

August 2, 2015
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 47, No. 31



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
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, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." -Jn 6:32-33

Dear Parishioners,

I hate to be the bearer of bad news for our school age parishioners, but this is the last full week of summer vacation. Classes in West Baton Rouge begin on Monday, August 10, and classes in some of our neighboring parishes begin even earlier on August 6 or 7. It has been a very blessed summer and I pray it will be an exciting and blessed year of growth and discovery for all of our young parishioners.

In addition to praying for all of our students at the start of a new year, we also pray for all of our teachers and administrators, especially those who are new to the profession or beginning new positions at new schools. I pray that any fear and anxiety will soon give way to feelings of belonging and satisfaction at being called to such an important vocation.

Unfortunately, the start of a new school year also signals an increase in the number of cars and buses on the roads in the morning and evening. Not that the traffic was anywhere near perfect during the summer months but at least there was a noticeable drop off. Some of the best solutions being considered are also very expensive so it looks like we will have to cope with the slow moving traffic for some years to come. So guard your tongue and try to practice charity toward your fellow travelers on the roads.

We will celebrate the *Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick* in two weeks on Saturday, August 15, immediately following the 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass. Any person who is seriously ill because of sickness, old age, or injury may be anointed. The illness may be either physical or mental, and can include addictions. Anointing is also allowed prior to undergoing surgery. Please spread the word to your family and friends who may be in need of the healing graces provided through this special sacrament. And please pray for your fellow parishioners who are hospitalized, homebound, or struggling with cancer or some other serious illness.

August 15 is the *Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary* and normally a holy day of obligation. However Catholics are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass this year since the holy day falls on a Saturday. We will nonetheless celebrate a

Mass in honor of our Blessed Mother at 9:00 a.m. on August 15 for those who wish to attend. The 4:30 p.m. Mass later that same day will be the anticipated Mass for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Our R.C.I.A. process for people interested in joining the Catholic Church starts back up at the end of this month. We have an Open House planned for Wednesday, August 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory, so please invite your relatives, friends, or neighbors who may have expressed an interest in learning more about the Catholic faith or who wish to join the Church. Refreshments will be served along with information on the classes.

Congratulations to the new officers of our K.C. Council 10744 who were installed at their summer banquet this past Wednesday. The Grand Knight is Bob Bewick and the Deputy Grand Knight is Earl Millard. Sincere thanks to past Grand Knight Michael Vince for his leadership and outstanding service to our council and our entire parish.

In Christ,
Father Matt



Where, Oh Where Can We

Find a Fair Chair???

FEAST ON THE LEVEE

October 25, 2015

WE NEED YOU!

Plans are underway for this year's Feast on the Levee. Only thing missing—someone to chair it.

Please consider "stepping up to the plate" to help organize this very important fun and fundraiser event! Several items are already in place such as booking the bands, making plans for the Regular and Super Raffles, as well as some Booth Chairpeople having already responded.

Your main concern would be to occasionally check to be sure everything is ready by that date.

Maybe two couples could share this responsibility.

Please give us a call to volunteer.

COOKS & BOOTH WORKERS:

Will you be willing to do the same things that you have done in the past? Please let us know! THANKS

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.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY to:

Sonya Prejean & family upon the death of her brother, Jimmy Langlois.

W.B.R. MUSEUM

*“Holding Out and Hanging On
10 Years After Hurricane Katrina”*

This exhibit features the photography of retired LSU professor and first responder, Thomas Neff. The exhibit, which runs from now thru September 13, 2015 features photographs and stories of Katrina’s survivors gathered by Neff in the days following the storm which he later published in his 2007 book, Holding Out and Hanging On: Surviving Hurricane Katrina. Neff spent 45 days in New Orleans following the storm, and through his volunteer work, interviews, and photography he came to know the people who decided to remain despite the hardships. The exhibit provides an in-depth and personal view of the trying times New Orleans faced after the hurricane, as well as updates on the survivors pictured whenever possible.

On Tuesday, August 18th at noon, Thomas Neff will be at the W.B.R. Museum to present a gallery talk and book signing for this exhibit.

For more information call 336-2422, ext. 15 or visit www.westbatonrougemuseum.com. The museum is located at 845 N. Jefferson Ave. in Port Allen.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

July 26, 2015

REGULAR:

203 Identified- - - - - \$7,368.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 482.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,850.00

Building Fund—May- - - \$11,856.00

Building Fund—June- - - - \$16,155.00

Balance on Loan—June 2015- - - \$554,341.72

A VOCATION VIEW

The divine presence is often symbolized in the bread and wine, water, oil, candles, fire and light. However each of us must be a living sign and symbol of God’s presence within us. If you are willing to witness Christ with your life as a priest or religious then call or email Father Matt Dupre’ at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



*Pray for
Vocations*

ST. JOSEPH SPIRITUALITY CENTER

*“What’s My Song?: Helping Children Discover
God’s Purpose for Their Lives”*

Presented by: Fr. Matt Linn, SJ

Sunday, August 16, 2015

2 pm—4:30 pm

This time of reflection will teach parents and caregivers how to guide children to find their unique purpose. Each of us enters this world for a special reason, with a song that only we can sing. Children know this. We don’t need to teach our children their special purpose in life, as we would teach them to read or ride a bike. Rather, we need to help them remember what they already know.

St. Joseph’s Academy Chapel

3080 Kleinert Ave., Baton Rouge, LA

\$40.00 Fee

Open to all parents, grandparents, and other interested adults.

The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis for the Diocese of Baton Rouge has approved this program for Credit.



Readings for the Week of August 2, 2015

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Eph 4:17, 20-24/
Jn 6:24-35

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25--14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/
Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10

Friday: Dt 4:32-40/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Dt 6:4-13/Mt 17:14-20

Next Sun.: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Eph 4:30--5:2/Jn 6:41-51

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



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"So they said to him, 'What can we do to accomplish the works of God?' Jesus answered and said to them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent.'" These fledgling believers came to Jesus seeking direction. They had witnessed his miracles, heard his teachings, and been miraculously fed by his hands. Now they wanted to know what they should do. How should they respond to the revelations they were beholding? Most of us would expect an "active" answer to a question like theirs. We tend to think of God's work as things like the corporal works of mercy--feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless--or the spiritual works of mercy--instructing the ignorant, comforting the afflicted, and so on. But Jesus gives a surprising answer. Instead of focusing on these external tasks, he tells the crowd that God's work is to believe in him. They should accept the gift God gave: the Son. This, apparently, is the appropriate starting point for doing God's work.

And really, it makes sense. If we move too quickly into doing external actions, we risk not having enough interior strength behind them. Feeding the hungry is always good, but feeding the hungry as an expression of our love for Jesus is going to enable us to feed them with more compassion, more generosity, and more long-term commitment.

When faith in Jesus is foremost in our lives, then the other important tasks that are all part of God's work will fall into place. If we love Jesus, we will naturally want to love his people. So let us examine the good works that we do and be sure that they have as their starting point a deep and abiding faith in the Son of God.