

February 4, 2018
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 50, No. 5



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
Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
Pat Durbin..... Parish Secretary
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
Karen Lemoine Christian Formation
Celeste Veillon Music Director
Wayne Delapasse..... Maintenance
Katie Roettger..... Mothers' 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

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34

Dear Parishioners,

I will be in New Orleans on Thursday and Friday of this week enjoying a bit of fraternity with my brother priests in celebration of Alumni Day at Notre Dame Seminary. Notre Dame's enrollment is up to 140 seminarians which makes it one of the largest seminaries in the country. However, only five are from our Baton Rouge Diocese so we have to keep praying for more young men to hear the Christ's call to the priesthood.

In keeping with the feast of *Our Lady of Lourdes* and the 26th *World Day of the Sick*, we will offer the **Anointing of the Sick** next Saturday, February 10, immediately following the 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass. Please encourage those who are struggling with health problems to attend this Mass and Anointing of the Sick so that we can support them in prayer as they receive the special grace of this sacrament. We will again use the Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos crucifix to implore the intercession of Blessed Seelos during our anointing service.

Our Parish Pastoral Council has the drawing for its Valentine's Day raffle next Sunday, February 11, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Mass. First prize is a gift basket containing champagne, chocolate, and a gift card for dinner at a fine restaurant. Second and third prizes include a dozen roses and a bottle or two of wine. Tickets are \$5.00 and are available for purchase after all weekend Masses.

Don't forget the second annual Catholic Men's Conference to be held on Saturday, February 17, 2018, at St. George Church in Baton Rouge, beginning at 6:30 a.m. and ending at 3:00 p.m. Speakers include best-selling authors and biblical scholars Dr. Scott Hahn and Father Mitch Pacwa, SJ, along with Catholic speaker and apologist Mr. Matt Fradd. For more information and to register, please visit <http://www.catholicmenbr.com/>.

The New England Patriots battle the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl LII this (Sunday) evening. These same two franchises faced each other in the 2005 Super Bowl in which New England beat Philadelphia 24-21. Their current rosters include former LSU players Jalen Mills at cornerback and Donnie Jones at punter

for the Eagles, and Ricky Jean Francois at defensive tackle for the Patriots.

New England is favored to win again this year since it has already gathered five super bowl rings during the Tom Brady/Bill Belichick era. Philadelphia though has had a great season and was very impressive in their win over the Vikings to make it to the super bowl. They are coached by Doug Pederson, a native of Washington State, who played his college ball at Northeastern Louisiana State University (now the University of Louisiana at Monroe).

So after considering all of the angles, I think I will pull for the underdog Eagles in the game. Let's hope it's a competitive game for the entertainment of football fans everywhere.

In Christ,
Father Matt



FIRST EUCHARIST MEETING

6:30 P.M. CHURCH

**ALL 2nd GRADE YOUTH
AND PARENTS ATTEND**

Ninth Grade Retreat

Sunday, February 25th

All 9th graders attend 11:00 A.M.

Mass and sit in the front where
we have reserved seating.



After Mass we will report to the
Activity Center for lunch and then
have retreat with Kathleen Lee
until 5:00 P.M.





No Christian Formation Class

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

OR

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

DUE TO MARDI GRAS

HOLIDAYS

CATECHISTS NEEDED

11:00 am Children's church beginning March 2018
Call Karen or June at 749-3387.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Herbert Duggan and family upon the death of his father, John Duggan. Please keep them in your prayers.

Thanks!

The Bereavement Committee wishes to thank the family & friends of Merle Borruano for their recent donations.



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW BURNING IN MEMORY OF GENE PITRE

Call This Week!

DIOCESAN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 25, 2018 (2:00 pm)
 2018—25th, 50th, 65th and Over

St. Aloysius Catholic Church
 2025 Stuart Ave., Baton Rouge, LA

Reception to follow in St. Aloysius Gym

Call the Parish Office (749-2189) to register before
 Friday, February 9, 2018

PREPARING TAX RETURNS?

Call Carolyn at 749-2189

To get a report on your
 2017 contributions.



A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus created much excitement in His day through His preaching, teaching, and healing. Today the Church communicates that same wonder and grace by those active in priesthood, religious life, and lay ministries. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, framerrick@gmail.com, or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



MARRIAGE HELP—Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on March 16-18, call 225-993-2443, email: retro-vibrcomcoor@gmail.com or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com

ENTERING CANAAN: DAY OF PRAYER AND HEALING FOR THOSE WOUNDED BY ABORTION

Saturday, February 17, 2018

Due to the sensitive nature of this topic, the site will not be announced until you call to register. (See instructions below)

You are invited to attend and begin your healing journey and experience God's love and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. There is healing. This Day of Prayer is offered for women and men who have been wounded by abortion. For more info, confidential inquiries, or to register, please contact Tara at 225-938-3858 or EnteringCanaanBR@yahoo.com.

Sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of
 Danielle Van Haute, Respect Life Coordinator
dvanhaute@diobr.org 225-242-0164

Readings for the Week of February 4, 2018

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/
 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Ps 132:6-7, 8-10 [8a]/
 Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Ps 84:3, 4, 5 and 10,
 11 [2]/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40
 [30a]/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Ps 106:3-4, 35-36, 37 and 40
 [4a]/Mk 7:24-30

Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-
 13, 14-15 [11a and 9a]/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Ps 106:6-7ab,
 19-20, 21-22 [4a]/Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/
 1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018

Donna Badon
John Bogue
Bob Bewick
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno, Vice-Chairman
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Mary Claire Meyer, Secretary
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Chairman



February 4, 2018 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

For most of us, the dynamic between prayer and action is imperfect. Breakfast needs to be made and the kids dressed. Work demands our energy and additional responsibilities fill our evenings and weekends. Then there's the football game or a new TV series to stream. After all, don't we need to relax?

We're all busy. But just imagine Jesus' situation in today's Gospel. He heals Peter's mother-in-law, drives out demons, and cures diseases late into the night. With very little sleep, he arises before dawn to capture some peace and quiet, only to find "those who were with him pursued him." How often do we feel pursued by the harried commitments, even when we try to seek rest? Perhaps we can learn something from the response of Jesus.

Jesus models two key things: the essential nature of prayer and the essential call of vocation. "He went off to a deserted place, where he prayed." Despite inevitable exhaustion, Jesus prioritizes time with the Father. We might not have easy access to deserts and mountaintops, but today's Gospel challenges us to take intentional time set apart for God. We can designate a "prayer chair" in a corner of our home or leave a little earlier to pick our children up from school so we can snatch time in a nearby chapel. We can pray the rosary on our commute or take the dog for a long walk in silence.

However, when the Apostles arrive, Jesus doesn't linger overlong in the deserted place or make an excuse for why he can't return with his friends. Jesus is true to his calling. He continues on in his state of life, serving the people nearest to him. Like Jesus, we are invited to set intentional time for communion with God so that we can be refreshed and empowered for our communion with others.