



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*August 25, 2013  
Twenty-first Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Vol. 45, No. 37*



**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

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 passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" He answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate."*

Dear Parishioners,

This Thursday, August 28, is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the March on Washington and the famous keynote address entitled "I Have a Dream" delivered by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The historic gathering drew some 250,000 people and played a major role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act and the advancement of freedom and equality for all Americans.

Our country has come a long way since 1963 in terms of access to education, employment, and political office for all our citizens, and yet as a society we still struggle with prejudice and ignorance. Crime, poverty, and other social ills can allow old stereotypes to persist and prevent our growing together as one human family. Religious institutions are not immune to sinful and misbegotten attitudes and so ongoing conversion is a necessity for Catholics and all people of faith.

We know from experience that true conversion involves both the mind and the heart. If we are to grow in love and faith then we have to overcome erroneous beliefs and hardened hearts. We have to take advantage of opportunities to associate with people who are different from us so that we can discover our common humanity and expand our understanding and tolerance. We also need to avoid reading and watching materials and videos which promote hatred and discrimination.

Since Catholics are the majority in this part of the state it would be nice if we took the lead in furthering racial harmony. Doing so would help to create a much more loving environment for our children and grandchildren to inherit. How I wish the Muslim majority in Arab countries would take the lead in recognizing and protecting the rights of their Christian neighbors and countrymen. They seem to allow a few demagogues to hijack their religion for political power and gain.

On a lighter note, football season has finally arrived and LSU is set to open its season against TCU in the Cowboys Classic contest next Saturday, August 31, 2013, in Arlington, Texas. I plan to be one of the Tiger faithful in attendance, along with two of my priest friends, Father David Allen and Father Paul Counce. We are likely to run into many other priests

and parishioners there including Father Matt Dupre. Thanks in advance to Father Joel LaBauve who has kindly agreed to cover all of my Masses next weekend, August 31-September 1, so I can make the trip.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the 2011 game between LSU and Oregon which was an impressive opening win for Tigers. I know I preached tolerance earlier in this article but maybe a temporary exception can be allowed in the case of Horned Frogs so that we can thoroughly dominate our opponent and start the season with a win. We also plan to attend the Texas Rangers vs. Minnesota Twins game next Friday evening as a warm-up to the college football game so it should be a nice get away.

Have a good week and take care of things in my absence!

In Christ,  
Father Matt



## **CHRISTIAN FORMATION REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

Come over to the office during business hours  
to sign up !

### **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.



Prayers & Sympathy are extended to Joe Quattrone and family upon the death of his father, Anthony Joseph Quattrone. Please keep them in your prayers.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW BURNING IN MEMORY OF CARLYS SIBILLE.

## Altar Flowers

Altar flowers this weekend are in memory of Lydia Hebert on her birthday by the Daigle family.



**Baptismal Seminar**  
**Wednesday, September 11th**  
**6:30 pm**  
**Classroom #5—Catechetical Building**  
**Mandatory for parents**

Today's reading from Isaiah describes the Israelites bringing their offering to the Lord "in clean vessels." The gift of myself—my patient endurance and fidelity to the will of God—is as important as the monetary gift I offer.

Catholic University of America Collection will be taken up next weekend. Place your special envelope in the regular collection.

### STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

August 18, 2013

207 Identified- - - - - \$6,691.50

Loose Collection- - - - - 672.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,363.50

Assumption—\$1,632.00

### A VOCATION VIEW

We cannot decide we want to be a priest or religious, but rather that God is calling us to that life. We need to pray for the courage to answer that call. If you are struggling with that call in your life, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).

### ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Lucille Bouquet & her group for cleaning the church during the month of August. Cleaning for September will be done by Lisa Beraud (749-3170). Please give her a call if you want to lend a hand.

### BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Bill & Geri Schneider for chairing the committee during the month of August. Chaircouple for September will be Scrap & Ella Dean Thibodeaux. Please call them with any concerns. Thanks to the family & friends of Darryl Cheek for their recent donations.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Sunday, September 1, 2013**

- ◆ Communion Service for K.C. Members & their families at 7:30 am Mass
- ◆ Coffee & donuts will be served after 7:30 am Mass.

### Readings for the Week of August 25, 2013

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/  
Lk 13:22-30

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Mk 6:17-29

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19,

## CARDS, ETC.

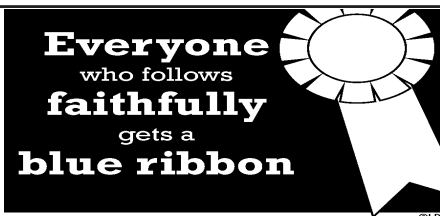


The Cards, Etc. Card party will be on Monday, October 21 from 9 am to 2 pm.

Registration forms will be e-mailed on September 3, 2013. If you don't have an e-mail address or don't have a printer we will have Registration Forms at the Parish Office and the Senior Spirit Center. If you have any questions call Gale at 749-3769 or 413-5809. All newcomers are welcome!!!

**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



**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

State fairs are famous for their many contests. The best cow, the best pig, the best sheep are hailed as "Grand Champions." The best cake, the best raspberry jam, the finest pickles, and the most delectable pie are awarded blue ribbons. Cheese and butter, honey and maple syrup, fruits and vegetables, agricultural products of all kinds win prizes of distinction based on criteria for their category. Hand-crafted items are also entered into competition, and ribbons won displayed on the home mantle. While almost anyone can enter one of these contests, there is only one blue ribbon, only one grand champion.

In Sunday's Gospel we hear Jesus respond to a question posed to him about the number who will be saved. One of the tenets of our faith concerns the universal salvific will of God, that is, God wants everyone to be saved. But God has also given humankind free will, meaning that people have a choice in accepting God's invitation to salvation. For those of us who are believers, it can be difficult to comprehend that someone would not want to enjoy eternal life. But that is a choice that God offers, and the Gospel this Sunday reinforces the idea that being saved is more than just a casual acquaintance with Jesus.

Like a competition at the state fair, there are criteria for entering the kingdom of God. They are not mysterious. There is not some secret code that we need to know. What is needed is clearly spelled out just like the rules for entering a pie or jar of canned peaches. We need to love God. We need to listen to his word. We need to be compassionate toward others. We need to love our neighbor. The difference between these criteria and entering a state fair contest is that there is always more than one grand champion in the Christian life. Everyone who follows faithfully gets a blue ribbon.