



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

August 31, 2014  
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Vol. 46, No. 35



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  
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 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

*"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life?" - Mt 16:24b-26*

Dear Parishioners,

The brutal murder of American journalist James Foley by members of the Islamic State earlier this month was a terrible crime against humanity. We knew from news reports that this particular group of militant Islamists operating in Syria and Iraq had absolutely no regard for human life, but I was still shocked that they would videotape his senseless murder. It was the latest in a long list of terrible crimes they have committed against innocent Christians, Muslims, and others who differ from their sick vision of a "faith-based" society.

I have long held that there is no worse fanatic than a religious fanatic. It is virtually impossible to reason or dialogue with a fanatic who believes that he or she has some special access to the truth or the will of God. One can try appealing to authority, but many times these religious fanatics are so delusional that they refuse to submit to any authority other than God. And they believe they have a direct hotline to God who directs and approves of their actions.

St. Ignatius, the Bishop of Antioch in Syria toward the end of the first century, was martyred around the year 107. He was able to write seven letters to Christian communities in between the time of his arrest and the time of his martyrdom in the amphitheater in Rome. In one of his letters he wrote, "We have not only to be called Christians, but to be Christians." Our actions have to be consistent with the core teachings of our faith or else we are living a lie. So the members of the Islamic State who sanction or perpetrate these crimes are not true Muslims no matter what they call themselves. They are frauds and criminals.

James Foley was a Catholic who took his faith and profession seriously. We don't know if he was killed for being an American or for being a Christian, but if the latter then he is a Catholic martyr similar to St. Ignatius of Antioch. The many Syrian and Iraqi Christians who have chosen to die rather than convert to Islam are also martyrs by definition. Bishop Peter Libasci of Manchester, New Hampshire where James Foley's parents live, noted that James Foley suffered the same form of death as our patron St. John the Baptist. So let us say a prayer for James and his family during this time of grief and loss.

Here at home, it is once again time to register all of our school age children for religion classes. Our Office of Christian Formation will be open next weekend, September 6-7, after all Masses to help facilitate the registration process. Please take advantage of this opportunity or if you prefer you may stop by the Christian Formation Office during regular business hours. Parents are also invited to attend the Parent Orientation gathering on Monday, September 8, at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center.

This Friday evening and Saturday morning, September 5 and 6, is the monthly all-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament led by our Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus. The twelve hour period begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday evening and ends with 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday morning. A schedule is available in the back of church if you would like to sign-up for an hour of prayer and adoration in the presence of our Lord. Please ask God to bring a lasting peace to the Middle East.

In Christ,  
Father Matt



## CATECHISTS NEEDED!!!

### Mondays:

- ◇ One Kindergarten Class
- ◇ One 3rd Grade Class
- ◇ One 6th Grade Class

### Tuesdays:

- ◇ One 3rd Grade Class
- One 4th Grade Class

**SUBSTITUTES BOTH DAYS—ALL GRADES**

## **CHRSTIAN FORMATION REGISTRATION**

After all Masses the weekend of  
September 6th & 7th  
In the Christian Formation Office

### **PARENT ORIENTATION MEETING**

**Monday, September 8—6:30pm**  
Registration will be held 5:45—6:30 pm  
Activity Center—Classroom #1

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

*"But Who do you say that I am?  
You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God."*

**(Matthew 16:15-16)**

The Most Blessed Sacrament is the God Man Jesus Christ in the fullness of His divinity and humanity. Our faith centers on this Truth and is not for debate. Do you believe or do you need help in your unbelief?

Please sign up for an hour with the Living God!!  
Friday, Sept. 5th at 8 pm—Saturday, Sept. 6th at 8 pm  
Sign up sheets are in the foyer of the Church.  
For more info, call Julie (749-8260) or Mary (324-5289)



**PRAYERS & SYMPATHY** are extended to Joseph Comeaux and his family upon the death of his sister, Jenny Comeaux.

### **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 help.

### **BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Thanks to Geri & Bill Schneider for chairing the committee during the month of August. Chaircouple for September will be Scrap & Ella Dean Thibodeaux. Please give them a call at 749-5754 with any concerns.

*Thanks to everyone for donations in memory of Mrs. Lorraine Breaux!*

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Sunday, September 7, 2014**

Communion Service for K.C. Members & their families at 7:30 am Mass.

Coffee & Donuts will be served after 7:30 am Mass.

**Wednesday, September 17, 2014**

Monthly Meeting—6:30 pm—Activity Center



*The Sanctuary Candle is now burning in memory of Donn & Mary Jo Parsons by the Parsons Family & Friends*

### **STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES**

August 24, 2014

REGULAR:

235 Identified- - - - - \$6,211.00

Loose- - - - - 517.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$6,728.00

### **A VOCATION VIEW**

If you wish to follow Him, Jesus said you must deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Him. Are you courageous enough to follow Jesus as a priest, brother or sister? If so, call Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, or email mdupre@diobr.org.



### **LABOR DAY**

**Monday, September 1st**  
**The Office will be closed for this holiday.**

### **Family Choices: Embracing Body, Mind & Spirit In Dementia Care**

**Presented by the Diocese of Baton Rouge**

Saturday, September 27, 2014

9:00 am—3:30 pm

Registration begins at 8:30 am

Catholic Life Center  
1800 S. Acadian Thruway  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Featuring Keynote Speakers

Sr. Janet Franklin, CSJ, Dr. Charles Mason, Angela Cunningham, LCSW, and Melanie Olivier, RN

Cost: \$10/Walk-Ins: \$15 (Lunch Provided)

CEU hours will be awarded to Social Workers for attendance of the entire program and completion of the post program evaluation.

Register online at [www.brfamilychoices.org](http://www.brfamilychoices.org) or call the Office of Marriage & Family Life at 225-242-0323



### **BAPTISMAL SEMINAR**

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014

6:00 pm—Classroom #5

Mandatory for Baptism

Baptisms will be celebrated on Sunday, September 21st after

11:00 am Mass

### **Readings for the Week of August 31, 2014**

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015**

Donna Badon  
Maria Bertrand  
Jamie Bourg  
Chris Buckle  
Deacon Sammy Collura  
Stacy Gauthreaux  
David Landry  
Jules Lefeaux  
Mark Loreno  
Fr. Matt Lorrain  
Jason Murphey  
Andrea Smicker  
Toni Tolar  
John Windham



**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" Profit and gain. Most of us would be happy to experience these things. In our capitalist economy, profit is the point. Gain is the goal. Thought of in terms of money or possessions, having plenty of them often offers us a sense of security and sometimes a kind of pleasure. But today Jesus warns us about putting too much stock in this kind of worldly security.

It's important to recognize that Jesus isn't condemning money or possessions in and of themselves. But he is advocating a radical rethinking of our priorities. In a way, he turns everything upside down. Instead of giving us tips to "gain the whole world," Jesus instructs us to take up our cross and follow him, and to lose our life for his sake. This is not a message about gain but about loss. At least, that's how it appears on the surface. When we take up our cross--embracing the sacrifices that come with our vocation, or accepting the sufferings that inevitably cross our path--it may not gain us immediate relief, but it will unite us to Christ who suffered for us on the cross. When we lose our life for his sake--giving of our time, our talents, and our treasure for the sake of those we love or those in need--it may not fill our pocketbooks, but it will fill our hearts.

Jesus wants our lives to be full. Full of love, full of peace, full of joy. Today he reminds us to be sure we aren't so full of other "stuff" that we have no room left for what truly satisfies. Jesus promises that in losing our life for his sake, we will find it in the end. May we have the confidence to put our trust in this promise.