



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

December 3, 2017
First Sunday of Advent
Vol. 49, No. 55



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
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

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping." - Mk 13:35-36

Dear Parishioners,

I am in the Holy Land this week leading an 8-day pilgrimage sponsored by the Diocese of Baton Rouge. We are scheduled to celebrate Mass this weekend at the Church of the Annunciation in Nazareth and then tour the Galilean villages of Cana and Capernaum. On Monday we will start making our way to Jerusalem. Please welcome Father David Allen and Father Ryan Hallford, both of Holy Family Parish, who are celebrating the weekend Masses in my absence. We will have Communion Services in place of our 8:00 a.m. weekday Masses on December 5, 6, and 7.

This Friday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and a holy day of obligation. Father Jon Koehler will celebrate our Vigil Mass on Thursday, December 7, at 6:00 p.m., and either Father David or Father Ryan will celebrate our 8:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, December 8. We honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as patroness of the United States of America under the title of the Immaculate Conception.

The annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious would normally be held next weekend, December 9 & 10. However this year Bishop Muench has asked that all parishes dedicate the collection to St. Joseph Abbey and their ongoing efforts to recover after major flooding in March 2016. The Benedictine monks are consecrated religious, so in a sense the collection will still remain close to its intended purpose. Since this is also the weekend for our monthly Building Fund collection, I ask that you place your contributions in envelopes marked "St. Joseph Abbey Flood Relief Fund" and then drop them in the first collection.

Last year Christmas fell on a Sunday and so the Advent season lasted a full four weeks. This year Christmas falls on a Monday and so the Advent season will be just three short weeks. The Fourth Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve. And before anyone starts considering the possibility of "killing two birds with one stone," it would be extremely bad form to attend Mass on Sunday evening and let it count for both the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas. Everyone needs to attend Mass twice over the four day period—once for your Sunday obligation (on either Saturday evening or Sunday morning) and once for Christmas (on either Sunday evening or Monday morning).

Please mark your calendars for "Advent Joy - A Morning of Reflection" to be led by Pamela Folse and Lucy Landry on 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.

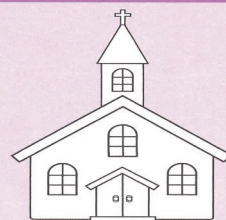
Lastly, our parish recently purchased a subscription to FORMED, a wonderful website that has been called a "Catholic Netflix." FORMED has inspiring video-based study programs, audio talks, eBooks, feature films, and documentaries, and may be accessed on your television, phone, laptop, iPad, or Kindle. Included with this bulletin is a flyer with step by step instructions on how to register for your free access to all of the wonderful content. Many thanks to Jake Gaudet and the evangelization team for helping to underwrite the cost of our parish subscription.

In Christ,
Father Matt

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE *Blessed Virgin Mary*

Thursday, December 8, 2017

Vigil Mass: Thursday, December 7—6:00 pm
Holyday Mass: Friday, December 8—8:00 am



**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.

CATECHISTS NEEDED

4th Grade Catechist to complete this school year—Call Karen or June (749-3387).

11:00 Children's Church beginning March 2018.
Call Karen or June for more details.



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



Rest in Peace

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY

To Julie Millard and family upon the death of her mother, Mrs. Ada Ritzmann and to Mrs. Virgie Hannah & family upon the death of her son, Parks Joseph "Joe" Hannah, Jr. Please keep them in your prayers.

Congratulations!

The following children were baptized here last weekend. Congratulations to them and their families. Emmett Lawrence Langlois, son of Brad & Katherine Langlois and Nolan James David, son of Joshua & Kathryn David.

WELCOME INTO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY!

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

November 19, 2017

REGULAR:

197 Identified- - - - - \$8,955.83

Loose Collection- - - - - 816.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$9,771.83

Campaign for Human Development—\$613.00

BUILDING FUND

September—\$13,138.00

October—\$12,689.00

Balance on Loan—\$103,122.96

November 26, 2017

REGULAR:

176 Identified- - - - - \$6,223.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 660.70

TOTAL- - - - - \$6,883.70



A VOCATION VIEW

The season of Advent calls us to be vigilant in anticipation of the Master's return so that we live each day according to the teachings of Christ. Some are called to teach, preach and witness those teachings as priests and religious. God may be calling you to a Church vocation. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Father Andrew Merrick at (225) 336.8778, framerrick@gmail.com, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank You for Your Generous Support of this Appeal!

More than 30 years ago, the Diocese of Baton Rouge established the Bishop's Annual Appeal with a desire to expand ministry and increase Catholic influence in each city and rural community in the diocese. All those *Moved by Faith* have helped make an historic vision a success, and neighbors in need have been the greatest beneficiaries.

If you have already mailed your contribution this year, please accept our thanks for your gift of support. If you've not yet made your commitment, we invite you to do so this weekend, as offertory envelopes will be available on the shelves in the entrance of Church for your convenience.

Each contribution furthers the building of the kingdom of Christ in our day. "I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Mt 17:20b).

Prayerfully remember the many essential ministry efforts funded through each campaign, and celebrate God's blessing and your parish's generous involvement. For additional information concerning the impact of our gracious gifts or to donate online, visit www.baabr.org.



Readings for the Week of December 3, 2017

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [1a]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next 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

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR ST. JOSEPH ABBEY AND SEMINARY COLLEGE FLOOD RELIEF FUND will be taken up next weekend. Please place your special envelope in the regular collection.



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.



The holidays are quickly approaching! Our Balm for the Soul Church Parish Cookbooks are very popular and we have received a new shipment just in time for Christmas! The book was first published in 2011. Our recent order is our tenth printing. Over 1200 copies have been sold to date. Cost: \$15/each. Contact Margaret Canella (749-2874). Proceeds to benefit our Bereavement Committee.

Breakfast with Santa!



Brusly Lions Club Annual Santa Breakfast

December 16, 2017, 9 am-11am

Doors Open at 9 am

Brusly Lions Club, 202 St. Francis Street, Brusly

Adults \$15 / Kids \$10 / 4 & under Free

Call either: Andrea @ 328-4843,
Denise @ 937-8082 or
Bonnie @ 313-5505 ASAP
To reserve your tickets!