



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



402 South Kirkland Drive (River Road) P. O. Box 248, Brusly, Louisiana 70719

OFFICE: 225-749-2189

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.
Monday, 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.
Monday, Wednesday thru Friday 7:40 a.m. or by appointment

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Arun John, IMS Pastor
Dana Babin Bookkeeper
Candice Breaux Youth Group Minister
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
Sara Hernandez Janitorial
Jayne Jason Child Protection
Layne Mire Parish Secretary
Lil Stutes Mother’s Day Out
Celeste Veillon Music Director

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Office closed for lunch 12:00–1:00 p.m.

BAPTISM

Celebrated monthly after the 11:00 am Mass and also celebrated after the 11:00am Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of Our 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 – Please call the Church 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 as soon as possible. Communion calls to homebound weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Family should contact the Pastor to begin funeral arrangements.
For Cemetery information, please call Jerry Deshotel 225-281-0333.

PRAYER LINE

Please call the Church Parish Office.

Dear Parishioners,

One day, a curious person in heaven asked St. Peter, “How many Hindus are in heaven?” St. Peter replied, “No Hindus.” Then he asked, “How many Muslims?” “Not even one,” replied St. Peter. The man was surprised. He then asked, “Okay then, are there only Christians in heaven?” “No, there are no Christians either,” answered St. Peter. “How many Catholics?” asked the man. “There are no Catholics either,” replied St. Peter. Then St. Peter stated, “Heaven is not meant for any particular group of people. There is no distinction between Hindus, Muslims or Christians, for all are welcome in heaven.” In the first reading we hear God telling his people, “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all people” (Is. 56: 7). This house is a reference to the Temple of Jerusalem, which was a symbol of heaven for them. Today’s first reading was for those Jews who returned from exile in Babylon, only to find their homeland occupied by foreigners, whom they resented. They had the choice of either expelling the foreigners or heeding to the teachings of Isaiah that the foreigners, who joined themselves to the Lord had accepted.

This Universalism was a hard lesson for the Jews to learn. That’s why there has always been, even during the time of Jesus, disputes about the place of the Gentiles. Can we imagine the terrible opposition St. Paul had to face when he tried to convince the pagans to become Christians? Most, if not all, of the Jewish people in the area thought that St. Paul was insane. Still, the Gentiles followed Christ. The point is that God’s mercy and love is available to all who call out to him in faith. That is the heart of the Gospel passage. The Canaanite woman in today’s Gospel was not Jewish, but a Gentile, and the disciples wanted Jesus to send her away. And she receives a response from Jesus that she would expect from a Jew, “It is not right to take the food of the sons and daughters and throw it to the dogs.” This follows the Jewish custom of speaking about the Gentiles as dogs. Jesus purposely spoke in a way that Jews would expect their Messiah to speak. Then he turned the table on them. Because this woman has great faith and persists in pleading for her children, he heals her daughter. In Christ, all divisions and differences between people are irrelevant. You might remember Paul’s passage in Galatians, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female. All are one in Christ. God’s mercy is extended to all who call upon him in faith.”

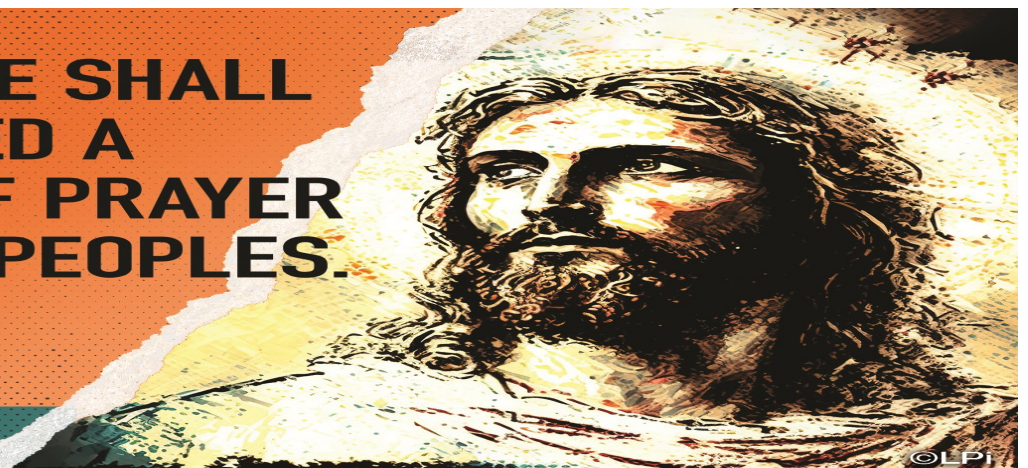
Today’s reading invites us to reflect on our attitude towards non-Christians, immigrants, their cultures and values. Today the anti-Gentilism is replaced by antisemitism, racism, Casteism, nationalism, etc. There are some of us who suffer from what we call xenophobia, which is people who are unduly fearful or contemptuous of strangers, foreigners and their customs, cultures and traditions. There are those who are afraid and try to oppose anything new or foreign. The word we should concentrate on is “Catholic”, which reminds us that ours is a universal, world-wide Church that embraces everyone. Every Catholic Church is a house of prayer for all peoples. Here, the Lord offers to us, not the scraps from the table, but his own precious body and blood. To be faithful to him is to accept all people without exception. In light of today’s reading, it’s good to ask ourselves, what is our attitude toward people of other religions, or other races and cultures? Let us ask for God’s grace to learn to treat everyone equally.

God Bless You,

Father John

**MY HOUSE SHALL
BE CALLED A
HOUSE OF PRAYER
FOR ALL PEOPLES.**

Isaiah 56:7



Christian Formation

Religion Classes will begin on Monday, August 21st at 5:30pm for grades K-8.

9th Grade Religion Classes will begin at 7:00pm on Tuesday, August 22nd in the Activity Center.

There will be no Religion Classes for K-8 from September 4th-6th due to the Labor Day holiday.

Grandparents Mass for Religion Classes of K-8 will be Monday, September 11th at 5:30pm. All families are welcome to sit together. Please drop off your child at 5:15pm at Church and pick up your child at 6:20pm from Church.



Please join us to learn about the Catholic Faith. Your Journey begins here, by enrolling in the R.C.I. A program. We will have an Open House on Wednesday, August 23rd in the Church Office at 6:30pm. If you need more information, please call Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.

Family Evangelization Meeting
Thursday, August 24th at 6:00pm in the Activity Center
Father John would like to invite all the young families of our Church Parish to attend.



Life, Peace & Justice Coordinator

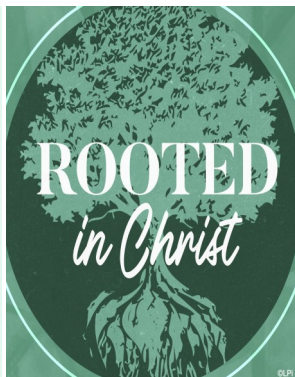
This is a part-time position at the Diocese of Baton Rouge. This role supports the Director by coordinating and overseeing diocesan meetings, events & ministries. For more information about this part-time position, go to: diobr.org/employment-opportunities



Our next Baptism Seminar will be held on Wednesday, September 13th at 6:00pm in Room One of the Christian Formation Building.

Vocations

Are you courageous enough to follow Christ? Is your faith strong? If God is calling you to a religious life, please contact Father Josh Johnson at 225-336-8778 or email him: jjohnson@diobr.org or visit: www.diobr.org/vocations



Feast on the Levee, Sunday, October 8th

Mass times: 7:30am & 10:00am

Beignets at 8:00am

Join us from 11:00am to 7:00pm for Cajun Cuisine, Jambalaya and a BBQ Cook Off. Our day will include Corn Hole, Bingo, 50/50 Raffle, Silent Auction & Bounce Houses for the children.

You can enjoy the tunes of Cajun Fire, Origin Story, John Foster & Rhodes, Maurer & Bourgeois Band with Gaylen Martin and Kenny Altazin.

Our 5K Fun Run will be held on Saturday, October 7th.

Come out and join the fun!



The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of Janice Goodwin.

The Ministry Appreciation Dinner will be held on Saturday, August 26th at 5:30pm in the Activity Center. Please call the Church Office by August 21st if you plan to attend.



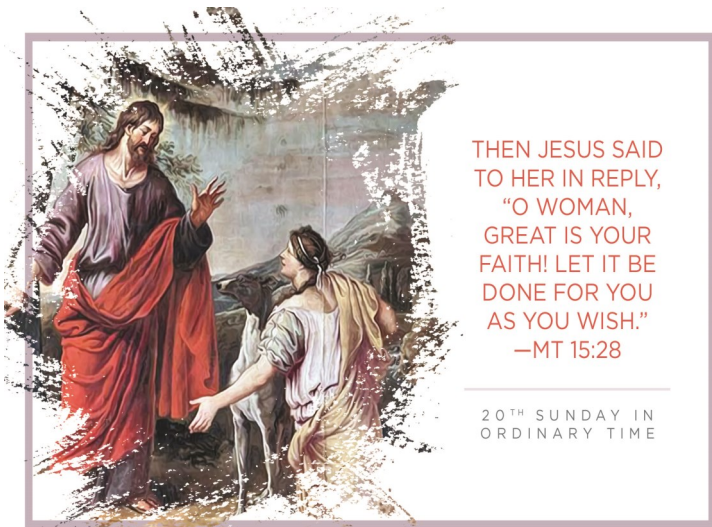
Mother's Day Out Meet & Greet is Thursday, August 31st from 10:00am-12:00pm. Please join the teachers in the Activity Center and tour the classrooms. Your child's program begins on September 5th.

Stewardship of Finance

Total Collection for August 13th: \$10,064.00



The Raffle tickets for the drawings on October 8th have gone out in the mail. Please return your ticket stubs, along with your payment to the Church Office. Thanks!



THEN JESUS SAID
TO HER IN REPLY,
"O WOMAN,
GREAT IS YOUR
FAITH! LET IT BE
DONE FOR YOU
AS YOU WISH."
—MT 15:28

20TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Readings for the week of August 20, 2023

- Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4)/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
- Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44/Mt 19:16-22
- Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 19:23-30
- Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 20:1-16
- Thursday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/
Jn 1:45-51
- Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10/Mt 22:34-40
- Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/
Mt 23:1-12
- Next Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 (8bc)/
Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

For All Parents in the Diocese of Baton Rouge
There will be a presentation at St. Michael's Gym in Baton Rouge on how to protect your family from the dangers of Pornography. The presentation will take place at 6:30pm on Tuesday, September 5th. For more information, contact: EFROEBA@SMHSBR.ORG

The Zippers are grateful for your donations; however they cannot accept furniture. To donate these items, please contact Joseph's Storehouse: 225-771-8858 or 225-615-8659.
The next Zipper's Sale date is August 31st at 7:30am.

Converging Roads Medical Conference
August 26th from 9:15am-5:45pm
held at The Tracy Center in Baton Rouge
For Medical professionals, students and lay people who are interested in practicing medicine under the Catholic ethos. To register, visit:
convergingroads.com/batonrouge

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to our
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