



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*December 14, 2014*  
*Third Sunday of Advent*  
*Vol. 46, No. 50*



**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

John answered them, "I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." - Jn 1:26-27

Dear Parishioners,

We have reached the third week of Advent and the excitement is building around the parish. Our Parish Penance Service is this **Tuesday evening, December 16, at 7:00 p.m.**, so please take a moment to examine your heart and join us if it has been a while since your last confession. Fathers David Allen, Todd Lloyd, and Brent Maher will be here to assist us. We may bring some of our junior high classes over as well to take advantage of this special opportunity to celebrate God's forgiveness.

This Wednesday is Pope Francis's birthday, so please say a prayer for the continued health and well-being of our Holy Father. He was born on December 17, 1936 in Buenos Aires, which makes him 78 years old this year. Most bishops submit their resignation at 75 but Cardinals usually work longer and are able to vote in a papal conclave until the age of 80. Popes have traditionally died in office, but Pope Benedict XVI set a new precedent by resigning for health reasons in February 2013 at the age of 85. We will have to see which path Pope Francis chooses to follow under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. But we pray that decision is still many years in the future.

Our own Bishop Robert Muench, also has a birthday this month and turns 72 on December 28. So in three years he will submit his letter of resignation to the Holy Father to see if Pope Francis wishes him to continue serving or transition to ministry as a retired bishop. In most cases, a retired bishop will continue to reside in his former diocese and assist his successor with Confirmations and other priestly and episcopal duties. Bishop Muench has now served as Bishop of our Diocese for 13 years and is our longest serving bishop, surpassing the length of office of Bishop Robert Tracy by six months.

On Thursday night of this week, December 18, we have our Pot Luck Dinner at the usual time of 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center. The theme for the meal is naturally Christmas, which provides plenty of latitude in choosing a dish to prepare for the evening. This is a difficult time of year to lose weight, but New Year's resolutions are lurking just around the corner. Our schedule of services for Christmas includes two Masses on Christmas Eve and two Masses on Christmas morning. The celebration begins on Christmas

Eve with a choir concert at 3:15 p.m. followed by our 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass. We then have a second Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. which includes a dramatization of the Gospel by some of the children of our parish. Masses on Christmas Day are at 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.. (We do not have a midnight Mass.)

The annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious is this weekend, December 13 & 14. This is our chance to help provide for our consecrated religious who have given so much to the Church over the years. Since this is also the weekend for our monthly Building Fund collection, I ask that you place your contributions in envelopes marked "Religious Retirement" and then drop them in the first collection.

In Christ,  
Father Matt



## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEARS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve—Wednesday, December 24  
4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Christmas Day—Thursday, December 25  
7:30 am & 10:00 am

New Years Eve—Wednesday, December 31  
4:30 pm

New Years Day—Thursday, January 1  
9:00 am

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
BEGINNING AT NOON CHRISTMAS EVE THROUGH  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH and  
BEGINNING AT NOON NEW YEARS EVE THROUGH  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 2ND

**NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES**  
**December 22nd & 23rd; 29th & 30th;**  
**and January 5th & 6th**  
**PLEASE NOTE: ONLY 8th GRADE WILL MEET**  
**ON JANUARY 5th**



**St. John the Baptist**  
**Parish Penance Service**  
**Tuesday, December 16, 2014**  
**7:00 pm**



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE  
IS NOW BURNING IN MEMORY  
OF DUSTIN DELAPASSE BY THE  
DELAPASSE FAMILY.**

**LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS FOR  
JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH ARE IN.  
PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE PARISH  
OFFICE.**



**PRAYERS & SYMPATHY** are extended to Paul Black & family upon the death of his father, Ronald Black and to James Vidrine & family upon the death of his father, James O. Vidrine. Please keep them in your prayers.

**25th & 50th Diocesan Wedding  
Anniversary Celebration**



Sunday, February 8, 2015 (3:00 pm)  
Our Lady of Mercy Church—Baton Rouge, LA  
Call the Parish Office (749-2189) to register.



**CELEBRATE EPIPHANY SUNDAY**

Fr. Greg Daigle & the Epiphany Orchestra will be in concert on Epiphany Sunday, January 4, 2015 at 4:00 pm. Music of the Christmas Season, Songs of Faith, and other songs will be on the program for this concert which will be given at St. John the Evangelist Church in Plaquemine, LA. Tickets are \$25 and all proceeds will go to benefit St. John School. For tickets call St. John the Evangelist Church Office at (225) 687-2402.

**K.C. CALENDAR WINNERS—DECEMBER**

Henry O. Marks, Lloyd Bouchereau, Jr., Thomas & Elizabeth Duncan, Rhonda Martinez, Faye Watts, Cory Taylor, Jr., Stephanie McGuire, Vickey Vicknair, Bonnie & Jerry Bitters, Zara Blanchard, Theresa Templet, Patrick Rills, Frankie Benedetto, Kirstie Rodriguez, Susan Hebert, Margaret Berthelot, Julianna Distefano, Becky Wheeler, Mary Mouch, Harry Case, Jr., Audrey Tempanaro, Anthony White, Mabel Simoneaux, Clayton Rooney, Leah & Beau Barras, E.J. Falcon, Pat Blanchard, Clarence & Elsie Falcon, David & Sharon Couvillon, Lois Deslattes

**STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES**

**December 7, 2014**

**REGULAR:**

**300 Identified- - - - - \$21,343.00**

**Loose Collection- - - - - 783.00**

**TOTAL- - - - - \$22,126.00**

**Immaculate Conception—\$1,252.00**

**A VOCATION VIEW**

There was a man named John, sent by God, who came as a witness to testify to the Light, so that through this person all people might believe. It is possible God could call your name to witness to the Light of Christ in our day. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Father Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org.

**ROSARYVILLE SPIRIT LIFE CENTER**

**Sister Rose Bowen Day of Prayer**

**Beginning Life Anew**

**Thursday, January 22, 2015**

Looking for a day of prayer? God is always doing something new in us. Every day is the right time to receive this newness. Can we be thankful and responsive to this love in a new way? Pope Francis says, "Do not be afraid of new things." The day begins at 9:00 am with coffee & fellowship. Talks begin at 9:30 with discussion and quiet time for reflection. Lunch at noon Cost: \$35.00.

Men's Retreat: Emmaus

January 23—25, 2015

Open to All Men - Put aside the "hustle and bustle" of daily life and attend the Men's Retreat at Rosaryville Retreat House. Based on the scripture passage "The Road to Emmaus" (Luke 24:13-35), this is an uplifting experience that has a profound effect on men's lives. Begins at 5:00 pm Friday and ends after 5:30 pm Mass Sunday.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (504) 481-0411.**



**ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS**

**RETREAT CENTER**

***Being made Channels of God's Peace***

(Based on the 12 Steps)

January 9—11, 2015

Sr. Cathy Cahill, Presenter

***From Surviving to Thriving: Discovering the Purpose in Life and our Gifts***

January 16—18, 2015

Fr. Matthew Linn, Presenter

**Call (504) 267-9604 for more info or to register.**

**Readings for the Week of December 14, 2014**

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/  
Jn1:6-8 19-28

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/  
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

**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



**3rd Sunday of Advent**

"There is one among you whom you do not recognize." With these words, John the Baptist was referring to his cousin, Jesus. Although Jesus had not yet begun his public ministry, John knew that Jesus was the Messiah. And it was John's mission to prepare other people to recognize that fact.

John and Jesus had first "met" in utero when Mary visited Elizabeth. Even from that early moment, John understood the significance of encountering Jesus. The Gospel of Luke tells us that the baby "leaped for joy" in Elizabeth's womb when the expectant Mary approached. Now that these two babies were grown men, John was still in the business of recognizing Jesus' significance. He describes his cousin as "the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." John knew that Jesus was something special. And he made it his goal to lead others to the same realization.

Of course, as Christians in the twenty-first century, we already know that Jesus is the Messiah. But John's words still raise an important question for us today: Do we recognize the real significance of Jesus? Do we take him for granted, or do we appreciate the gift of salvation that he offers us? Today's Gospel reading tells us that John came "to testify to the light." Do we let the light of Christ guide our way? Have we "made straight the way of the Lord" by putting Jesus first in our lives?

Today as we light the third candle on the Advent wreath, we would do well to reflect on the true light that came down from heaven. Let us pray, as this holy season continues, that our minds and hearts will be enlightened to grasp the true significance of the coming of Christ.