St Thomas More

TO GUIDE. TO INSPIRE. TO SERVE.

August 8, 2021 | VOLUME 50 NUMBER 32 | **Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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STM Auction News!

Purchase your tickets today!

The 2021 St. Thomas More Auction will take place on Saturday, August 21, 2021, at the STM Gymnasium. In addition to silent and live auction items, there will be fun and games for all. We will go Back to the Future to celebrate STM and what's to come.

All are invited to attend the STM Auction on August 21, 2021. General admission tickets are $50 per person. Tickets and sponsor packages are available for purchase online at https://www.stmfestival.com/online-store, or by visiting the school or church offices. There are two raffle tickets available for purchase: STM "Unlock the Box" Apple Watch Raffle ($10 per chance) and Split the Pot 50/50 ($10 per chance). Raffle tickets are available on the auction website or in the church and school offices. If you have questions about raffle tickets, please contact Jody Schwartz at jjody20@yahoo.com or (225) 281-1895.

Reserved seating and sponsorship opportunities begin as low as $250 and may be customized for your business. Sponsorships allow for planners to prepare an exciting event and give sponsors an opportunity to showcase their businesses while supporting St. Thomas More. If you are interested in investing in the auction, please visit www.stmbrauction.com to review the opportunities. The final print deadline for table sponsors is August 16. For more information, contact Sara Kleinpeter at 225-235-2332 or sara.kleinpeter@gmail.com.

St. Thomas More has partnered with Qtego to provide an online ticketing and bidding platform. Their check-in & registration process uses the guest's cell phone to bid on the silent items and preview live items. Silent auction items are being added daily to the online bidding platform, Qtego. Be sure to register as a bidder to begin viewing items and bidding from your phone. A preview of the live auction items will be available one week before the auction. Registration as a bidder is free, but tickets are still required to attend the event. The link to register as a bidder is https://www.qtego.net/qlink/stmla.

We hope to see you there. The evening will be one of fellowship and fun.

Sincerely,

Hanna Naquin, Mary Katherine Jackson and Sara Landreneau Kleinpeter

2021 STM Auction Chairs

St. Thomas More Auction

Saturday, August 21, 2021
$50 General Admission Ticket
STM Gym - 7:00 pm

6:00 pm	Doors Open
7:00 pm	Fork Pull, Wine Pull and other Games Begin
7:30 pm	Heads or Tails Game begins the Live Auction
9:00 pm	Raffle winners chosen

Music & Dancing to follow!

11:00 pm Doors Close

Prayers and congratulations to **Paul Soileau** and to the five other men of the 2021 Deacon Class on their upcoming ordination for service as permanent deacons for the Church of Baton Rouge, on Saturday, August 14, at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph Cathedral. While attendance at the ordination is limited to those invited due to space requirements, everyone is invited to watch the ordination on CatholicLife Television! STM is truly blessed that Paul has been assigned to serve our faith community!

Eulis Simien, Paul Soileau, Glenn Farnet, Glenn Hymel, Michael Parker
(Not Pictured - Robbie Templet)

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The lens through which we view life makes a difference. It also determines who we choose to learn from and what we allow to shape our thoughts and feelings. For many, life is simply what it appears to be, a given that either through evolution or some other means just came to be. There is no apparent rhyme or reason to things and things can be dissected and understood only in terms of what they empirically present. To the person using this lens, a tree is a tree and a flower is a flower. Their composition and existence can be understood only to the extent that current human knowledge allows. Through this lens, what gives life purpose and meaning? This lens has an essentially unknown beginning and definite end. Once those are accepted, the middle becomes some kind of pursuit of happiness, with values and principles being things that are self-created and found acceptable.

But there is a Divine lens that also exists and deserves mention. It is found when one stumbles upon faith and begins to see things differently. This lens is of God and reveals a Divine Energy and Life that flows through and in all things. Faith then shows us that all that lives come from this one Source of Love. This is the only true lens that can give human beings the purpose and meaning they desperately need. From this perspective, all of life is much more than what is immediately apparent! It now tells and reveals a story about God generous, creative, and unconditional love! The unfolding of the human story is the unfolding of God's story. What meaning our lives have when they are viewed as a part of God's love affair with humanity! We are indeed special.

The lens of our faith asks us to learn from Jesus Christ. Jesus, as the real Bread of Life, shows us our eternal destiny and completes and frames our lives. It is only in allowing ourselves to be taught by Jesus, that faith, hope, and love take on much greater importance. All the relationships in our lives are now structured and ordered using God's primary commandment of love. Jesus, then, is not just some man who lived at some point in history. Jesus is the incarnate Son of God who shows us the way, the truth, and the life. Using this lens changes things up a great deal. Looking at the creation that surrounds you and the special unique people you love, what is God trying to teach you about His love for you and the eternal life He wants you to have? ©LPi

Dear Parishioners,

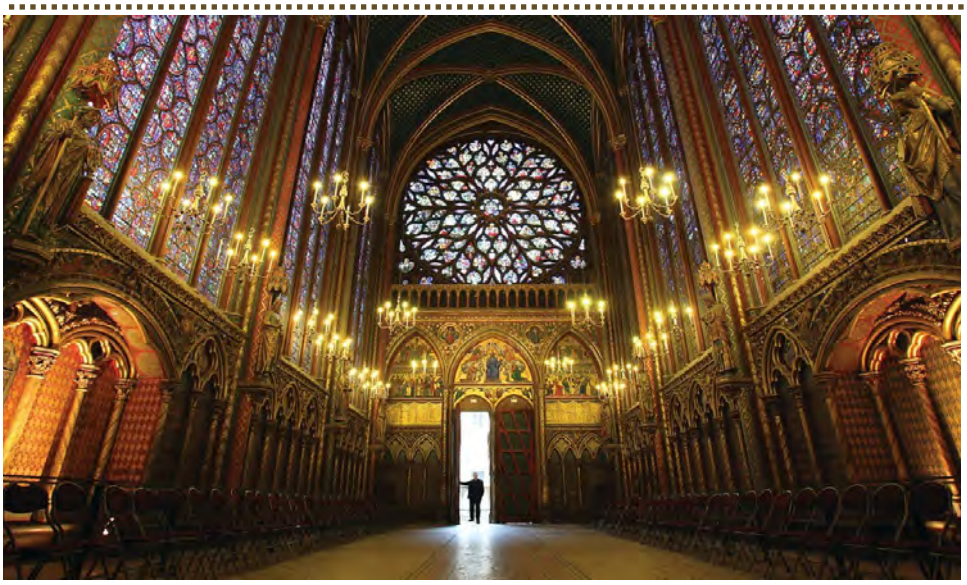
I'm happy to welcome Chelsea Colomb to our team at STM as coordinator of religious education. A native of Baton Rouge, Chelsea attended Sacred Heart, St. Joseph's Academy, and LSU. She has worked in ministry for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. For the past 3.5 years, she served in the Diocese of Dallas at All Saints Catholic Church as the director of junior high ministry and faith formation, and most recently as the director of high school ministry. Chelsea recently said, "I am excited to be back here in Baton Rouge and grateful for the opportunity to serve the young people of St. Thomas More Church and School."

We, too, are excited to have Chelsea working with us in the vineyard. She will work to connect our ministry and formation for our children across our campus, working with our school and church community. It is my hope that Chelsea helps continue to move us forward towards One STM.

Sarah Neau will be passing our 1st Communion, 1st Reconciliation, and Confirmation programs into Chelsea's capable hands, as well as PSR. Since the start of the pandemic, Sarah has taken responsibility for coordinating our liturgies and assisting with our music planning. I am grateful for her willingness to step up and fill this need. We are truly blessed at STM to have an amazing staff that gives of themselves each and every day to serve our church.

Have a wonderful week,

Fr. Michael



Bishop Barron's Catholicism series is coming to STM.

Journey around the world and deep into the Catholic Faith in all its richness, history, beauty, and truth in breath-taking, high definition cinematography.

The series will be offered twice weekly over ten weeks beginning Sept. 2/3. Babysitting will be available if requested during registration. Registration is online – please call the church office if you need assistance. The cost is $25/person or couple. If the cost of the series is a burden, contact Sr. Janelle at the church office.

Visit the parish website for information on dates, times, location–and to download detailed flyer:
https://www.stmbr.org/news/bishop-barrons-catholicism-coming-to-stm

Register here:
https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/7302

Want a sneak peek?
https://catholicismseries.com/amazedandafraidepisode1

Pope Francis
@Pontifex

It would be good to ask ourselves every day: "What do I bring to Jesus today?". He can do a lot with one of our prayers, with a gesture of charity for others. This is how God loves to act: He does great things, starting from those small things.

SANCTUARY LIGHTING

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory Kathryn Dubroc the week of Aug. 8 as requested by Nicole Walker.

The sanctuary light in the chapel will burn in memory Mary Guarino the week of Aug. 8 as requested by the Guarino family.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, Aug. 10 - 6 p.m.: Hugh Smith, Mary Guarino, Kevin Kress, Earl J. Cronin Sr., Tom Webre, Joseph Abadie, Rod and Neissy Graf, Louis Smith
Thursday, Aug. 12 - 8:45 a.m.: Barry Sanders
Saturday, Aug. 14 - 4:30 p.m.: Art Henriksen; Special Intention: Jimmy and Jane Mathes on their 50th wedding anniversary
Sunday, Aug. 15 - 8 a.m.: Alice and Hilry Lemoine, Kathryn Dubroc, Vic Villabroza, Helen and Leo Griggs, Brandon Hogg; **10 a.m.:** Rosina and Angelo Cashio; **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: **Bill Bailey, Pat Bailey, Brandon Burrows, Larry Brown, Lisa Brown, Al Diehl, Liz Ferguson, Annagrace Fremin, Ronnie Gauthier Jr., Ruth Gauthier, Jane Gelpi, Leslie Gendron, David Longwell, Terri Mallett, Jack Morris, Grace Thompson, Loressa Watts, 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.

You are invited to a

Magnificat Prayer Breakfast

with featured speaker Fr. Eddie Martin
Pastor of St. Anne/Napoleonville; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary/ Plattenville; St. Philomena/Labadieville; and author of "The Last Dance"

August 28, 2021, from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Oak Lodge Conference Center
2834 S Sherwood Forest Blvd., Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Tickets: $22

Magnificat: A Ministry to Catholic Women

The music ministry of Mercy Beaucoup will lead us in Praise & Worship, and Fr. Eddie Martin will share his personal testimony. His journey to the priesthood is different from most, so please come and listen to Fr. Eddie and what God has done in his life. All will be blessed!

For more information or to register online, go to https://bit.ly/MagBRAug2021 or contact Gwen Gillis at 225-505-7050

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor
Fr. Michael Alello
Permanent Deacon
Rev. Mr. Joe Scimeca
Permanent Deacon
Rev. Mr. Paul Soileau
Pastoral Associate
Sr. Janelle Sevier
Administration
Mrs. Sheila Juneau
Formation/Liturgy
Ms. Sarah Neau
Coordinator of Religious Education
Ms. Chelsea Colomb
Secretary/Bulletin
Mrs. Ellen Guidry
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Mr. Alex Ho
Mr. Carl Gibson
Mr. Thad Landaiche
Custodial
Mr. Roosevelt Hamilton

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 July:

Lucille Virginia Williams, child of Anthony and Carolyn Williams;

Cecilia Coale Butler, child of David and Jacqueline Butler, and;

Aidan Jovil Terry, child of Terry Albert and Sarah Terry.

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the family of **Rita Valentine.**

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.

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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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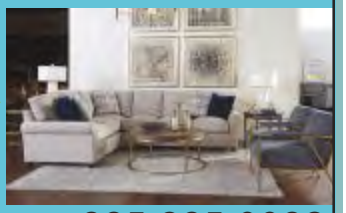

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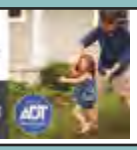

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