

*December 10, 2017  
Second Sunday of Advent  
Vol. 49, No. 56*



# 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](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  
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  
Wayne Delapasse..... Maintenance  
Katie Roettger..... Mothers’s Day Out

### 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

*John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me." - Mk 1:4, 6-7a*

Dear Parishioners,

I am scheduled to return from the Holy Land late Saturday night, December 9, so you may see me sometime this Sunday morning. But just to be safe I scheduled Fathers David Allen and Ryan Hallford to celebrate all of our Masses this weekend, December 9 & 10. Please welcome Fathers David and Ryan and thank them for their kind service to our parish.

We can transform our lives and our community this Advent by each making a commitment to go to confession before Christmas. Holy Family Church in Port Allen has its penance service this Wednesday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. We will have our penance service here at **St. John the Baptist** the following week on **Tuesday, December 19, at 6:30 p.m.** We also have our regular Saturday afternoon confessions from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. every week.

“Advent Joy - A Morning of Reflection” led by Pamela Folse and Lucy Landry is next Saturday, December 16, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The Third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday, and so the morning reflection will focus on the joy of Christ as revealed in the scripture readings of the season.

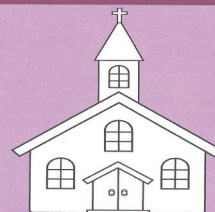
Our *Advent/Christmas Concert* will be held next Sunday, December 17, at 5:00 p.m. in the church. We receive many complements from visitors on the singing of our choir and this concert gives us a chance to enjoy their beautiful singing outside of Mass. Admission is free but you are invited to bring a canned good for our food bank. A Christmas Cookie reception will follow in the Parish Activity Center.

Next Sunday, December 17, is also Pope Francis’s birthday, so please say a prayer for the continued health and well-being of our Holy Father. He turns 81 this year and seems to be in very good health despite a very full schedule. Our own Bishop Robert Muench, also has a birthday this month and turns 75 on December 28. Bishops are required to submit their resignation to the Pope on their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday but continue to serve until the Pope accepts their resignation and names a replacement. That will most likely happen next summer.

Christmas falls on a Monday this year, and so everyone will need to attend Mass twice over a four day period – once for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and once for Christmas. Our Masses for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent are at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 23, and at 7:30 & 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 24. Masses for Christmas are at 4:00 & 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 24, and at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 25.

Lastly, as mentioned last week, our parish recently purchased a subscription to FORMED, a wonderful website that has been called a “Catholic Netflix.” FORMED has inspiring video-based study programs, audio talks, eBooks, feature films, and documentaries, and may be accessed on your television, phone, laptop, iPad, or Kindle. Flyers are located in the back of church with step by step instructions on how to register for your free access to all of the wonderful content.

In Christ,  
Father Matt



**MASS FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION  
STUDENTS K-8  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12TH  
DROP OFF IN ACTIVITY CENTER 5:15  
PICK UP IN CHURCH AT 6:30.  
THERE WILL BE NO CLASS  
ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 11TH  
DUE TO MASS ON TUESDAY.**

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION F.Y.I.  
CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18TH AND  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19TH  
WILL BE FOR GRADES K—4TH ONLY.  
THERE WILL BE NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION  
CLASSES FOR GRADES 5TH—10TH GRADES  
ON THESE DAYS.**

**CATECHISTS NEEDED  
4th Grade Catechist to complete this school year!  
11:00 am Children’s church beginning March 2018  
Call Karen or June at 749-3387.**



### ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Wednesday, Dec. 13—6:30 pm  
Holy Family, Port Allen, LA  
\*Wednesday, Dec. 13—6:30 pm  
Immaculate Heart of Mary—Maringouin, LA  
Tuesday, Dec. 19—6:30 pm  
St. John the Baptist—Brusly, LA  
\*Wednesday, Dec. 20—6:30 pm  
Immaculate Conception—Lakeland, LA  
\*First Penance & Advent Penance Services are combined at Immaculate Conception & Immaculate Heart of Mary Parishes



### A VOCATION VIEW

John the Baptist is sent by God to prepare the way for His Son. In our present time God sends priests and religious, especially to prepare the people to receive His Son. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, [framerrick@gmail.com](mailto:framerrick@gmail.com), or visit, [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE  
IS NOW BURNING  
IN MEMORY OF  
MYRIA ANDRE-MARTIN



*Rest in Peace*

### PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to

Chantelle Corrent Johnson & family upon the death of her husband, James Richard "Richie" Johnson to Patty Willis & family upon the death of her father, Stephen LeBlanc; to Karen Lemoine & family upon the death of her mother, Anita Moore and to Claudia & Beryl Langlois & family upon the death of their brother, Harold "Frenchie" Lasserre. Please keep them in your prayers.



### ADVENT JOY

*A Morning of Reflection*  
Saturday, December 16, 2017  
(9:00am to Noon)  
Presented by Pamela Folse  
and Lucy Landry

During the liturgical season of Advent, Catholics prayerfully practice waiting...for hope, peace, joy and love. We await the coming of Christ. We believe that God hears our prayers of waiting and, with great mercy and compassion, God leads us to a greater realization of the Sacred Presence that surrounds us. On Gaudete Sunday, December 17, we light the pink Advent candle celebrating joy. The Morning of Reflection will particularly focus on joy, especially the joy found in the birth narratives of Matthew and Luke

St. John the Baptist Parishioners and Friends are invited to the Morning of Reflection. A light lunch will be served. To register, please call the Church Office (749-2189) by Thursday, December 14, 2017. There is no attendance charge.

### NATIVITY CAROL

~an evening of Advent and Christmas song~

Sunday, December 17, 2017

5:00PM

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH  
BRUSLY, LOUISIANA



Canned good donations to benefit our Food Bank are welcome!

A Christmas Cookie reception will follow in the Activity Center.

### BALM FOR THE SOUL COOKBOOKS

Just in time for Christmas!! \$15 each. First published in 2011, this is our tenth printing. Over 1200 copies sold to date. Call Margaret Canella (749-2874) to purchase. Proceeds to benefit St. John the Baptist Bereavement Committee.



**Brusly Lions Club**  
December 16, 2017 (9—11 am)  
Doors Open at 9:00 am  
Adults \$15/Kids \$10/4 & Under Free  
Call Andrea (328-4843)  
Denise (937-3082) or  
Bonnie (313-5505) ASAP  
to reserve your tickets.

### STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 3, 2017

#### REGULAR:

269 Identified- - - - - \$17,990.50  
Loose Collection- - - - - 619.00  
TOTAL- - - - - \$18,609.50

Christmas Flowers- - - - - \$2,119.00

### Readings for the Week of December 10, 2017

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8  
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/ Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13 ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
Next Sunday: I s 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/ Jn 1: 6-8, 19-28

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018**

Donna Badon  
John Begue  
Bob Bewick  
Maria Bertrand  
Jamie Bourg  
Chris Buckle  
Jules Lefeaux  
Mark Loreno, Vice-Chairman  
Fr. Matt Lorrain  
Mary Claire Meyer, Secretary  
Jason Murphey  
Andrea Smicker  
Toni Tolar, Chairman



**Second Sunday of Advent**

The countercultural John the Baptist may have had an odd sense of style by our standards (he wore camel hair) and he may have consumed an unappealing diet (locusts and wild honey), but he had his finger on the pulse of what really mattered. He needed little in the way of worldly comforts because he was consumed with his task of spiritually preparing those who were willing to hear for the One who would come to baptize with the power of the Holy Spirit. What mattered was this future revelation, and John would let nothing that belongs to this earthly existence get in the way of his preparation for that revelation.

In his second letter, Peter tells us that all will dissolve away and through holiness and devotion we will be made ready for the Lord's coming. The trends we get caught up in will seem empty and meaningless. All that will remain is God and those created in his image, and the relationships we have between us.

What matters to you, right here and right now, on this Second Sunday of Advent? We don't have to trade in brand-name clothes for camel hair, but we need to ask ourselves: if we were called to give it all away tomorrow for Jesus, would we be mature enough to do so? The answer to this question lies at the heart of stewardship.