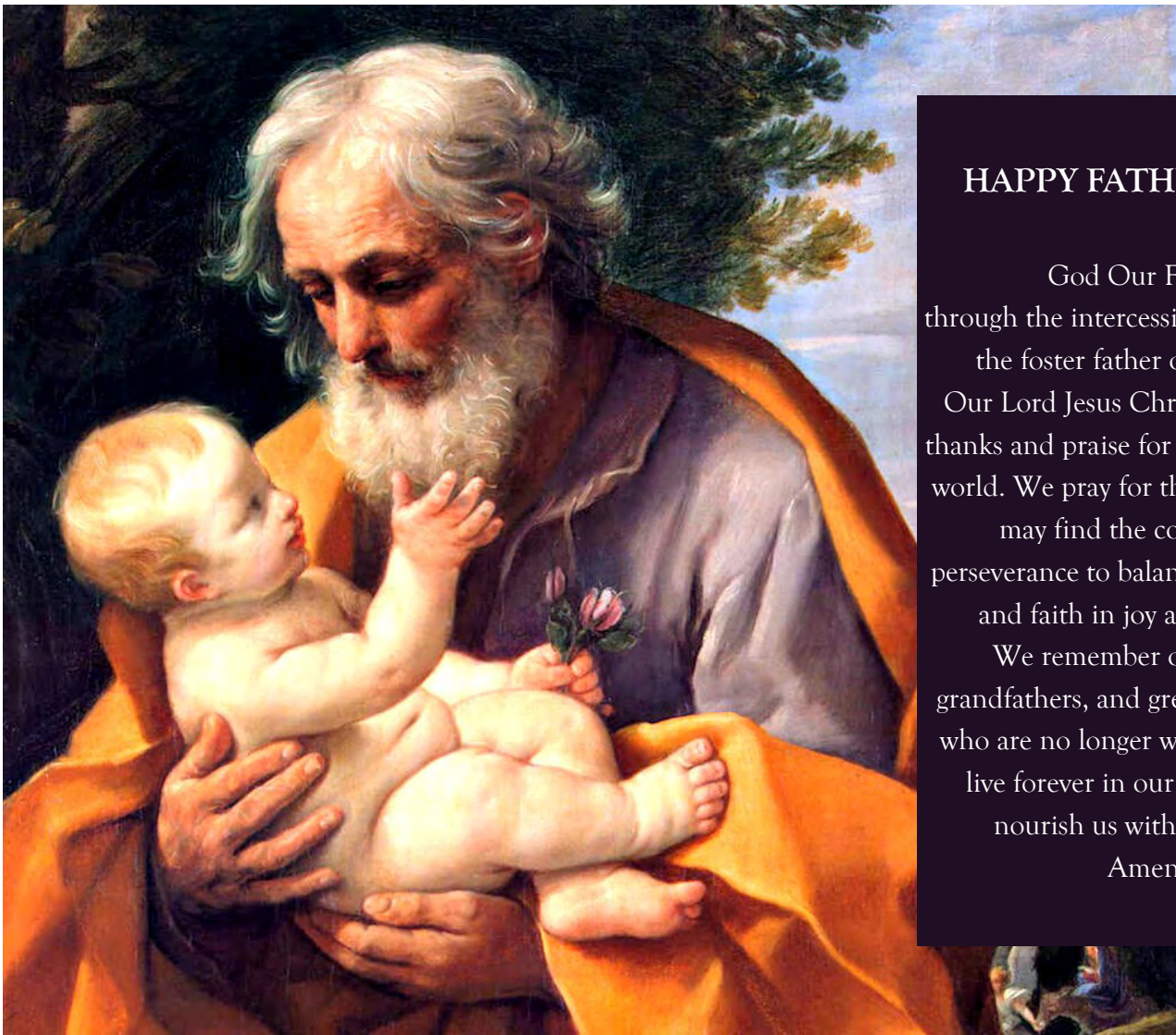




TO GUIDE. TO INSPIRE. TO SERVE.

June 21, 2020 | VOLUME 49 NUMBER 25 | Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time



## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

God Our Father,  
through the intercession of St. Joseph,  
the foster father of Your Son,  
Our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you  
thanks and praise for all fathers in the  
world. We pray for them so that they  
may find the courage and  
perseverance to balance work, family,  
and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We remember our fathers,  
grandfathers, and great grandfathers  
who are no longer with us, but who  
live forever in our memory and  
nourish us with their love.

Amen.



**Dear Parishioners,**

Based on the unanimous recommendation of the STM Pastoral Council and Finance Council, I have decided to implement the first phase of our campus master plan — the renovation of our athletic field in order to continue its use for all athletic events typically held in that space and to build an effective substructure that will allow its use for parking. Our renovated field will be similar to LSU's fields east of River Road and south of Skip Bertman Drive that are used for football game parking.

The council's recommendation was motivated by several important factors, including:

- The resources required for this work have already been allocated; therefore, this effort will not require an additional request for funding from the STM community.
- The project was originally planned to follow this year's festival in order to be least disruptive to STM operations. Given the current restrictions on campus use because of Covid-19, such a project may cause even fewer problems now.
- Because of the turf growing season and school year utilization of the athletic field, if the project were deferred to a later date, realistically it could not begin until mid-May 2021. This would push back other campus master plan efforts (e.g., parking renovation and church plaza renovation) at least a year, and there is great hope that we can begin those projects in the coming year.

During this discussion I raised the concern about the appearance of this construction effort, given that some members of our STM community are experiencing financial challenges associated with Covid-19. I asked if that should affect our decision. The council's unanimous response was a sharing of that concern, and a sincere belief that this course of action will benefit the entire STM community and should be implemented at this time.

I am excited that we will be able to begin our campus master plan implementation with the athletic field renovation, starting June 15, and I look forward to discussing additional planning with you - hopefully in the not-too-distant future. In the meantime, you and your family will remain in my prayers as we journey together in these unprecedented times!

Blessings,  
Fr. Michael

*\* Reprint - June 14 bulletins not delivered in time for distribution at weekend Masses*

Monday, June 22, is the feast day of our patron saint, St Thomas More. G.K. Chesterson said it best in 1929: "Thomas More is important today, but he is not as important now as he will be in 100 years from today." In an age of moral and cultural relativism, it behooves us to remember why. Quite simply, More stood up for the truth. For what he knew to be right. He sacrificed everything for his faith. As a man of principle, he is recognized as a champion of the rights of conscience. When asked to swear the Oath of Succession to Henry VIII, he sacrificed his life for the unity of the Church.



#### Prayer of St. Thomas More

O Lord, give us a mind that is humble, quiet, peaceable, patient and charitable, and a taste of your Holy Spirit in all our thoughts, words, and deeds.

O Lord, give us a lively faith, a firm hope, a fervent charity, a love of you.

Take from us all lukewarmness in meditation and all dullness in prayer. Give us fervor and delight in thinking of you, your grace, and your tender compassion toward us.

Give us, good Lord, the grace to work for the things we pray for. Amen.

#### SANCTUARY LIGHTING

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Eloise and Harley Brown the week of June 21 as requested by Sylvia Trevino.

#### MASS INTENTIONS

**Tuesday, June 23 - 6 p.m.:** Eloise and Harley Brown, Ronnie Davis, Betty Doucet, Paul Lovell, Judy Scimeca, J. Darryl Keeter

**Thursday, June 25 - 8:45 a.m.:** Peck Abadie

**Saturday, June 27 - 4:30 p.m.:** Billy Roberts

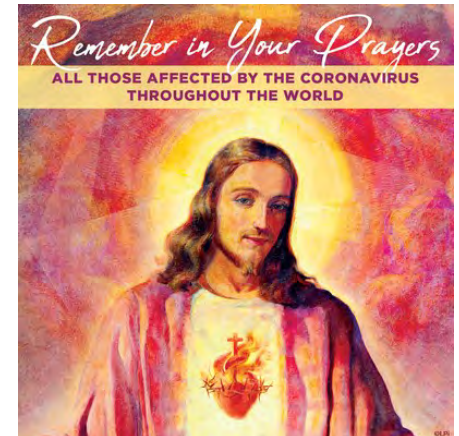
**Sunday, June 28 - 8 a.m.** STM Families, Friends, and Neighbors; **10 a.m.:** Beverly Collins, Todd Frugé, Sybil and Jim McLin, Harris Ducote; **5 p.m.:** Souls in Purgatory

#### PRAYER LIST

*Please remember in your prayers these seriously ill persons:* Ida Mae Alonzo, Gail Babin, Bill Bailey, Pat Bailey, Johnnie Broussard, Liz Ferguson, Helen Fox, Jane Gelpi, Carl Gibson, Larry Gibson, John Chris Goff, David Longwell, Cathey Merle, Curtis Mitchel, Lydia Pourciau, Suzette Snow, Brant Theriot, Grace Thompson, Barbara Tureau, Loressa Watts, D.J. Webre, Thomas Webre.

#### PRAYER LINE

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 [prayerline@stmchurch.org](mailto:prayerline@stmchurch.org).



#### Mass Intention Book Is Open

The Mass Intention book for July — December 2020 opened last week. At this time, intentions will be taken for the following Masses: 4:30 p.m. Vigil; 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday; 6 p.m. Tuesday; and 8:45 a.m. Thursday. Each parish household may schedule five (5) Mass Intentions, 3 weekend and 2 weekday. The Mass intention stipend is \$5 per Mass — checks made payable to STM Church. Also included on the request form is the scheduling of sanctuary lights and altar flowers.

*The Mass Intention request form can be found online at [stmchurch.org](http://stmchurch.org) - under the Giving tab, and on the tables at the church entrances.*

To attend Mass in person at this time, you need to wear a mask, bring hand sanitizer and maintain 6' social distance between yourself and others - no gloves, please. We will continue to livestream the 10 a.m. Mass, and individuals who fall in the at risk category (65 years of age or older, those with comprised immune systems, and/or those with underlying health conditions) are encouraged to watch from home, as are others who do not feel comfortable attending Mass in public at this time. *The Sunday Mass obligation continues to be dispensed for all Catholics indefinitely.*

#### STM CHURCH PHASE II MASS SCHEDULE

(subject to change if necessary)

Saturday Vigil - 4:30 pm

Sunday Masses - 8 am, 10 am, 5 pm

Daily Masses - 6 pm Tuesday and 8:45 am Thursday



*This week the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is calling Catholics across the country to pray and act in support of religious liberty within the U.S. and abroad during Religious Freedom Week 2020. The theme for this year's Religious Freedom Week is "For the Good of All." The week starts on June 22, the Feast of St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher, and ends on June 29, the Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul.*



*We encourage you to participate in this important cause for the Catholic Church, by taking time each day this coming week to pray and reflect. TO SEE EACH DAY'S*

*WAY TO TAKE ACTION, VISIT: [usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/religious-freedom-week/index.cfm](https://usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/religious-freedom-week/index.cfm)*

#### **June 22, 2020 | FREEDOM TO SERVE IN HEALTH CARE**

**Pray** that governments would respect the consciences of the Little Sisters of the Poor and all Christians who care for the sick and vulnerable.

##### **Reflect**

For centuries, the Church has carried on the healing ministry of Christ by building institutions dedicated to medicine and accompaniment of the dying. Indeed, the Church invented the hospital as we know it. Today, orders like the Little Sisters of the Poor serve elderly low-income Americans of all backgrounds. But the Little Sisters' work is at risk because of lawsuits brought by the states of California and Pennsylvania against the expanded religious and moral exemption to the HHS mandate, and Catholic hospitals are constantly defending themselves against lawsuits and government orders that try to force them to participate in harmful procedures, such as sterilization, gender reassignment surgery, and even abortion. It is unthinkable that we would undermine our mission to heal by destroying innocent life and harming the persons for whom we are called to care.

##### **Act**

Take action to support religious liberty! Text "FREEDOM" to 84576 to receive news updates and action alerts.

#### **June 23, 2020 | RESPECT FOR HOUSES OF WORSHIP**

**Pray** that people of all faiths would be free to worship without fear of attacks and harassment.

##### **Reflect**

Houses of worship provide spaces for people to step back, often with fellow believers, and pray. The disturbing rise in attacks on these places is an attack on religious freedom. Gunmen in churches, synagogues, and mosques terrorize faith communities. In Europe and North America, churches have been desecrated. Priests all over the world have been killed, even while celebrating liturgies. The problem is not limited to attacks on Christians. Over 50 people were murdered in two mosques in New Zealand, while there have been several attacks on synagogues here in the U.S. in recent years. Mosques and synagogues have been vandalized, while there has been a rise in attacks on Jews and Muslims who are simply going

about their daily life. These kinds of attacks are assaults on the image of God and cannot be tolerated.

#### **June 24, 2020 | RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN CHINA**

**Pray** for the freedom of the Church in China, and that the rights of all religious minorities would be respected.

##### **Reflect**

Under the Chinese Communist Party, Chinese citizens have limited religious freedom. Since 2013, religious persecution has intensified under a government campaign for the "sinicization" of religion—an effort to have religions conform to government-sanctioned interpretations of Chinese culture. Muslims have suffered grievous human rights abuses. Since 2017, 800,000 to possibly two million ethnic Uighur, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, and Hui Muslims have been arbitrarily detained in mass internment camps. Other religions are impacted by the government's "sinicization" campaign including the estimated 12 million Catholics in China. While the Vatican has reached a provisional agreement with China on the issue of episcopal appointments, reports of persecution by the Chinese government persist as underground churches are closed and their priests detained, crosses destroyed, bibles confiscated, and children under 18 forbidden from attending Mass and receiving religious instruction. Ultimately time will tell if the faithful will be allowed to practice their religion independent of State control.

#### **June 25, 2020 | ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE**

**Pray** that children waiting to be placed in loving homes and their caregivers will find strength and support from the Church.

##### **Reflect**

Caring for 'the orphan' is a demand of the gospel. Over the centuries, the Church has put this work of charity into practice by building adoption and foster care institutions. Today, the opioid crisis has put a strain on the foster care system. Yet while more children are waiting to be placed in families, faith-based child welfare providers are being targeted for closures because of their religious convictions. In places like

Illinois, Massachusetts, California, and D.C., the service providers who have a track record of excellence in recruiting and assisting foster families have already been shut down. In Michigan, sexual orientation/gender identity (SOGI) activists have gone out of their way to challenge Catholic Charities, and Philadelphia Catholic Social Services is taking the struggle to continue to foster children to the Supreme Court. Worse still, in recent years, states that have worked to protect faith-based adoption and foster care have found themselves targeted by powerful corporations looking to appeal to SOGI activists. Intolerance for religious views has real consequences, and in this case, it is vulnerable children who have suffered. Let's pray and act to keep kids first.

#### **June 26, 2020 | BORDER WALL DISPUTE IN THE DIOCESE OF BROWNSVILLE**

**Pray** that the freedom of the local churches on the U.S. southern border will be respected.

##### **Reflect**

Efforts to construct a barrier on the southern border have met resistance from the Catholic Church in Brownsville, TX. The proposed barrier would run through land owned by the Diocese, and so the federal government would have to take the land in order to build the wall or fence. Freedom of the Church means that the Church cannot be impeded by the civil authorities from engaging in her mission. That mission includes ministry to those fleeing violence and poverty. As Bishop Daniel Flores of Brownsville told the Wall Street Journal, "I don't want to use church property to say that no matter how dire your life is, you cannot be received here. ...The government is going to have to take the land. The church is not going to give it them."

#### **June 27, 2020 | CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

**Pray** that Catholic schools in our country would be free to teach the truth about God and his creation.

##### **Reflect**

Education is central to the Church's mission. In fact, one of the Spiritual Works of Mercy is to teach. In the U.S., the Catholic school system grew out of necessity, due to the wave of 19th Century Catholic immigrants who felt unwelcome in the "public" school system. Since then, Catholic schools have been significant anchor institutions in many neighborhoods, benefitting even those who are not their students. Catholic leaders have played a leading role in ensuring that all children have access to quality education. Education is what Catholics do, and an America without Catholic schools is unimaginable. Catholic schools need the space to operate in accordance with Catholic convictions if they are to continue to be a source of vitality for our society.

#### **June 28, 2020 | CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC**

**Pray** that God would show the people of the Central African Republic the way to peace and reconciliation.

##### **Reflect**

The Central African Republic (CAR) is one of the poorest countries in the world. A total of 2.9 million people, out of a population of 4.9 million, depend on humanitarian assistance. In 2012 a coalition of rebel groups, called the Seleka, from the predominantly Muslim North launched a rebellion that deposed then-president Francois Bozize in 2013. To counter the Seleka armed groups, non-Muslim rural communities strengthened traditional self-defense militias, called anti-balaka. Even though the conflict started primarily over political power and access to natural resources, the Seleka and anti-balaka forces resorted to banditry and attacks on unarmed Muslim and Christian civilians, making religious identity a driving force. During this civil war, Evangelical Pastor Nicolas Guerekoyame, Catholic Archbishop Dieudonné Nzapalainga, and Imam Omar Kobine Layama led an interreligious movement to counter rising hatred with reconciliation, and violence with peace. They championed the preservation of their country's diverse social fabric. Religious leaders continue the hard work of healing the trauma of war and rebuilding a new society.

#### **June 29, 2020 | CIVILIZE IT**

**Pray** that God would give us the grace to remember the dignity of all and invite others to do the same.

##### **Reflect**

As Catholics, our strong tradition of social teaching compels us to be actively engaged in the building up of our communities. This is achieved by being involved in the political process—and yet today, many shy away from such involvement because our national and local conversations are filled with vitriol and harsh language, often directed at people themselves. When personal attacks replace honest debate, no one wins. This kind of attack, no matter the reason, only serves to further divide our communities. What is needed is good, honest, civil dialogue. This means that we must treat everyone as worthy of being at the table, worthy of our respect, and worthy of being heard. In short, it means treating everyone as our neighbor.



## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

Fr. Michael Alello

### Permanent Deacon

Rev. Mr. Joe Scimeca

### Pastoral Associate

Sr. Janelle Sevier

### Administration

Ms. Sheila Juneau

### Religious Education

Ms. Sarah Neau

### Secretary/Bulletin

Ms. Ellen Guidry

### Secretary/Receptionist

Ms. Elise Moran

### Sacristan

Ms. Kay Fetterman

### Maintenance

Mr. Alex Ho

Mr. Carl Gibson

Mr. Edrick Caraballo-Irizarry

### Custodial

Mr. Roosevelt Hamilton

## 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*

## OUR PARISH FAMILY

### IN SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the family  
of Kirby Courville.



*Spaces Available!*

# EARLY LEARNING CENTER

We are a 12 month program serving infants and toddlers, 12 weeks to 2 years old.



Contact: Director Amy Moran, [morana@stmbr.org](mailto:morana@stmbr.org), 256-0983

	<a href="http://www.stmchurch.org">www.stmchurch.org</a>
	<a href="https://Facebook.com/stmchurch.org/">Facebook.com/stmchurch.org/</a> <a href="https://Facebook.com/padrehooch/">Facebook.com/padrehooch/</a>
	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/stthomasmorebatonrouge">https://www.youtube.com/stthomasmorebatonrouge</a>
	Text "stmbr" to 84576 to receive texts
	Sign up for parish email on our parish website, <a href="http://stmchurch.org">stmchurch.org</a>
	Listen to Father Michael's homilies: <a href="https://soundcloud.com/padrehooch">https://soundcloud.com/padrehooch</a>



## SPREAD THE WORD

A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters



**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS**



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



**George J  
Schwartzburg, MD**  
12351 Industriplex Blvd  
**976-4400**

**AVAILABLE  
FOR A LIMITED TIME**

## ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Brian Davidson** to place an ad today!  
bdavidson@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2602



## WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES



- Full Time Position with Benefits
  - Sales Experience Preferred
  - Paid Training
  - Overnight Travel Required
  - Expense Reimbursement
- CONTACT US AT  
careers@4LPi.com  
www.4LPi.com/careers

**LAFLEUR  
PRINTING**

GRAPHIC & BUSINESS SOLUTIONS  
(225) 756-2066 | www.lafleurprinting.net

## Quality Car Care Center

**GOODYEAR**

11442 N. Harrells Ferry Rd.

**273-2955**

catholicmatch<sup>®</sup>  
Louisiana



CatholicMatch.com/ LA

## The Care Center

(at Sherwood Forest)

11188 Florida Blvd. • Baton Rouge  
**225-275-7570**

**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE  
MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**  
**\$29.95/MO**  
BILLED QUARTERLY  
CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772 • WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

## SHERWOOD

TELEVISIONS & APPLIANCES  
SALES & SERVICE • MINI STORAGES  
LOUIS S. RUFFINO, JR. • FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1969  
11756 Florida Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70815 | **225.275.6900**  
www.sherwoodtvandappliances.com



**PLUMBING  
MARINO & SON  
INCORPORATED**  
Established 1925  
**343-3022 • 383-0451**  
2731 North Street  
• Commercial  
• Residential • Repair  
LMP#3490



## PAMPERING YOU IN ELEGANCE

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

**20% OFF**  
hair, nail & lashes with this ad.

www.salonjamesbr.com

IN HAMMOND AIR PLAZA • 225-636-2220

B | H

C | A

HOVER, HERBERT, CARUSO  
& ANGELLE  
Attorneys at Law  
1280 Del Este Avenue  
Denham Springs, LA 70726  
225-664-4335  
Todd Caruso, Parishioner

## SIGMA ENGINEERS & CONSTRUCTORS, INC.

Procurement	Facility Services	Instrumentation
Safety/Risk	Architectural	Automation
Structural	Electrical	Survey
Process	Mechanical	Civil
Laser Scan	Construction Support	Piping
Field Services		Staffing

www.sigmaec.com



more than a piece of glass,  
a peace of mind.

**(225) 925-8338**

www.bigriverglass.com

**Baton Rouge General  
Physicians** | **763-4500**  
8333 Goodwood Blvd.



**Amanda Watts, MD**

**Timothy Andrew Bella, MD**

**Dewayne Humbles, NP**

## 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

Over 25 Years of Service  
**TREE MANAGEMENT**  
Tree Removal Trimming Cabling Tree Installation Fertilizing Stump Removal  
David Robins, Owner • 225-921-8916



**State Farm**<sup>TM</sup>

**Drew Dileo – Agent / Owner**

**225-246-7948**

www.drewdileo.com



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

## CONCRETE

Driveways Patios Sidewalks

Free Estimates

225-281-0933

## ALFORD

safe & lock co.

- Rekey
- New and Used Safes
- Lock Repair

(225) 387-5386

www.alfordsafeandlock.com

catholicmatch®  
Louisiana



CatholicMatch.com/ LA

## ROOF LEAKING?



- Repairs
- Roof Replacement
- New Construction
- Roof Stains

FREE ESTIMATES

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

## CHRISTIAN STREET FURNITURE



7474 Corporate Blvd. 225.925.3320

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact Brian Davidson to place an ad today!  
bdavidson@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2602

LAKE SHERWOOD VILLAGE  
A Retirement Community

Call for a Tour Today  
(225) 296-0803

4101 Plaza Tower Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA

lakesherwoodvillage.com

Frugé  
FAMILY DENTISTRY

C. Farrell Frugé, Jr., DDS & Associates  
Family Dentistry  
STM Lifetime Parishioner



11811 Coursey Blvd. 292-9700 www.CFFDDS.com

FREE AD DESIGN  
WITH PURCHASE  
OF THIS SPACE.  
- 800-950-9952 -

## HARLEY M. BROWN

Attorney and Counselor at Law

854 Main Street • Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Tel: (225) 336-0353 Fax: (225) 336-0365

## SPREAD THE WORD

A Thriving, Vibrant Community Matters



SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

## BEST DEAL MILLWORKS

Doors • Windows  
Shutters • Glass • More  
225-273-2000  
sales@bestdealmillworks.net



15178 Florida Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA

## UNITED COLLISION CENTER

Complete Auto Repair

Complete Auto Body & Paint Repair

SATISFACTION IS OUR #1 GOAL

BATON ROUGE EAST BATON ROUGE SOUTH

1926 N. Flannery Rd. 14424 Coursey

225-275-9797 225-753-6556

Fax # 225-275-9997 Fax # 225-753-7319

LA Z BOY  
FURNITURE GALLERIES®

"Quality Home Furnishing"

5151 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd.

295-1333



David Alello

Branch Manager/Loan Officer  
NMLS # 188986

4471 Bluebonnet Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA  
Cell: 225-921-8152



Specializing in COLOR, CUTS, HI-LITES, WAXING, UPDOs, KERATIN TREATMENT,  
BRAZILIAN BLOW OUT, HAIR EXTENSIONS, BAYALAGE, 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

G & B  
Building Specialists, Inc.

Remodeling

225-924-2568



31275 LA Hwy 16 • 791-6060

Same Day Appointments!



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



## ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary • Flood Detection
- Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide

1-855-225-4251



FREE  
Prescription Delivery

225-960-2444  
www.parkersrx.com

9600 Florida Blvd. • Baton Rouge, LA 70815  
Located in Brodmoor Shopping Center



Orlando Palmer  
PharmD

## Too Sick for Mass?

SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!

Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered  
right to your inbox!

www.parishesonline.com



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

St. Thomas More, Baton Rouge, LA

A 4C 05-1276