

February 5, 2017  
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Vol. 49, No. 6



# 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](http://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

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, " Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted--and you yourself a sword will pierce--so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." - Lk 2:34-35

Dear Parishioners,

Next Saturday, February 11, 2017, is the feast of *Our Lady of Lourdes* and the 25<sup>th</sup> *World Day of the Sick*. We will offer the **Anointing of the Sick** immediately following the 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday. 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 is once again sponsoring a raffle for Valentine's Day. First prize will be 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 of wine. Tickets are \$5.00 and are available for purchase after all Masses. The drawing will be held next Sunday, February 12, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. Mass.

Several years ago Bishop Muench created a *Pastoral Planning Task Force* to undertake a study of our Diocese and propose ways to better serve our Catholic population. Our Catholic numbers have grown in certain areas and declined in others according to opportunities for employment and housing, but our ordination of priests has not kept up with the losses due to retirement or death.

*Task Force* members have now completed their study and therefore wish to present their findings to the Diocese at large. They are hosting presentations in each of the six deaneries or regions of our Diocese during this month of February, and the gathering for our Northwest Deanery will be on Thursday, February 9, at 6:45 p.m., here in our Parish Activity Center. The gathering is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Preparations continue for our new Mother's Day Out program which opens in the fall of 2017. Mother's Day Out is part time child care that encourages learning and social skills in children. It will operate from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and is available for 1, 2, and 3 year olds. In addition, families may choose to bring their children either two or four days per week. For more information, please contact Katie Roettger at [MDOSJohn@gmail.com](mailto:MDOSJohn@gmail.com).

The New England Patriots battle the Atlanta Falcons in Super Bowl LI on Sunday evening. Atlanta plays in the NFC South, the same division as the Saints, and is therefore a longtime and much despised rival of Saints fans. New England plays in the AFC East and has won four super bowls despite the stigma of *Deflategate* and *Spygate*. Head coach Bill Belichick is the dean of Machiavellian coaches and mentor to Alabama coach and LSU nemesis Nick Saban.

So that leaves conscientious football fans with a bit of a dilemma – are we morally allowed to cheer for either team? I just can't bring myself to cheer for Atlanta despite the presence of three LSU alums on their roster: Jalen Collins, Deion Jones, and Tyson Jackson. Maybe I will find strength to pull for the Patriots and their 39 year old quarterback Tom Brady. If not I will enjoy the commercials and the company of good friends.

In Christ,  
Father Matt

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION INFO

# Ninth Grade Retreat

Sunday, February 12th

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 Stephanie Davis Cloutre and her team from Rosaryville until 5:00 P.M.



MEETING

THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 16TH

FIRST EUCHARIST

6:30 P.M. CHURCH  
ALL 2nd GRADE  
YOUTH AND  
PARENTS ATTEND





# IMPORTANT!

## 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.

*Thank you for your help!*

# THANKS!

*The Bereavement Committee wishes to thank the family of J.D. LeJeune for their recent donations.*



*The Sanctuary Candle is now burning in memory of Ernest & Josephine Lapeze*



## BAPTISM

*Lyla Hope Black, daughter of Nicholas Joseph Black and Kyra Breanne Blair, was baptized here last weekend. Congratulations to Lyla and her family. Welcome into our faith community!*

### STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

January 29, 2017

REGULAR:

201 Identified- - - - - \$6,504.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 647.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,151.00

Church in Latin America—\$670.00



### 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 Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778,

## NO<sup>T</sup>RE DAME

HOSPICE

A Catholic Healthcare Ministry

#### Becoming a Volunteer

Notre Dame Hospice is looking for Volunteers.

Volunteers can provide companionship, caregiver relief, run errands, play music, or offer any talent that you have to share.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact:

Melissa Meyers, Volunteer Coordinator

504-920-8442 or Email: [mmeyers@arch-no.org](mailto:mmeyers@arch-no.org)

Volunteers are needed in your local community.

## You are Invited—

St. Ann's Catholic Church  
Morganza, LA

February 13 & 14, 2017 (7:00 pm)

You are invited to join St. Ann's congregation for two inspiring evenings with John Michael Talbot. You won't want to miss that once in a lifetime event. John Michael Talbot is a Platinum-selling Christian Music Legend, a best-selling author and host of the Church Channel's popular TV show "All things Are Possible." For more info or tickets call (225) 694-3781.

### Readings for the Week of February 5, 2017

Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/  
Mt 5:13-16

Monday: Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24,  
35c/Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20--2:4a/Ps 8:4-9/Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28,  
29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23

Thursday: Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-5/Mk 7:24-30

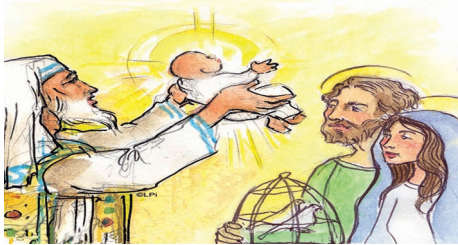
Friday: Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5-7/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday: Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/  
Mk 8:1-10

Next Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-  
34/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or  
5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

**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



**5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"You are the light of the world." Speaking to his followers, Jesus tells them of the influence they are meant to have. Like the seasoning that gives food its flavor, they are to be "the salt of the earth" and like a lamp on a lampstand that "gives light to all in the house." Clearly, their influence on the people around them is meant to be positive and substantial. But what is the source of this irreplaceable influence?

Elsewhere in the Gospels, Jesus declares that HE is "the light of the world" (cf. Jn 8:12). So when he tells his disciples that "your light must shine before others," he is speaking about the light that comes from following him, from believing in him, from living their lives for him and with him. The light of Christ brightens the world, showing us the truth and meaning of our existence. And to the extent that we have that light in our hearts, it naturally spreads out to impact those around us.

So, today we must ask ourselves whether or not we are shining the way we are meant to as Christians. Do we brighten up our families, our workplaces, our neighborhoods, and our parishes? Are people encouraged, inspired, edified, and supported by our presence? Do we bring the kind of flavor that enriches life with a taste of the authentic truth, beauty, and goodness that comes from God alone? Or have we become a bit bland, like salt that "loses its taste" or light that is hidden "under a bushel basket"? It's important to be on guard against any tendency to let our faith be reduced to a mere routine or ritual. Rather, when we nurture our faith to be a living force that defines us and our actions, it will be a source of joy and renewal not only for us, but for the whole world.