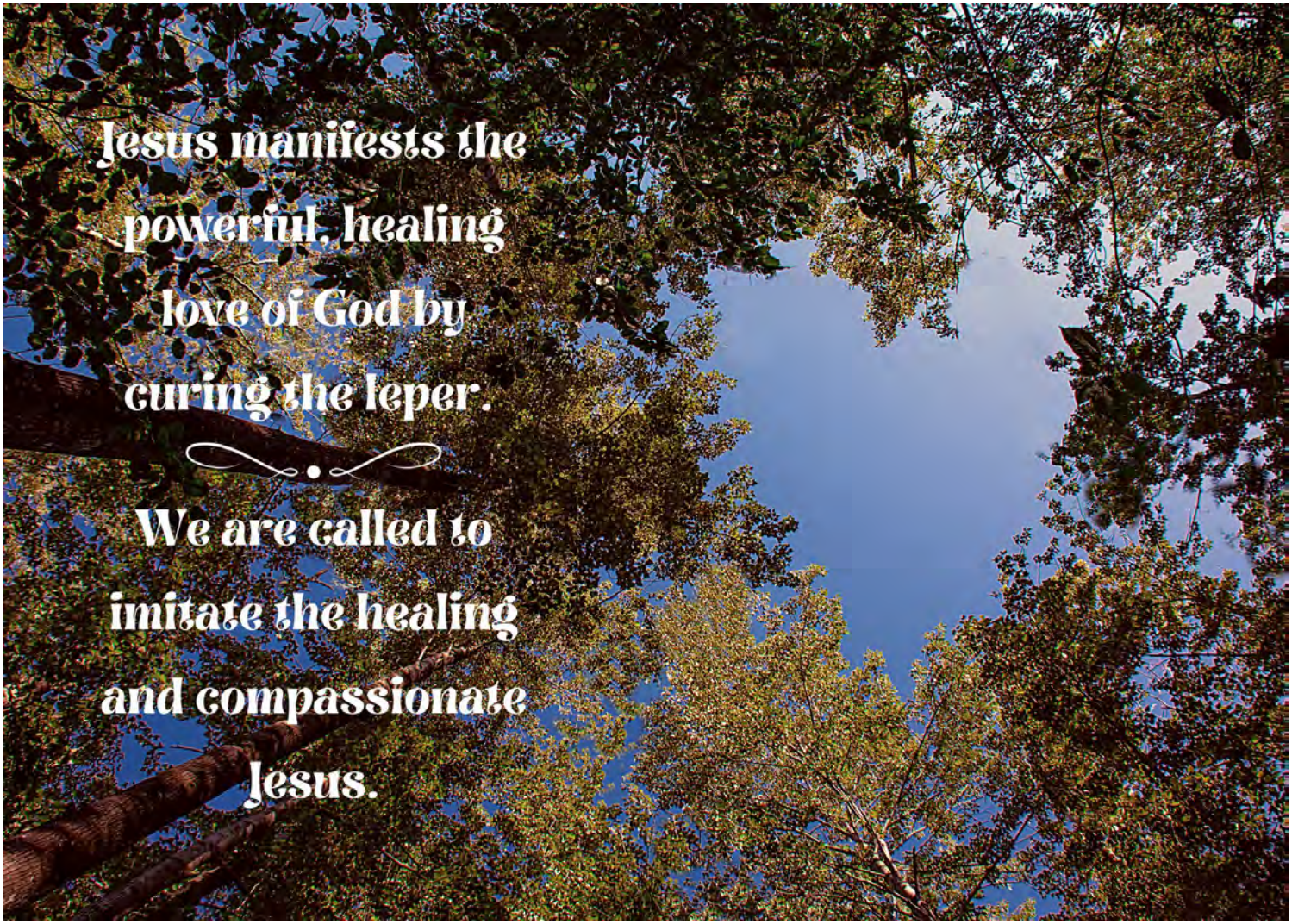
ST THOMAS MORE

TO GUIDE. TO INSPIRE. TO SERVE.

February 14, 2021 | VOLUME 50 NUMBER 7 | **Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



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Loving God,
As the season of Lent unfolds,
you call us to return again and again.
As you invite us to reflect on your love made visible in the person of Jesus, align our lives more closely with you through prayer, fasting and generous giving. Bless our desire to **accompany Jesus' suffering here and now in** the crucified people of our world. With your grace, may we live Lent fully and move with transformed hearts into the abundant Life of Easter morning. Amen.

Journey through Lent at St. Thomas More

Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17

Masses with distribution of ashes at 7 am, 12 pm, and 6 pm

Day of fast and abstinence

Obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.
The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding from age 14 onwards.

Fridays of Lent

Stations of the Cross at 6 pm in the church

Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

+ Deepen your faith this Lent by participating in our charism program, *Naming and Claiming God's Gifts in You*.

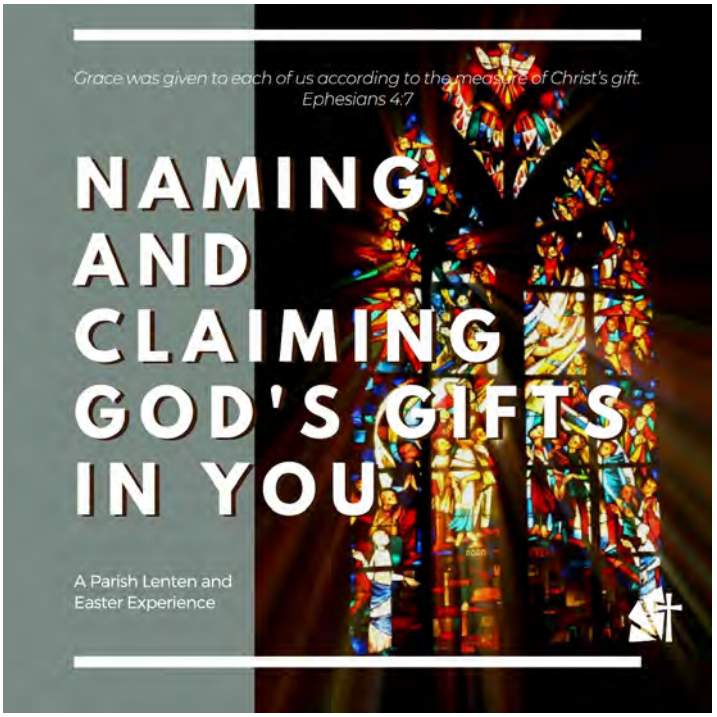
THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED MONDAY AND TUESDAY, FEB. 15-16, FOR THE MARDI GRAS HOLIDAY.
PLEASE NOTE THAT IS THERE IS NO MASS/DIVINE MERCY NOVENA ON TUESDAY, FEB. 16.

Register to join us this Lent as we at STM connect with our God-given gifts!

Meetings either on Wednesday mornings from 10 to 11 a.m.
or Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
ONLINE, via Zoom
Meetings:
Wednesdays - February 17, 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, or
Thursdays - February 18, 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25

REGISTER HERE:
https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/6138

If you would like to participate, but have concerns about technology, please contact Sr. Janelle at 225.275.3940.



Pope Francis @Pontifex

There is no time today for indifference. Either we are brothers and sisters, or everything will fall apart. Fraternity is the new frontier for humanity on which we need to build; it is the challenge of our century.

SANCTUARY LIGHTING

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Evelyn DiPalma the week of Feb. 14 as requested by Sebastian DiPalma.
The sanctuary light in the chapel will burn in memory of Ruth and Alvin Madere the week of Feb. 14 as requested by Alvin Madere Jr.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Feb. 16 - 6 p.m.: No Mass
Wednesday, Feb. 17 - 7 a.m.: Anh Dung Joseph Nguyen; **12 p.m.:** Souls Purgatory; **6 p.m.:** Douglas Gonzales Sr., Paul Lovell
Thursday, Feb. 18 - 8:45 a.m.: Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, Feb. 20 - 4:30 p.m.: Ann Ostermann
Sunday, Feb. 21 - 8 a.m.: Alice and Hilry Lemoine, Mary Guarino, Ann Cong Nguyen, Jermell Alexander, Ann and Charlie Mann, Essie and Leward Otego, Douglas Gonzales Sr., Lydia Pourciau; **10 a.m.:** Lou Bares; **5 p.m.:** STM Families, Friends and Neighbors

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@stmbr.org.**

PRAYER LIST

Please remember in your prayers the following seriously ill persons: **David Longwell, D.J. Webre**

To add your name, or the name of a loved one if you have their permission, contact Elise Moran at morane@stmbr.org, or call 225.275.3940.

PRAY WITH US

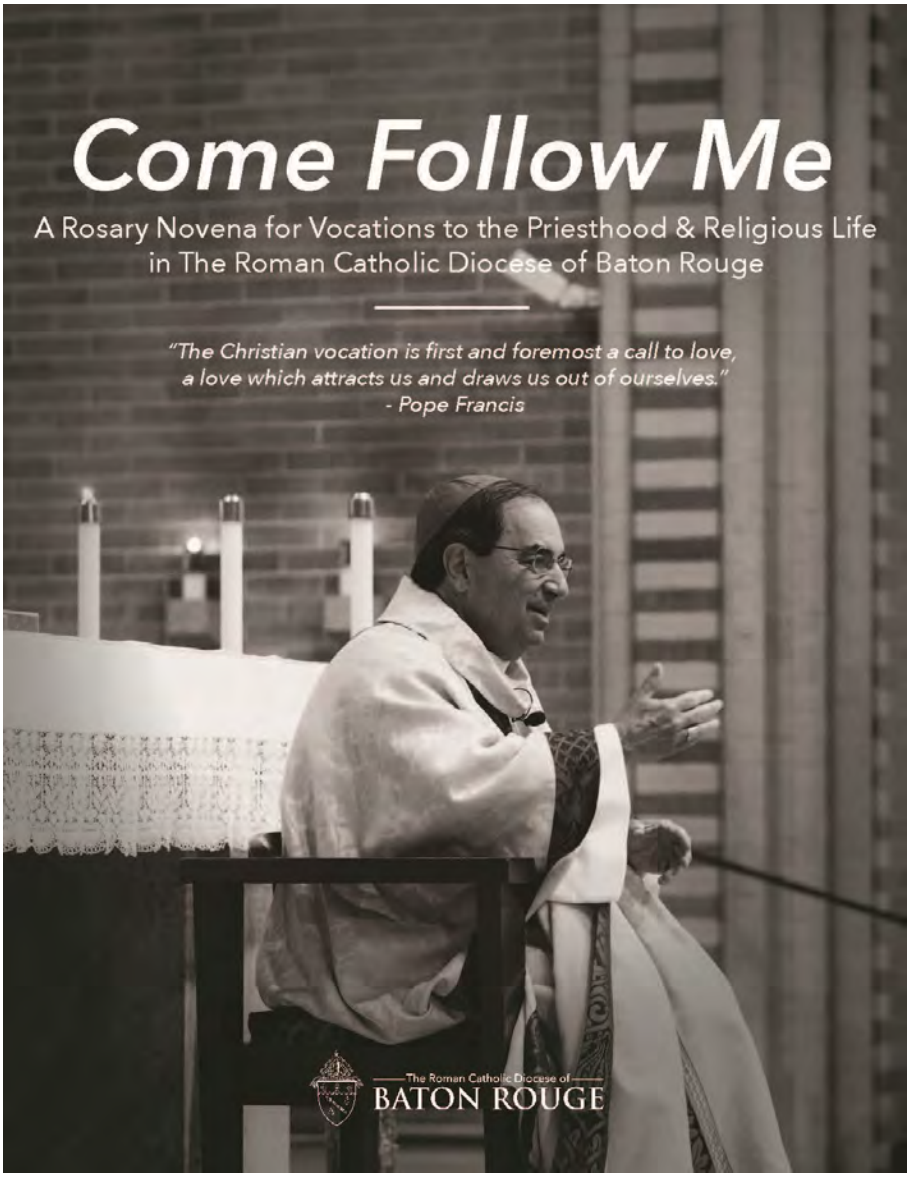
Divine Mercy Weekly Novena

Nine Week Novena of Chaplets
Tuesdays: February 2 thru April 6
• except Mardi Gras, February 16, no Mass or Novena •
6:30 p.m. in the church
following 6 p.m. Mass

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 11, 2021
Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:30 p.m. in the church

The chaplet novena can be viewed each week on our YouTube channel: youtube.com/stthomasmorebatonrouge



The Office of Vocations invites the diocesan faithful to pray a Lenten Rosary Novena and fast for an increase in healthy and holy vocations to the priesthood and religious life in our Diocese of Baton Rouge.

All are encouraged to select a day (or more) during Lent to fast and pray the Rosary Novena. The intention to offer up during your day(s) of fasting is simple: "healthy and holy vocations to the priesthood and religious life from our parishes in the Diocese of Baton Rouge." The fast can be bread and water all day or one regular meal and two small meals without any snacks between meals.

The Office of Vocations created an E-book which will equip participants with a reflection on the life and witness of a priest or consecrated religious saint whose story can inspire all of us to strive for holiness in our walk toward eternity. Along with the stories of the saints who have preceded us in our journey to become saints and form saints, the E-book highlights current and historic pictures of the deacons, priests and consecrated religious brothers and sisters of our land in the Diocese of Baton Rouge.

** Links to a video by Fr. Josh Johnson, Director of Vocations, explaining the Lenten project of prayer and fasting, and the Rosary Novena E-book can be found here: **stmbr.org/news/lenten-rosary-novena**

World Marriage Day

February 14, 2021

On this World Marriage Day, we thank our heavenly Father for the gift and blessing of marriage and the family. As we strive to live our particular vocations and respond to the Lord's grace in our lives, let's also consider how we might dedicate renewed prayer and attention to marriage and the family.

As a start, here are possible areas we might consider:

First, we begin with prayer: Let's remember to pray with and for marriages and families throughout our nation: for marriages in crisis, for families struggling with unemployment, for broken or wounded family relationships.

Second, let us reclaim Sunday as the Lord's Day, a day of rest when we can focus on being together as a family. The celebration of Holy Mass together is the first essential way to honor this day. But is there something more the Lord is inviting us to when we go back home? Set aside some time to pray a decade of the rosary, enjoy the outdoors together, play ball, eat dinner together, have a game night!

And third, let us remember that the Church is the family of God and a family of families. As a family, how can we share Christ with other married couples and families? Do we have any friends and family members who are struggling in their marriage, alone during this time of isolation, or particularly afflicted by this pandemic? When was the last time we checked on our elderly neighbors? Is there someone in the parish that we haven't seen in a while? How can we – as a family – reach out to those who are in need?

Books that can help enrich your marriage:

Intimate Graces by Teresa Tomeo.

Couple Prayer by Bob & Kathy Ovies

Three Secrets to Holiness in Marriage by Dan & Amber Dematte

The Five Love Languages by Dr. Gary Chapman

Don't Sweat the Small Stuff in Love by Richard Carlson, Ph D. and Kristine Carlson

Marriage, Small Steps, Big Rewards by Dr. Ray Guarandi

Thinking Like Jesus by Dr. Ray Guarandi

- - Online marriage resources can be found at: **foryourmarriage.org** - -

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PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

In a caring environment dedicated

to celebrating the Catholic faith and modeling

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St. Thomas More Church provides

worship, education, ministerial

and social opportunities for the

spiritual growth of the parish family.

OUR PARISH FAMILY

BAPTISMS

We extend a warm welcome into the Church family to the following children who were baptized at St. Thomas More during the month of January:

Penelope Rayne Garza, child of Lance and Rocio Garza

Drew Daniel Curry, child of Andrew and Katelin Curry;

Loxley Denise Harrison, child of Eric and Kaitlin Harrison;

Layla Thao Anh Nguyen, child of Tai Nguyen and Emily Tran; and

Zoe Carolyn Huff, child of Kyle and Lauren Huff.

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	Facebook.com/stmchurch.org/ Facebook.com/padrehooch/
	https://www.youtube.com/ stthomasmorebatonrouge
	Text "stmbr" to 84576 to receive texts
	Sign up for parish email on our parish website, stmbr.org, under Links and Resources
	Listen to Father Michael's homilies: https://soundcloud.com/padrehooch

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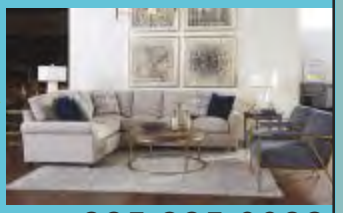
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