



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*August 18, 2013
Twentieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Vol. 45, No. 36*



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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

Rev. Matthew P. Lorrain Pastor
Sammy Collura Permanent Deacon
Julie Ginther Cilano Christian Formation
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 at weekend Masses. Parents should call the office early to enroll in our baptismal preparation program. Parents should be registered and actively practicing the 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 his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." - Lk 12:49, 51

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to continue my review of our parish finances that I began in last week's bulletin. I mentioned that you were extremely generous in your giving last year which totaled \$555,000 in Sunday offertory collections and \$252,000 in Building Fund contributions. God loves a joyful giver and I pray that you have already experienced God's love and blessings.

This new fiscal year will present a few challenges to us but I am hopeful that we can overcome them by working together as a parish family. My two main concerns are servicing our debt now that we have completed the five year pledge period for the campaign to restore our church, and meeting our increased "parish share" commitment to the Diocese.

Our loan payment is \$12,787 per month or \$153,444 per year. Last year we were able to apply an extra \$100,000 in loan payments because many parishioners were still finishing their five year pledges. From now on we will have to rely on the monthly Building Fund collection to meet our loan payments. Please continue (or begin) your support of this important collection so that we can enjoy a public burning of the loan papers in about eight years.

As Catholics we are blessed to belong to a worldwide Church with Christ as our head and Pope Francis as the successor of St. Peter. Most of our offertory contributions stay in our parish but a portion goes to support our local Diocese, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and the Holy See. I mentioned last week that each church parish is assessed an amount by the Diocese based on their income from the previous fiscal year. Last year our "Parish Share" was \$82,400 but this year it is \$127,100, an increase of \$44,700, which has me a little worried.

Our finance committee met and together we scrutinized the 2013-2014 budget but were not able to find \$44,700 in cuts alone, so we will probably need to make up about \$30,000 over the coming year. I think we can do it if we each do our part in a spirit of gratitude. I am not asking for a major sacrifice but simply a small sacrifice by each of us so we can meet these two challenges. I assure you that we will keep a close

eye on the monthly finances so as to keep you informed and adjust our budget as necessary.

One area of the budget that saw growth last year was our youth ministry program. We had previously devoted very little resources to our youth but I am glad that we are offering more opportunities for them to develop their faith and contribute to the vitality of our community. Thanks to Julie Cilano and our parents, teens, and benefactors for making this possible.

Our RCIA Team is hosting an "Open House" on Wednesday, September 4, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory for anyone interested in becoming Catholic. Please invite family members, co-workers, or neighbors who might have previously expressed interest in learning more about the Catholic faith. For the rest of us who are already Catholic, please join us for our "First Ever Parish-Wide Pot Luck" supper this Thursday evening, August 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. The meal theme is Mexican so please call the Christian Formation Office (749-3387) to RSVP.

In Christ,
Father Matt



CHRISTIAN FORMATION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Come over to the office during business hours to sign up or we will have registration available after all Masses on August 17th & 18th.

WE NEED YOU!

Catechists, Aides and Helpers are needed for the Christian Formation Program.

Come share your gifts with the young church.

**Contact the Christian Formation Office
(749-3387) to learn more.**

**Catechists really needed for Children's Church
(especially during 11:00 am Mass.)
Please call 749-3387 if you can help!**

R.C.I.A. Open House

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA, begins with an Open House on Wednesday, September 4th at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory. The RCIA process is for non-Catholics who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, and also for Catholics who were baptized, but did not complete their other sacraments of initiation. If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the Catholic faith or possibly joining the Church, then please come to the Open House on September 4th or call the office for more information.



FIRST EVER PARISH POT LUCK

August 22 (6:30 pm) in the Activity Center
Meal Theme: Mexican Food

All Parishioners & Friends are welcome!

Please call the Christian Formation Office (749-3387) to let us know what food item you will bring. Bring a dish to serve 10-15 people.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS MEETING

Wednesday, August 21st—7:00 pm

Activity Center

Meal with KC's at 6:30 pm

Please try to attend!



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY RADIO NIGHT AT DRUSILLA SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

Wednesday, August 21, 2013 (5—10 pm)

10% of the cost of your meal will be donated to continuing Catholic Community Radio in the greater Baton Rouge area. Please call 923-0896 to reserve a table for your family & friends!

In today's second reading, St. Paul encourages us not to grow weary or lose heart, but to persevere in following Jesus. Our willingness to give of ourselves, even in the face of conflict and division, is one way to measure our discipleship.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

August 11, 2013

REGULAR:

237 Identified- - - - - \$8,611.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 585.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$9,196.00

A VOCATION VIEW

We all have a calling in life, just as Mary had a calling. We must make it meaningful for ourselves and those around us. If you feel God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Patricia Cheek and family upon the death of her husband, Darryl Cheek. Please keep them in your prayers.

KNIGHTS OF COUMBUS

⇒ Wednesday, August 21 (6:30 pm) Dinner & Regular Meeting—Activity Center

⇒ July Calendar Winners: Lucas Cordell, Stephen Panepinto, Frank Garza, Jr., Kristen Bouchereau, Peggy Woods, Jeff Wille, Yolanda Taylor, Mike Cobb, Curtis Blanchard, Donna Hassell, Courtney Theriot, Ginger Tate, Angie Marks, Linda Gaudet, Jim Safford, Katie Dimm, Ryan & Sandy George, Sylvia Rivet, David & Claire Robinson, Rod Hodges Larry G. Ferachi, James Frens, Celeste & Jack Laurent, Grady Robinson, Dani Breaux, Ron Rickett, Celeste Laurent, Mary Pinardi, Norma Deslatte, Brody Soniat, Michael Sulcer, Jr.



BAPTISMS

Attending a Baptismal Seminar is mandatory for parents to have their babies baptized. Seminars are held every other month to prepare families for this sacrament. Our next seminar is scheduled for Wednesday, September 11th at 6:30 pm in Classroom #5 of our Catechetical Building. Baptisms will be celebrated after 11:00 am Mass on Sunday, September 22nd.

Readings for the Week of August 18, 2013

Sunday: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10/Heb 12:1-4/
Lk 12:49-53
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: Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51
Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/
Lk 13:22-30

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Chris Buckle
Deacon Sammy Collura
Jerry Deshotel
Stacy Gauthreaux
David Landry
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar
David Toups



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Even one hundred and fifty years after it took place, the effects of the Civil War in the United States can still be felt. Even though the shifting population has tempered perceptions, those who work in the social sciences can still point to sections of the country where certain attitudes hold a greater sway than in others. And even though it may be unfair, there are times when a particular region will be categorized in a way that harkens back to an earlier era. The battles of the war are still fought by teams who meticulously reenact the events in a harmless historical hobby. More nefarious are those who use code words and false ideas to resurrect an era that should be consigned to history.

The divisions that Jesus attests to in this weekend's Gospel spring from the real experience of the early Christian community in the first century of its existence. For some, Christianity was a dangerous philosophy that needed to be eradicated. Some of its propositions threatened the security of the state, like the worship of the one God and the equality of everyone before the Lord referenced in Paul's famous words to the Galatians: "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (3:28).

The Gospel today is not an encouragement to family arguments. Jesus is not asking households to be so rigorous that our faith becomes a point of contention. But the Scripture does allude to a stress point that many of us may confront in our lives. Being a believer means that sometimes we must take a stand. We are called to proclaim clearly what we believe and to do that when it may be uncomfortable for us. We won't necessarily become a martyr, but there are times when there is a cost to our faith.