

*February 15, 2015
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 47, No. 7*



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
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
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

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. - **Mk 1:44-45b**

Dear Parishioners,

The grace-filled season of Lent begins this Wednesday, February 18, so please take some time to decide on one or two activities of prayer or penance to deepen your faith and draw you closer to God. Our Masses on Ash Wednesday will be at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 6:00 p.m., and starting next week our Wednesday Mass will move to 6:00 p.m. followed by the Way of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. for the entire season of Lent (except for Holy Week). Even if your work or school schedule will not allow you to attend morning Mass on most days, you may be able to attend the Wednesday evening Mass each week as an extra opportunity to nourish your faith life.

In addition to the Eucharist, the Sacrament of Confession offers another opportunity to deepen our sense of God's mercy and love. Confession will be available in our church every Wednesday evening from 5:30 – 5:50 p.m. just prior to the 6:00 p.m. Mass, and then from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (during the Way of the Cross). Opportunities for confession will be limited during Holy Week so please try to go sometime during the first five weeks of Lent.

Priests are fortunate in that we have ample opportunities to celebrate Mass as part of our vocation and ministry. But we still benefit by taking on extra sacrifices for Lent and removing certain forms of temptation from our lives. I know plenty of priests who give up alcohol for Lent, and I am working up the courage to join them this year. I usually restrict my television and internet usage which allows more time for me to catch up on some reading. Our goal is to make these 40 days different from the rest of the year so that we can become more thoughtful and considerate.

We are excited to offer a four-night Parish Mission this Lent led by Father Blaise Czaja, CP, (pronounced "Chai-ah"). Father Czaja will introduce the theme of the Mission at all of our Masses the weekend of March 21 & 22, and then offer his main presentations at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, March 22, 23, 24, and 25. You are welcome to attend some of the talks even if you cannot attend all four nights.

The theme for this year's Lenten Mission is "On the Way to Jesus Christ." Sunday night's talk will center on *Grace*; Monday night's session will focus on *Repentance* and will include an opportunity for confession; Tuesday night's theme is *Eucharist*; and Wednesday night's talk is entitled *God's Family*. Father Czaja has also offered to celebrate an 8:00 a.m. morning Mass on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday mornings for the benefit of those who cannot attend the evening presentations. His morning talks will take the form of a twenty minute homily at each of the 8:00 a.m. Masses.

Our parish office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday of this week for Mardi Gras, and our morning Mass is also canceled on Tuesday, Mardi Gras Day. I will probably do a little work around the house before getting together with friends for food and drink later in the day. Have a safe and happy holiday and see you on Wednesday. Remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of both fast and abstinence.

In Christ,
Father Matt



ASH WEDNESDAY—February 18, 2015
Masses with Ashes
8:00 am; 12:00 noon; 6:00 pm

LENTEN WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday—8:00 am
Wednesdays—6:00 pm

WAY OF THE CROSS—Wednesdays—6:30 pm
ADORATION—Fridays after 8:00 am Mass



MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS

The Parish Office will be closed for Mardi Gras on Monday, & Tuesday, February 16th & 17th.

The Baton Rouge Diocese is hosting the Catholic Sexual Morality course here in our parish. The class dates are March 5, 12, 19 and 26 (6—9 pm). Registration is being done through the diocese, but you do need information from your profile file here in order to sign up. Call Karen at 749-3387 for more information.

Christian Formation

NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES
MONDAY & TUESDAY
February 16th & 17th
MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

CHILDREN'S CHURCH CATECHIST
9:00 am Mass (once every 2 months)

SOCIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

The committee is already formed, we just need an organizer (someone to contact the volunteers).



VALENTINE RAFFLE DRAWING

Winners of the Valentine Raffle Drawing are:

1st Prize (Romance Plus Pkg.—\$100 Juban's Gift Card, \$50 Benoit's gift card, \$50 Santa Fe Cattle Company Card, 2 Movie Tickets, Beverages and Chocolates.)

Winner: Corey Richard

2nd Prize (Family Fun Pkg.—A Dozen Red Roses, Bottle of Wine, \$25 Pizza Gift Card, Family Movies and Treats.)

Winner: Tricia Manola

3rd Prize (Dozen Red Roses & Bottle of Wine)

Winner: Megan & C. Michael Prejean



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Malcolm "Mack" Peytavin and family upon the death of his father, John Peytavin. Please keep them in your prayers.

Special Collections

- ◆ Collection for the Church in Eastern Europe—Place your special envelope in the regular collection Ash Wednesday.
- ◆ Black & Indian Missions—Place your special envelope in the regular collection next Sunday.
- ◆ Rice Bowls - If you don't get a rice bowl from a child in Christian Formation, please pick one up in church.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

February 8, 2015

REGULAR:

247 Identified- - - - - \$9,622.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 584.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$10,206.00

A VOCATION VIEW

Today's Gospel says, "Jesus was moved with pity when He saw a leper." Are you moved with love and compassion when you see the outcast of today's society? Today Jesus continues to call forward men and women to minister as He did. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Father Matt Dupre' at 225.336.877, mdupre@diobr.org, www.diobr.org/vocations.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CELEBRATES
180TH ANNIVERSARY ON
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015
PARISH FOUNDED ON MARCH 19, 1835

Parishioners are invited to this event to be held in the Parish Activity Center on Thursday, March 19, 2015 from 6:30 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

The evening program includes:

- ⇒ "We Remember", a skit performed by the children of St. John the Baptist
- ⇒ Viewing of the Acadian Memorial Painting in the Archives Alcove'
- ⇒ Supper provided by St. John the Baptist Parish (the anniversary celebration is being held in place of the March Pot Luck—Pot Luck Meals resume in April)
- ⇒ Circle your calendars, and please call in your registration, 749-2189, for this special parish date by Monday, March 16, 2015

St. John the Baptist Parish has been a place of prayer and friendship for almost two hundred years. While there is presently no comprehensive history of our parish, we do have "bits and pieces" of the past. For example, we have an account of Raphael Hebert, who in the 1830's, resigned from the Board of Wardens rather than go against his conscience. His daughter, Marguerite Hebert, is remembered by older parishioners as an inspiring, if not demanding, elementary teacher. And, how many parishioners knew members of the Addis Rosary Group, formed in 1945 by Rosemary Harvey and Carmen Caldwell and continued until 2000, weekly praying for world peace? Such stories of faith are abundantly present among us, and we will hear more when "We Remember" is performed. As we celebrate 180 years, may we all remember being inspired by the faith of our ancestors as we, the present generation, seek to continue to be a Christ-centered community.

Readings for the Week of February 15, 2015

Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31--11:1/
Mk 1:40-45
Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

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



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere." Nothing could stop the crowds from gathering. Men, women, and children traveled from near and far--everywhere--to find Jesus. Even when he was not easily accessible, even when he was in deserted places that were probably remote, hard to find, and not welcoming to weary pilgrims, they found him. Word had spread quickly about the miraculous healing of the leprous man. And people wanted to know what it was all about. Undoubtedly, once they found Jesus, they knew that this was no ordinary man. Yes, he had the power to cure illnesses and drive out demons. But more than that, he had the power to change hearts. His words of compassion and mercy, and the actions that backed them up, must have caused many a conversion during those encounters in the deserted places.

Whether it was simple curiosity or profound faith that led all of those people to find Jesus we'll never know. It was most likely some of both. But regardless of the motivation, once they found him everyone could see Jesus for who he really was. Although we don't have the opportunity to see him in person, we do have the chance to search for Jesus and to find him. Sometimes, he may seem remote. Maybe we don't automatically feel his presence. Perhaps, when times are tough, we wonder where he is hiding. But when we persevere in our journey by praying, reading the Bible, and receiving the sacraments, we too can find the Lord. And as we bring our needs to him, Jesus will be "moved with pity" for us as well and will extend to us the healing love that has transformed so many hearts throughout Christian history.