

February 26, 2017
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 49, No. 9



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
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
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

"So do not worry and say, 'What are we to eat?' or 'What are we to drink?' or 'What are we to wear?' Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness."

-Mt 6:31, 32b-33a

Dear Parishioners,

Ash Wednesday is one of the most important days of the year for Catholics even though it is not a holy day of obligation. God touches our hearts in a special way as we enter into the grace-filled season of Lent, so please try to attend Mass either here or elsewhere. Our Masses on Ash Wednesday will be at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 6:00 p.m. Daily Mass during Lent remains at the normal time of 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, but moves to 6:00 p.m. on the Wednesdays of Lent. Benediction and Adoration remain at 8:30 a.m. on Friday mornings or immediately following the Friday morning Mass.

In addition to Saturday afternoons and weekday mornings, confession will also 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). Please try to go to confession sometime during the first five weeks of Lent since opportunities will be limited once Holy Week begins.

Make sure to mark your calendars for this year's Lenten Mission to be held on four consecutive evenings, March 26 – 29, beginning at 7:00 p.m. each night. Our Mission is being led this year by Father Matthew Bonk, CSsR, who will introduce the Mission by preaching at all of the weekend Masses on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. We look forward to his visit to our parish and the opportunity to strengthen our faith and deepen our love for God.

The theme for this year's Mission is "Conversion." Sunday night's gathering will center on the *Bible*; Monday night's session will focus on the *Crucifix*; Tuesday night's theme is the *Easter Candle* and will include an opportunity for confession; and Wednesday night will center on the *Altar* and include the celebration of Mass. Father Bonk will likely 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.

We are looking for a dedicated parishioner to chair this year's *Feast on the Levee*. Mimi Clouatre volunteered to chair the *Feast* these past two years and did

an outstanding job. However now she needs to step away and focus on other priorities including a family wedding this October. So we need an individual or married couple or a pair of close friends who can get things organized and attend to some of the early tasks like booking the bands. Please think about it and consider helping your parish in this important role.

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. Have a safe and happy holiday and see you on Wednesday. Remember that Ash Wednesday, like Good Friday, is a day of both fast and abstinence, meaning that we limit ourselves to one full meal (and two light snacks), and abstain from eating meat. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

In Christ,
Father Matt



The Stations of the Cross



The 8th grade students ONLY will not have class on Monday, March 6th.

They will come to class on Wednesday, March 8th from 6:30–7:30 p.m. to attend the Stations of the Cross and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will meet in the Activity Center at 6:15 to check roll and then proceed to church.





MARDI GRAS HOLIDAYS

The Parish Office will be closed on
Monday, February 27
and Tuesday, February 28
For Mardi Gras.

There will be no Mass or Communion
Service on Monday, February 27 and
Tuesday, February 28



Wednesday, March 1, 2017
Mass & Ashes
8:00 am; 12 Noon; 6:00 pm

GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY UPDATE

- ⇒ Does our Church database have YOUR family membership record correct?
- ⇒ Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book & Directory (if you haven't already done so).
- ⇒ It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.
- ⇒ Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record? Do you want your record published?
- ⇒ If you have not already informed the Parish Office about changes to you record, please let us know now so that the information in the Guide Book & Directory is correct.
The Parish Office number is (225) 749-2189.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

"And we have believed and come to know that
You are the Holy one of God." (Jn 6:69)

Where is your faith? Do you believe and know that this is
the Holy One of God, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

Show your faith and visit Him.

All night Eucharistic Adoration is Friday, March 3rd at
8pm thru Saturday, March 4th at 8am.

Sign-up sheets are in the foyer of Church.

For more info, contact Julie@749-8260 or
Mary@324-5280

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

February 19, 2017

REGULAR:

227 Identified- - - - - \$10,329.83

Loose Collection- - - - - 682.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$11,011.83



A VOCATION VIEW

The Spirit of truth is within you. You are not alone.
Reflect on how God is calling you at this time in your
life. If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call
Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, or email
amerrick@diobr.org.

Organizations

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Communion Service for K.C. Members and their
families at 7:30 am Mass

Coffee & Donuts will be served after 7:30 am Mass

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Carolyn Bourgeois & her group for cleaning the
church during the month of February. Maria
Bertrand (776-0052) will be cleaning during March.
Please give her a call to offer your help.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Geri & Bill Schneider for chairing the
committee for February. Chaircouple for March
are Ella Dean & Scrap Thibodeaux (937-1998).
Please give them a call with any concerns.



Baptized here last weekend were Kamden Matthew Tanner,
son of Blake & Nikki Tanner and Beckham Sam Corrent,
son of Sam, Jr. & Kristen Corrent. Congratulations to
them and their families and welcome into our faith
community!



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to
Debbie Dupuy & Louis Spragio, Jr. and their
families upon the death of their mother,
Mrs. Dimple Spragio. Please keep them in
your prayers.

Readings for the Week of February 26, 2017

Sunday: Is 49:14-15/Ps 62:2-3, 6-9/1 Cor 4:1-5/
Mt 6:24-34

Monday: Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5-7/Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-8, 14, 23/Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17/
2 Cor 5:20--6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-6/Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17/Rom
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/
Mt 4:1 -11

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2016-2017

Donna Badon
John Begue
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg, Secretary
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
Stacy Gauthreaux
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman
John Windham



EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Can any of you by worrying add a single moment to your life-span?" No, indeed we can't. But evidence does suggest that worrying can subtract time from our life span! Clearly, we are not meant to worry. It's not healthy and it's not useful. But for many of us, it's quite difficult not to be anxious and concerned about matters that are important to us. So what is the secret to letting go of this unnecessary anxiety?

Jesus gives us an answer in today's Gospel. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides." In other words, our focus should be on being faithful followers of God. When we put our trust in the providence of the One who "clothes the grass of the field," and stop trying to rely on our own (meager) powers, then things will be taken care of: "Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all."

Part of the secret here, of course, is coming to accept God's will for us, even when it doesn't perfectly match what we may have been envisioning. There is a kind of surrender involved that puts God's plan first. Instead of getting worked up that things aren't going our way, this kind of reliance upon God enables us to relax and accept the way things are going. The great spiritual writer, Jean-Pierre de Caussade, put it well in his work, *Abandonment to Divine Providence*, when he said, "To escape the distress caused by regret for the past or fear about the future, this is the rule to follow: leave the past to the infinite mercy of God, the future to His good Providence, give the present wholly to His love by being faithful to His grace." God takes care of the birds, the flowers, even the grass! He will also take care of us.