

April 2, 2017  
Fifth Sunday of Lent  
Vol. 49, No. 21



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

catholic church



402 S. KIRKLAND (RIVER ROAD) • P.O. BOX 248 BRUSLY, LA 70719

OFFICE: 225-749-2189 • FAX: 225-749-1921

WEBSITE: [sjb-brusly.com](http://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  
June Hebert ..... Director of Religious Education  
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

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world." - **Jn 11:25-27**

Dear Parishioners,

This is the last full week before Holy Week, so please make plans to come to confession in preparation for Easter if you have not already done so. I am available this Wednesday, April 5, from 5:30 – 5:50 p.m. just prior to the 6:00 p.m. Mass, and then immediately following the Mass from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. This is the last week for our Wednesday evening Mass, Stations of the Cross, and Confessions during Lent. I am also available from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. next Saturday afternoon.

Our schedule for Holy Week is as follows: The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening is at 7:00 p.m. The Mass will be followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for about one hour. On Good Friday, the Way of the Cross is at 12:00 noon and the Celebration of the Lord's Passion is at 3:00 p.m. (Remember that Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.) On Holy Saturday the Easter Vigil will begin after nightfall at 8:00 p.m. as required by the Church. The Vigil begins in the front of the church with the blessing of the Easter fire and the lighting of our new paschal candle. Our Masses on Easter Sunday will be at the regular times of 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Volunteers are needed to help clean and trim palm branches this Thursday morning, April 6, at 8:30 a.m. under the rectory carport. Many hands make light work, but you might want to bring a pair of gloves to protect against the thorns. You are also invited to bring your Rice Bowl monies to Mass on Palm Sunday weekend if you participated in that particular Lenten program.

I am hosting an information meeting this Thursday, April 6, at 10:30 a.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. in the parish activity center for anyone interested in traveling to London with me on September 22-30, 2017. It's an eight day tour of London and the surrounding area, and the nice thing about this trip is that we stay in the same hotel for the entire time and just take day trips to Stratford-upon-Avon, Oxford, Stonehenge, and Bath. The rest of the time will be spent touring the sites in London itself.

The Gospel for this 5th Sunday of Lent is the "Raising of Lazarus," from John 11:1-45. Jesus is some

distance away when he receives word that Lazarus is sick, and he delays in rushing to his bedside. This naturally upsets Martha and Mary who fear that Jesus has arrived too late. But St. Augustine wrote, "To his sisters Lazarus was dead; to the Lord, he was only sleeping." It reminds us that though our fears and infirmities might seem insurmountable, they are no match for the power of Christ's love.

Finally, thank you to all who attended last week's Parish Mission. The spiritual development of a faith community is even more important than its physical development, so it's appropriate that we dedicate time and resources for our spiritual growth. Parish Missions and other opportunities for prayer and the sacraments help to insure that our inner beauty matches the outer beauty of our parish church.

In Christ,  
Father Matt

## Christian Formation Update



The 5th grade students ONLY will not have class on Monday, April 3rd. They will come to class on Wednesday, April 5th from 6:30–7:30 p.m. to attend the Stations of the Cross and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will meet in the Activity Center at 6:15 to check roll and then proceed to church.



### LAST CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

WILL BE ON MONDAY, APRIL 10TH AND TUESDAY, APRIL 11TH

MANY THANKS TO ALL OF OUR DEDICATED CATECHISTS

WHO MADE THIS A SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR OUR YOUTH

HERE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

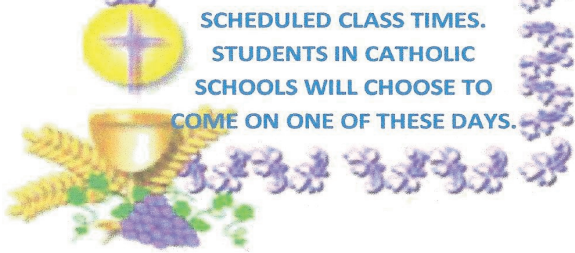
SCHOOL OF RELIGION!



We will be cutting & cleaning palms on Thursday, April 6th after 8:00 am Mass. Please bring your gloves & shears and join us. WE NEED YOU!

## First Communion

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION  
SESSION FOR ALL SECOND  
GRADERS AND ALL OTHER  
STUDENTS PREPARING FOR  
FIRST EUCHARIST ON MONDAY,  
APRIL 10TH OR TUESDAY, APRIL  
11TH AT THEIR REGULARLY  
SCHEDULED CLASS TIMES.  
STUDENTS IN CATHOLIC  
SCHOOLS WILL CHOOSE TO  
COME ON ONE OF THESE DAYS.**



### A VOCATION VIEW

Out of love, Jesus gave Lazarus life. You too can offer God's love through ministry as a priest, sister or brother. If you think God is calling you, call Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.



*THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS  
NOW BURNING IN MEMORY OF  
WAYNE KNOTTS*

### ROSARYVILLE RETREAT CENTER

Ponchatoula, LA

**Nun Run and Anything Goes Cook-Off**

**May 13, 2017**

The Rosaryville Spirit Life Center Invites you to join in their Fun Run, 1-Mile Fun run and 5K on May 13, 2017. The course will feature a beautiful run along Rosaryville's scenic grounds in Ponchatoula. In keeping with their run's theme, participants are encouraged to dress the part for the day! The 1-Mile Fun Run will begin at 8:30 am and the 5K will begin at 9:00 am

To compete in the Anything Goes Cook-Off, pick your best dish, make a team and spend the day! 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place will be awarded. If you want to register a team email jlee@oppeace.org. For more info or to register call 225-294-5039

### **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, June 4, 2017.

Anyone wishing to be Confirmed must attend the Classes which will be held here on Thursdays, April 27 and May 4, 11 & 25.

**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE  
TO REGISTER!**

**HOLY WEEK** Holy Thursday April 13—7:00 pm



Good Friday—April 14  
12:00 Noon—Way of the Cross  
3:00 pm—Veneration of the Cross



Saturday, April 15—Easter Vigil  
8:00 pm

**SCHEDULE** Easter Sunday—April 16  
7:30 am; 9:00 am; 11:00 am

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON  
FRIDAY, APRIL 14th and MONDAY, APRIL 17th  
FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAYS**

### STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

March 26, 2017

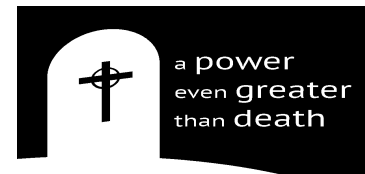
REGULAR:

186 Identified- - - - - \$6,363.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 891.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,254.00

Catholic Relief Collection—\$780.00



**Be Merciful**

*Have Masses said for the living; friends and family members, even strangers you read/hear about, who are having a hard time!*

### Readings for the Week of April 2, 2017

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-8/Rom 8:8-11/  
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45  
Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62  
or 13:4 1c - 62/Ps 23:1-6/Jn 8:1-11  
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-21/Jn 8:21-30  
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52-56/  
Jn 8:31-42  
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-9/Jn 8:51-59  
Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-7/Jn 10:31-42  
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jr 31:10-12abcd, 13/  
Jn 11:45-56  
Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-20,  
23-244/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14--27:66 or  
27:11-54

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2016-2017**

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



**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." As we draw near to the great feast of Easter, the Church gives us here some food for thought regarding the idea of resurrection and eternal life. Today's Gospel shares the story of a dead man who came to life again by the power of Jesus. Lazarus, who had been lying lifeless in a tomb for four days, "came out" of the tomb, burial cloths draped around his body, in a moment that must have been absolutely astonishing! This miracle could not have been explained by anything other than divine power over life and death.

It's important to consider that this story is not so much about Jesus' own resurrection but rather it is about OURS. Jesus uses the occasion of this restoration of his friend, Lazarus, to teach that we ALL can be raised to new life through the power of the Lord. Jesus tells us that we too can overcome death by believing in him: "everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

Easter, of course, will confirm for us that death has no power over the God of life. But today, during these closing days of Lent, we are reminded that we can share in this source of life by believing in Jesus. So now is a perfect time to double-check our faith in him. Is it authentic? Do we really accept the supernatural reality of who Jesus is? Do we believe that he can conquer even the most frightening moment of human existence: death itself?

If we find ourselves falling short of faith in these things, let us turn to the Lord and ask that he will increase our faith so that, with Martha, we can truly say, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God."