



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

August 16, 2015
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 47, No. 33



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

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

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
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 said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink." - Jn 6:53-55

Dear Parishioners,

Father Thomas Karachira will visit our parish next weekend, August 22-23, to make an appeal on behalf of the *Missionaries of Compassion*, a relatively new religious institute founded in 2003 in India. As their name implies, the *Missionaries* bring comfort and solace to the poor and suffering, especially the homeless, orphans, abandoned elderly, and people with terminal diseases. They work primarily in India, Africa, and Australia.

Father Karachira's visit is coordinated by our Diocesan Propagation of the Faith Office and provides an opportunity for us to support the pastoral ministry and missionary activity of the Church. We will have a second collection at each of our Masses next weekend to benefit the *Missionaries of Compassion* and their important ministry. As always, please make your checks out to *St. John the Baptist Church* so we can count and deposit the collection, and then forward the proceeds to our Propagation of the Faith Office, who will then forward the money to the *Missionaries of Compassion*.

The Mission Appeal will also allow me to sneak away for a week of vacation from Monday, August 17, through Tuesday afternoon, August 25. Father David Allen has a good friend who owns a house near Lake Tahoe, and so I am taking off with Father David, Father Paul Counce, and Bishop Shelton Fabre to spend some time enjoying the beautiful scenery around the lake and high Sierra. According to the weather forecast, the temperature ranges from a high of 80° during the day to about 45° at night, and should be perfect for sightseeing and relaxing.

The RCIA process for people interested in joining the Catholic Church has its Open House planned for Wednesday, August 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory, so please invite any interested parties to attend. We will provide an overview of the process and try to answer any questions before enjoying some light refreshments. Please pray for our inquirers and the RCIA team who will guide them on this journey of faith.

The *Traveling Chalice* program of family prayer for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated religious life begins on the first Sunday in September. A schedule is located in the back of church for families to

sign-up. You merely select any available week and indicate which Mass you normally attend. I will then invite you forward after communion on that particular Sunday and present you with a box containing a chalice, books on family prayer, and various other resources related to religious vocations. You can then look over the material and select prayers to pray each evening for an increase in vocations.

The Baton Rouge Diocese accepted six new seminarians for seminary studies this fall: Deacon Pat Broussard, originally from New Iberia but a member of Holy Family Parish since his deacon ordination in 2010; Taylor Sanford from St. George Parish; Christian Landry from St. Jules Parish in Belle Rose; Alex Ruch from Most Blessed Sacrament Parish; Andrew Hotstream from St. John Parish in Prairieville; and James Vu from St. Thomas More Parish. Pray that God will one day call a young man from our parish to join them.

In Christ,
Father Matt

Calling ALL catechists!

If you are currently a catechist and plan on continuing in this wonderful ministry please contact June or Karen at 749-3387. If you think God may be calling you to be a catechist please contact us as well. There will be a Catechist Meeting on Thursday, Aug. 27th at 6:00 P.M. in the Activity Center.



Registration
Christian Formation
K-11th
After all Masses
August 29th and 30th.
Sacramental Preparation also
First Reconciliation and First
Eucharist for children in
public and Catholic schools.
Parent Meeting August 31st
Activity Center at 6:30 P.M.

Contact
June or Karen
749-3387

A cartoon illustration of three children. Two boys and one girl are holding a long banner that says "We Love You Jesus". The girl is in the middle, and the boys are on either side. They are all smiling and looking towards the banner.

Mission Appeal

WELCOME FATHER THOMAS!

Reverend Thomas Karachira, a Missionary priest from the Missionaries of Compassion will be speaking in our parish the weekend of August 22-23, 2015. This is our annual participation in the Mission Cooperation Plan for the Diocese of Baton Rouge. Missionaries of Compassion has its exclusive purpose of assisting the destitute, homeless, the aged, the disabled, the children and the sick, especially those who suffer from incurable diseases like leprosy, cancer and AIDS, etc....without distinction of caste, creed, sex or nationality.

Be sure to give your attention to this important appeal, and please be as generous as your circumstances allow.

R.C.I.A.

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Have you or someone you know expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?

RCIA offers an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic faith. Weekly sessions focus on the teachings of the church, faith experiences, understanding scripture and preparing you to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation at Eastertime.

Open House is Wednesday, August 26, 2015.

Please call the Parish Office at 749-2189 to register or receive more information on RCIA.

ATTENTION: CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Monthly Meeting: Wednesday, August 19th

Dinner with the KC's will be at 6:30 pm

Meeting Begins: 7:00 pm

Are you wanting an opportunity to fellowship, participate in charitable activities, and getting involved in your church community? If you are a Catholic woman, who is 18 years or older, you are invited to come to the meeting and see what CDA is all about. Or, if you prefer, you may contact Mary Benoit @ (225) 324-5289 for more information.



PACK 39 RECRUITING NIGHT

Wednesday, September 2nd

St. John the Baptist Activity Center

6:30 pm

All boys in 1st—5th grade are invited to join. Any questions? Call Kendul Michel at (225) 776-0778.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

August 9, 2015

REGULAR:

236 Identified- - - - - \$8,735.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 731.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$9,466.00

A VOCATIONS VIEW

The Gospel asks for us: "How can Jesus give us His flesh to eat?" Our lack of knowledge does not prevent us from being lured into the mystery. The mystery makes it all the more appealing when we say in faith, "MY LORD AND MY GOD!" In faith we can respond also to God's invitation to be His priest or religious. If you can, call or email Father Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



NEWLY BAPTIZED

Congratulations to Laurel Ann & Brantley Michael Hebert, children of Jessie & Megan Hebert.

The twins were baptized here last weekend.

WELCOME INTO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to

Virgie Fabre and her family upon the death of her sister, Joyce Terrell and to the family of Connie Brown Montero upon her recent death. Please keep them in your prayers.

PLEASE ADD TO MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 23—7:30 am

Quick Recovery for Father Phil Spano

K.C. CALENDAR WINNERS—JULY

Gene Bertrand, Joey & Stephanie Mire, Sylvia Rivet, Amber Clay, David Forrena, Lynn LeJeune, Leonard & Ruby Breaux, Gail Leonard, Myrt Provost, Sophia Blanchard, Gage Bourgoyne, Ethan Greenblatt, Karen St. Cyr, Carter Breaux, Tyree Thompson, Kynzli George, Rumiko Bourg, Trey Reeves, Elnora Blanchard, Clark Gauthreaux, S.T. Woodruff, Herbert J. Aucoin, Rhonda Lamona, Ali Richard, Bill Haydel, Morgan Robnett, Angelle Blanchard, Erin O'Neal, Holly LeBlanc, James N. Bertrand, Mickey Rivet

Readings for the Week of August 16, 2015

Sunday: Prv 9:1-6/Eph 5:15-20/Jn 6:51-58

Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Mt 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69

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



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?'" Today's Gospel continues Jesus' Bread of Life discourse where he emphasizes over and over again that his followers are to "eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood." Not surprisingly, his listeners don't know what to make of this mysterious teaching. So the quarrels begin. We can imagine what was being said: "He's just using analogies," one man would suggest. "No! He says it's 'true food' and 'true drink,'" another would reply. Others would accuse Jesus of blaspheming, while still others would assert that they believe every word he says. And so it went.

This scene is all too common. People encounter a difficult teaching of the faith--one that is challenging to fulfill or difficult to believe--and so they argue about it or rationalize it away instead of just accepting it and living according to it. On a large scale, these sorts of arguments are what lead to the breakdown of Christian unity. Time and time again in history, when a group of people disagrees about a Christian teaching, they splinter off and define their own set of beliefs. Not only does this harm the harmony of the Christian community, but it makes it too easy to avoid the tough parts of the faith.

Some of the things Jesus wants us to do are difficult--like respecting God's plan for sexuality or controlling our urges for unrestrained pleasure, power, or profit. Some of the things Jesus taught us are mysterious--like the teaching that the Eucharist is truly his body and blood. But thankfully he has given us his Holy Spirit to help us understand and do what we should. Let's not waste our time arguing about the faith. Let's just live it.