



*April 12, 2015
Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday of Divine Mercy
Vol. 47, No. 15*

ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST
catholic church



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WEBSITE: sjb-brusly.com
CHRISTIAN FORMATION: 225-749-3387

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil..... 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m., with Adoration until 11:30 a.m.
First Saturday of the month only 8:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday..... 3:30–4:15 p.m.
Tuesday thru Friday..... 7:40 a.m. or by appointment

PARISH STAFF

Very Rev. Matthew P. Lorrain Pastor
Sammy Collura Permanent Deacon
Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
Pat Durbin..... Parish Secretary
Karen Lemoine Christian Formation
Celeste Veillon Music Director
Larry Durbin..... Maintenance Supervisor
Richard Rabalais..... Maintenance

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Office closed for lunch 12:30–1:30 p.m.

BAPTISM

Celebrated monthly after the 11:00 am Mass. Also celebrated during Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord and Easter Sunday. Parents should call the office to enroll in our baptismal preparation program, preferably early in pregnancy. Parents are encouraged to register in the parish and actively practice their faith.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Inquiries – Call the Parish Office

MARRIAGE

Contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to proposed wedding date. Preparation program is required. Couples should be actively practicing their faith.

CARE OF THE SICK

Emergency calls answered immediately, if possible. Communion calls to homebound and hospitals weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Family should contact the pastor to begin funeral arrangements.

PRAYER LINE

Call Judy Thousand, 749-9257 or the Parish office

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

-Jn 20:28-29

Dear Parishioners,

Congratulations to our new Catholics who joined the Church at the Easter Vigil. We were blessed to welcome six new members to our church family: Matthew Aucoin, John Michael and Elissa Bordelon, Jodi and Zeldie Corbin, and Danielle Gaudet. We give thanks to God for their journey of faith which has enriched our own experience of God's call and guidance.

We don't have the national figures yet, but two years ago in 2013 there were 39,654 unbaptized catechumens, and 66,831 baptized candidates for full communion who completed their sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church. So we might estimate 100,000 new Catholics entered the Church this year in our country alone. Please continue to pray for our new members as they become acclimated to their new church family.

On a related note, each year the Church also offers assistance to those members who were born and raised Catholic but who somehow missed the opportunity to be confirmed. In some cases school or work schedules interfered with sacramental preparation, or their family moved to a new town, or they did not feel ready to celebrate the sacrament with their classmates in the 11th grade. No matter the reason, we invite and encourage all of our unconfirmed adults, young or old, to complete their sacraments this spring.

We will be offering a short Confirmation course comprised of four sessions for any adult aged 18 or older on the evenings of April 23, 30, May 7, and 21. Those completing the short course will be confirmed by Bishop Muench on May 24, Pentecost Sunday, at St. Joseph Cathedral. Please pray about it and call the parish office for more information or to register.

I begin my two-week pilgrimage to Italy and France this weekend so please welcome Father Jon Koehler, Father Tony Russo, and Father Henry Gautreau who have graciously agreed to celebrate the Masses for me this weekend and next. Unfortunately, we will not be able to offer the 8:00 a.m. weekday Mass these two weeks that I am away. We will have a Communion Service in place of the Mass on Tuesday through Friday for the next two weeks, and of course you also

have the option of attending a weekday Mass in Baton Rouge or at one of our neighboring parishes.

Our Catholic Daughters are holding their annual Jambalaya dinner fundraiser next Sunday, April 19, so please support them and their good work by purchasing a dinner or two. I regret that I will not be here to enjoy the meal. Also, as I mentioned last week, our second graders celebrate their First Eucharist in two weeks, on Sunday April 26, 2015, at a special 2:00 p.m. Mass. Please continue to pray for them and their families as they approach this special day.

In Christ,
Father Matt



Congratulations to the following children who were baptized here on Easter Sunday: Eden Amelia Hood, daughter of Dylan Hood & Taylor Dupree and Aubrey Nicole Weger, daughter of Joseph Weger & Ashley Porche. Welcome into our faith community!



Adult Confirmation

Plans are being made for classes to prepare any adults who for some reason are not yet confirmed. The actual Confirmation will be on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2015 at St. Joseph Cathedral in Baton Rouge.

Anyone wishing to be Confirmed must attend the classes which will be held here on Thursdays, April 23 & 30 and May 7 & 21, 2015. Please call the Parish Office to register.



Mark Your Calendars!!!
Vacation Bible School
July 13—17, 2015
"Exploring Mt. Everest, With God Everything is possible."

FILL A PRESCRIPTION FOR THE NEEDY

St. Vincent de Paul Community Pharmacy is again asking you to participate in this effort geared toward helping the pharmacy secure the funding it needs to provide the thousands of prescription they fill in a year.

You can participate by removing the label from an empty prescription bottle from home, inserting your donation and placing it in the container in the back of church or in the collection. Empty bottles are also available near the container in church.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Elaine Richard & family upon the death of her sister, Loretta Glod. Please keep them in your prayers.

A VOCATION VIEW

Easter! Resurrection and new life; a new life shared from an earthen tomb. This has been the meaning of life for Christian people for two thousand years.

There is nothing more secure, nothing more lasting. Come and share the thrill of proclaiming this truth through your life as a priest or as a religious. Call or email Father Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org., or visit, www.diobr.org.



Our Lord Jesus said, "The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine flood-gates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlett..Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy." --Saint Faustina, Diary 699.

WEST BATON ROUGE MUSEUM

When the Cannons Fell Silent

Sesquicentennial of the End of the Civil War

April 18 thru August 16

Featuring 100 original Civil War prints first published by Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper and Harper's Weekly. Leslie commissioned 20 artists to sketch "every battle, skirmish and military movement, to give the anxious ones at home a vivid and realistic picture of the real war" including artists Edwin Forbes, William Waud, James E. Taylor, Joseph Becker & Winslow Homer.

Cooking Class "Civil War Ends: Cooking What We can Find"

(April 21) 10am—Noon

Expert open hearth cook, Gayle Smith, will lead a class to prepare a Squirrel Stew dinner menu that dates to 1865. Registration required—Limited to 10 participants.



LENTEN MISSION

We have received a message from Fr. Blaise. He wishes to thank everyone for the attendance at his mission and to thank you also for your generosity. The collection was \$3,125.00!

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

March 29, 2015

212 Identified- - - - - \$7,493.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 865.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$8,358.00

Mission Collection—\$3,125.00

April 5, 2015

328 Identified- - - - - \$17,626.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 1,279.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$18,905.00

Priests' Retirement—\$3,765.00

Good Friday for the Holy Lands—\$1,130.00

ROSARYVILLE

Ponchatoula, LA

⇒ Dominican Laity 2015 Retreat

May 1—3, 2015

Spirit Life will be facilitated by Fr. Brian Pierce, O.P. Theme: "Lectio Divina in Dominican Life". "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Jn 8:31. Contact: Rosaryville at (225) 294-5039 for more info.

⇒ Dreams: God's Forgotten Language

May 16—20, 2015

Led by Janice Bachman, O.P.. Begins on Saturday with arrival mid-afternoon, dinner and first session at 7:00 pm. Working with dreams can be an important way to uncover our call to holiness and wholeness and, thus, deepen our relationship with God. Daily one-on-one sessions with the director will be available as time permits.

Call Rosaryville at (225) 294-5039 for more information or to register.

Readings for the Week of April 12, 2015

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21

Next Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/
Lk 24:35-48

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
Stacy Gauthreaux
David Landry, Secretary
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman
John Windham



2nd Sunday of Easter

"Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." After the Resurrection, the wounds of Christ take on a whole new meaning. Whereas they had originally been a sign of the tragedy and pain of the crucifixion, they now became a sign of triumph and power over physical death as well as spiritual death-sin.

When Jesus invites Thomas to touch his wounds, he is allowing Thomas to experience this reality for himself. Thomas doesn't just look at the nail marks; he personally encounters them. He puts himself into the now-glorified wounds of Jesus. And then, he believes. This encounter not only takes away Thomas' doubt but also allows him to share in the joy of Christ's victory. "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaims.

This is a powerful image for the mercy of Christ. The suffering he endured on the cross was not just a distant symbol for us to admire. It was not just an opportunity for him to surprise everybody by rising from the dead. The fact that Jesus suffered for us means that our suffering now has somewhere to go. Our pain, our battle with sin, our struggle to truly believe in him, all of this can be laid within the wounds of Christ and healed. When we carry our scars alone, they blind us. They paralyze us. They prevent us from experiencing joy. But when we unite our own wounds to those of Christ, when we allow ourselves to encounter the wounded but glorified Christ, we are able to move beyond our own troubles. We get to share in the victory and stop hiding in the sadness of our self-doubt. It is through this honest encounter with the risen Christ that we are truly able to experience his peace.