



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

**OFFICE:** 225-749-2189

**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.  
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 Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.

**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**

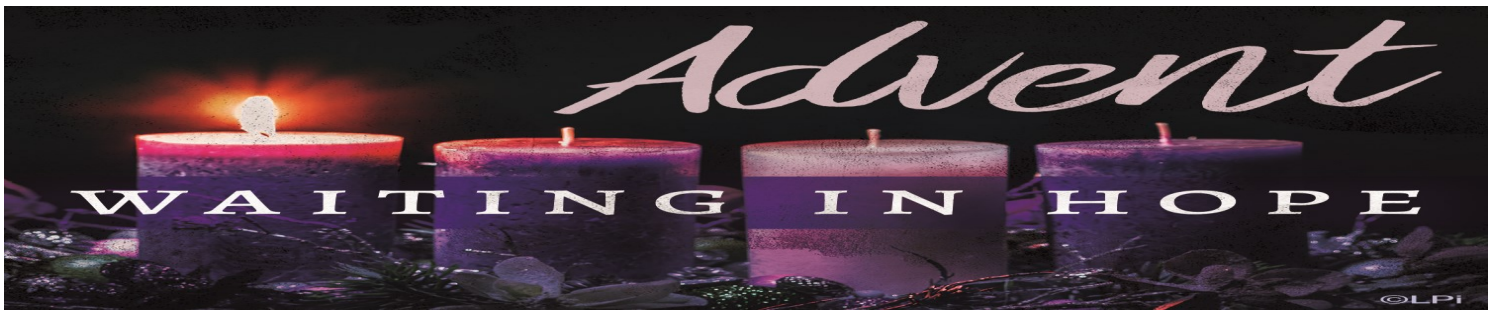
Emergency calls answered as soon as possible. Communion calls to homebound weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

**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 Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.



Dear Parishioners,

The Jewish people were in distress after their land was captured by the Romans. They were looking for a national and religious leader to liberate them. They longed for a “strong man”, a savior, a liberator; someone who could restore their land and their freedom. It was during this time of expectation for a strong leader, that John the Baptist became popular and people were sent to ask him, “Who are you?” Is John the messiah or the awaited liberator? As we heard in the Gospel, John was very adamant, “I am not the messiah, nor am I the light.” He confessed, “I am the voice that cries out in the wilderness. Make straight the way of the Lord.” Hence, John’s mission was to prepare for the coming of the Messiah, who would baptize them with water and the Holy Spirit. John further stated that he was not even worthy to untie the straps of Jesus’ sandals. Here we see the humility of John, the humility with which he accepted himself as the voice of the wilderness, who came to prepare the way of the Lord.

Today if someone asks me, “Who are you”? My spontaneous answer would be, “I am Fr. John.” I would make sure to include my title, “Father”, because that gives me some importance, doesn’t it? And I am sure most of us would answer in a similar manner, if we are asked the same question. For example, “I am Dr. so and so. I am a teacher, Mr./Mrs. so and so. Or I am Officer so and so.” This is the way the world operates today. We are not bothered about why it is like this; nor do we try to find out what does the question really mean to us? A woman was in a coma and was dying. She suddenly had a feeling that she was taken up to heaven and stood before the Judgement Seat. “Who are you”?, a voice said to her. “I am the wife of the mayor,” she replied. “I did not ask you whose wife you were, but who are you?” She then replied, “I am the mother of four children.” The voice said, “I did not ask whose mother you are, or how many children you have, but who are you?” She then stated, “I am a school teacher.” The voice replied, “I did not ask what your profession is, but who are you?” And so the conversation continued, and she said, “I am a Christian. I went to Church every Sunday and helped the poor and needy.” She evidently failed the examination and was sent back to earth. When she recovered from her illness, she was determined to find out who she was. That made all the difference to her.

This is what happens to us. We are busy with so many things in the world. We are pulled in all directions; we want to do so many things in a very short time. We do everything possible to keep our bodily self happy, or our family wealthy, or to appear as good, decent, and loving human beings who do a lot of service for others. What we forget is that we may be doing all this at the cost of our own well being. How much time do we give to ourselves spiritually to sincerely know who we are. This requires patience, silence, and calming of our minds. In other words, to get a proper reply to this question we need to make an analysis of ourselves. The following questions would help: Who am I? What do I think of myself? What do others think of me, those who love and respect me? Above all what does God think of me? Let us pray that the Lord may help us to make this examination with courage, and prepare ourselves meaningfully for the coming of Christmas. Our sincere effort may help us to answer these questions with humility as John the Baptist did. An examination of ourselves may help us to know that we have strayed from God’s ways. But no matter who we are, and how far we have wandered away from God, He always comes after us, seeking us, and wanting us back with Him. One way that Catholics can come back to God and get right with Him is through the sacrament of penance. This Wednesday, December 20th at 6: 00 PM, we have an opportunity for that at St. John the Baptist Church. I would like to invite all of you to take this opportunity and get right with God and one another. This will allow the joy of Christmas to be real for us!

God bless you,

Father John



*First  
Reconciliation*

First Reconciliation &  
Advent Penance Service  
Wednesday,  
December 20th  
6:00pm

*The Sanctuary  
Candle burns in  
memory of  
Brennan Bujol.*



**Holiday season Announcements**

There will be no Religion Classes for grades K-8 from December 18th through January 5th.

Christmas Mass Schedule is as follows:  
Sunday, December 24th at 4:00pm & 6:00pm  
Monday, December 25th 8:00am & 10:00am

Sunday Mass Schedule for December 24th is 7:30am and 10:00am.

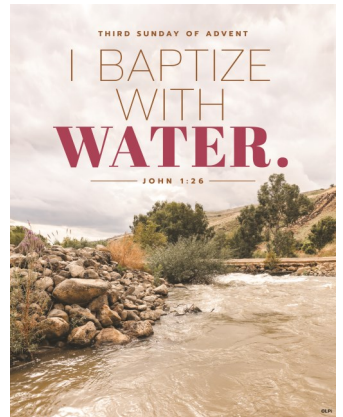
The Church Office will be closed from December 25th through January 1st for the Holidays.

**Eucharistic Revival Mass & Procession  
December 3, 2023**



Please welcome  
**Piper Ann McDaniel**  
to our faith community!  
She is the daughter of Zachary  
& Olivia McDaniel and was  
baptized on December 3rd.

Our next Baptism  
Seminar is Wednesday, January  
10th at 6:00pm. Please call the  
Church Office to register.



Please consider serving your Church Community by leading an established Bereavement Committee in the months of February or August. This Leader will organize food for our bereaved families. Please consider this ministry and call Ruth Landry, 225-749-3101.

**Vocations**

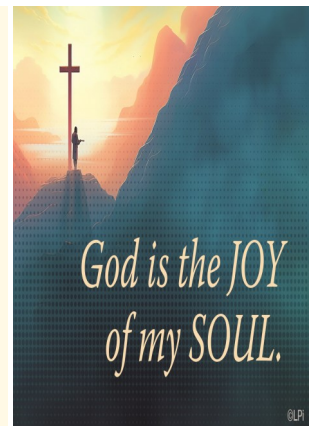
Will you testify to the light as John the Baptist did? Can you recognize Jesus in others? Is God calling you as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? If so, please contact Father Josh Johnson at 225-336-8778 or email him: [jjohnson@diobr.org](mailto:jjohnson@diobr.org) or visit: [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations)



Sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of Ede Edward "Henry" Bahry, Jr. upon his death.

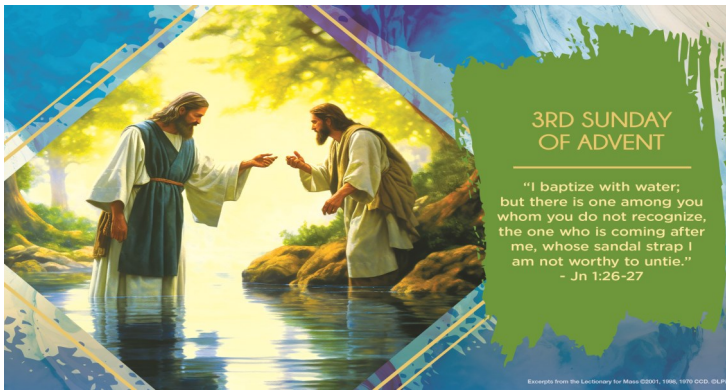
**Women's Ministry  
Bible Study  
Walking With Purpose -  
Living in the Father's Love**

This Bible study will begin in January and will take place during the day. Materials will need to be purchased. If you wish to join this group, please contact Roxanne Loreno, 225-614-5424 or Pamela LeDoux, 337-513-1334 by December 27th.



**Stewardship of Finance**

Total Collection for December 3rd:	\$20,842.00
Retirement Fund for the Religious:	\$2,300.00



**3RD SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

"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

**Readings for the week of December 17, 2023**

- Sunday: Is 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
- Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
- Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/  
Lk 1:5-25
- Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,  
20-21/Lk 1:39-45
- Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Lk 1:46-56
- Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/  
Lk 1:57-66
- Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27,  
29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

**KCs Council #10744 cooked and served red beans & rice to the students studying for final exams at Christ the King Church on the LSU campus on December 5th.**



**A Trip to the Vatican and Rome is being planned by Donna Kirkland for September of 2024. You can join this group by contacting Donna at 225-803-6013, or via email: donnakirkland@gmail.com**

**HRIS Specialist position open at the Diocese of Baton Rouge**

**This position is full time benefits eligible and supports and backs up the Human Resource Information System Administrator. Education requirement is a Bachelor's degree and prior work experience. For more information on this job, please go to: [www.diobr.org/employment-opportunities](http://www.diobr.org/employment-opportunities)**