



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST
 catholic church

December 22, 2013
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Vol. 45, No. 53
December 29, 2013
The Holy Family
Vol. 45, No. 54



402 S. KIRKLAND (RIVER ROAD) • P.O. BOX 248 BRUSLY, LA 70719

OFFICE: 225-749-2189 • FAX: 225-749-1921
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.
 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 at weekend Masses. Parents should call the office early to enroll in our baptismal preparation program. Parents should be registered and actively practicing the 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.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. - Mt 1:23-24

When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. - Mt 2:19-21

Dear Parishioners,

This is a two-week bulletin due to the Christmas and New Year's Day festivities. Once again, 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.. (Note that we do not have a midnight Mass.)

New Year's Day is the octave of Christmas, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and a holy day of obligation. We will have a 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass on Tuesday, December 31, and then a 9:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesday, January 1, in celebration of the holy day. Purple and gold attire is naturally acceptable for Mass on New Year's Day since L.S.U. plays Iowa in the Outback Bowl at 12:00 noon that same day.

I plan to visit my family in Metairie after our Masses on Christmas Day, and then take off for a short vacation with Father Paul Counce. Father Donald Blanchard will celebrate the 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass here on December 28, and Father John Carville will celebrate the 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m. Masses on December 29. Msgr. Gerald LeFebvre will celebrate the Masses on December 31 and January 1. Please join me in thanking them for celebrating the Masses for us in my absence. We will have Communion Services in place of the weekday Masses December 26 through January 3, 2014.

Sign-up sheets are available in the rear of church for anyone wishing to participate in the all-night adoration of the Blessed Sacrament being promoted by our Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus. This is hoped to be a monthly practice and begins at 8:00 p.m. on the evening of Friday, January 3, and concludes with Mass at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 4, 2014. Why not sign up to spend an hour of silent prayer with our Savior in the familiar surroundings of our beloved church? We would like at least two adorers during each hour of adoration. *Catholic Updates* on Eucharistic Adoration have also been placed on

the sign-up table and provide a nice refresher course on this important spiritual practice.

In case you were out of town last week, I mentioned in the bulletin that I am adjusting our wedding fees here at St. John the Baptist to bring them in line with those of other Catholic parishes in the area. Effective immediately, the fee for weddings at St. John the Baptist is set at \$300.00 for parishioners and \$500.00 for non-parishioners. The fee should be paid at the time that the church is reserved for the wedding. The one exception will be for registered parishioners of Holy Family Parish in Port Allen who may choose to be married here while their church is being renovated. They will be charged the "in-parish" rate as a courtesy.

Our Diocesan Respect Life Rally is set for Sunday, January 12, 2014, in the Main Auditorium of the Catholic Life Center. This year's keynote address will be delivered by Mr. Shawn Carney, the co-founder of 40 Days for Life and a well-respected inspirational speaker. The Pro-Life Oratory contest winner will also deliver his or her winning address, and Catholics of all ages are invited to attend. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

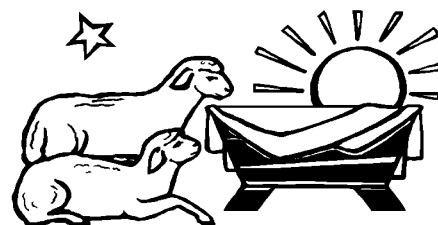
In Christ,
Father Matt

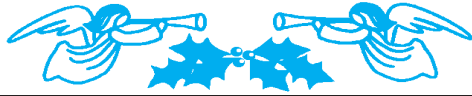
Eucharistic Adoration



"I Am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His life for His Sheep." (John 10:11)

Get to know the Good Shepherd Who laid down His life for us. He waits for our visit in Eucharistic Adoration. Please consider signing up for an hour of Adoration one time or every month. Sign-up sheets are in the foyer of the Church for Friday, January 3rd (8pm) thru Sunday, January 4th (8am).





CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday, December 24th: 4:00 & 6:00 pm
Wednesday, December 25th: 7:30 & 10:00 am

NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Tuesday, December 31st: 4:30 pm (No am Mass)
Wednesday, January 1st: 9:00 am

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sun., January 4

Communion Service for K.C. Members & their families at 7:30 am Mass.
Coffee & Donuts will be served after 7:30 am Mass in the Activity Center

November Calendar Winners:: Zeaven Hunt, Elbon Vidrine, Peter Rosson, Carolyn Sheets, Cassandra Allain, Jessica Miller, Jeanette Chapman, Glenn J. Robert, Brett Theriot, Nicholas Theriot, Michael Cordell, Jeffery Ourso, Darlene Williams, Dolores Laurent, Rosie Tullier, Joann Daigle, Blake Sarradet, Keith Morris, KC Council 5352, Curtis Blanchard, Dr. Tamara Ringling, Courtney Theriot, Judy Poche, Sheila Theriot, Mike Cazes, Brett Theriot, Gary Breaux, Doris Zeringue, Margie Vitale, Jason Riggs

December Calendar Winners: Matt Fitzgerald, Sarah Pine Sotile, Jordy Soniat, Michael Cordell, John Provenza Betty Gassie, Kathy & Ray LeJeune, Rosie Tullier, Lisa Beraud, Kisha Williams, KC Council 5352, Catherine Blanchard, Kim Gros, Tricia & Tommy Zeringue, Gladys M. Albarado, Shelley LeBlanc, John & Helen Gossman, Nell Pepitone, Ralph Rivet, Jr., Sheila Theriot, Charlene McCreight, Robbie Dupont Conrad Tempanaro, John Mouch, Kendra Gomez, Dana Dauzat, Sammy Corrent, Jr., Debbie Barbier, Marty Michel, Lonnie Mabile

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Mary Anita Tullier for chairing the committee during the month of December. Chairman for January will be Ruth Landry. Please call her with any concerns.



BAPTISMAL SEMINAR

January 8, 2014
6:30 pm in Classroom #5
Mandatory for Baptism

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 15, 2013
206 Identified- - - - - \$8,639.33
Loose Collection- - - - - 721.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$9,360.33

A VOCATION VIEW

God sent His Son Jesus to teach people of the Father's love and plan for salvation. Jesus continues to send priests, sisters, deacons and brothers to the world to continue His work of salvation. If you think God is calling you to do this, call Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, or email mdupre@diobr.org.



The Sanctuary Candle is now burning in memory of Cyril John Doiron by Marina Doiron & family.

PRAYERS & SYMSPATHY are extended to Mary Meyer & her family upon the death of her brother, Edwin Mathews. Please keep them in your prayers.

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Cindi Breaux, Jocelyn Gauthreaux, Virgie Hannah, Josie & Eldon Delaune, Maryna Doiron & Ann Marchand for cleaning the church during the month of December. Cleaning for January will be done by Josie & Eldon Delaune.

25th & 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Sunday February 23, 2014 (3pm)
Our Lady of Mercy in Baton Rouge
Call the Parish Office to register.
Deadline for registration is February 14th.



Respect Life Rally

January 12, 2014
Bishop Tracy Center (2—4 pm)

Readings for the Week of December 22, 2013

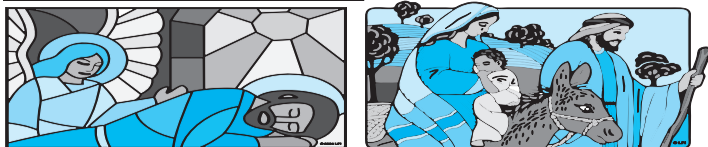
Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66
Tuesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/
Lk 1:67-79
Wednesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a and 2-8
Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Readings for the Week of December 29, 2013

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17
/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
Monday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40
Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Wednesday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28
Friday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Jn 1:29-34
Saturday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42
Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Chris Buckle
Deacon Sammy Collura
Jerry Deshotel, Chairman
Stacy Gauthreaux
David Landry
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Vice-Chairman
John Windham, Secretary



4th Sunday of Advent

"They shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" No other religion makes such a radical claim. To be Christian is to believe that God is truly with us, in the most personal, intimate way imaginable; he is one of us! What a remarkable reality. Through the Incarnation, God became human and lived among us to love us, to guide us, to heal us, and to strengthen us.

Three days from now, we will celebrate this extraordinary gift that came to us on the first Christmas Day. All other Christmas gifts, no matter how exquisite or precious, pale in comparison to the gift of Jesus Christ. All the joys and festivities of the season, all the love and generosity that go into our beautiful holiday traditions, can be all the more meaningful when we keep this in mind.

Although secular celebrations of Christmas ignore the significance of the holy day, the church gives us Advent to help us keep our focus. In these weeks of yuletide preparation, we stop to remind ourselves what it means to be Christian, in case we have begun taking it for granted. We reorient our hearts and minds to recall, once again, the mysterious glory of the Incarnation.

We have been praying throughout this season of anticipation, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." The real magic of Christmas is that we get exactly what we prayed for! Jesus has come. God has answered our prayers and given us what we truly desire in the depths of our hearts: himself, Emmanuel, God with us.