



*February 16, 2014
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 46, 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
Julie Ginther Cilano Christian Formation
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 at weekend Masses. Parents should call the office early to enroll in our baptismal preparation program. Parents should be registered and actively practicing the 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.

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes' and your 'No' mean 'No.'"

- Mt 5:33-34a, 37

Dear Parishioners,

A couple of weeks ago I mentioned that Kenny and Ann Cazes have completed the training to assist anyone seeking an annulment of a prior marriage. I forgot to mention that Deacon Sammy Collura is also trained and available to help with this process. So don't hesitate to call any of us if you would like more information or wish to get started on your annulment. The hardest part is the first step, but after completing the writing of your history the case sort of runs on its own.

Most people find the process of reflection and writing to be therapeutic and helpful to the healing process. The questions contained in the outline are necessarily very personal because of the characteristics which define a sacred union. A declaration of nullity does not mean that there wasn't some good in the marriage or that the marriage never existed. It simply means that something essential was missing according to our Catholic and biblical understanding of the sacrament of marriage.

Every marriage is presumed to be sacramental until the opposite is proven. To this end the marriage tribunal examines the testimony to determine whether all of the essential elements were present, such as freedom of choice, sufficient maturity, emotional capability, openness to children, and commitment to fidelity and the welfare of one's spouse. The legitimacy of children is unaffected because we do not pretend the marriage never occurred but only whether it contained all of the elements essential to sacramental marriage.

At first glance, many people including some Catholics feel it would be much easier if the Catholic Church simply recognized and permitted divorce as other churches have done. Some feel the whole concept of annulments is simply a matter of semantics. I agree that the process can appear convoluted at times, but I also appreciate that the Church is trying its best to remain faithful to what Jesus said and taught in the scriptures, namely that a man and woman joined by God are no longer two but one flesh. Christian marriage is not merely a human construction but a divine institution leading to greater union with Christ.

St. Paul and the other apostles and leaders in the early Church struggled with some of these same issues. In chapter seven of his First Letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul has to make a decision in the case of a marriage between two gentiles when only one of them is Christian and the non-believing spouse wishes to separate. St. Paul writes that he would like for them to stay together but if they cannot live together in peace then let them separate. He is clear though that this is his own judgment and not the Lord's teaching. We trust that the Holy Spirit continues to guide our canonical process as we seek to help those recover from difficult situations.

Our next Parish Pot Luck supper is this Thursday evening, February 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the parish activity center. The theme this month is "breakfast foods" and all parishioners and friends are invited to attend. We will also have a special guest speaker at the dinner, Mrs. Tessie Blanchard DiFulco, who serves as the Advocate for Persons with Disabilities at Catholic Charities of Baton Rouge. I hope to see you there.

In Christ,
Father Matt



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Give Him your troubles, He will give you peace.

Give Him your sorrow, He will give you joy.

*Give Him your heart, He will give you
Eternal Life with Him in heaven.*

He gives us time, can we not spend one hour with Him?

Please consider joining Jesus in an hour of prayer!

Eucharistic Adoration is Friday, February 28th at 8pm
thru Saturday, March 1st at 8 am.

Sign-up sheets are in the foyer of Church.

For more info, contact Julie at 749-8260 or
Mary at 324-5289

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS MEETING

The Catholic Daughters meeting will be this Wednesday, February 19th in the Activity Center. Meal with the K.C.'s at 6:30 pm and meeting at 7 pm. Please try to attend!!! We also invite all Catholic women, 18 years of age and older, to come to the meeting to learn more about Catholic Daughters.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Annual Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, March 2, 2014—\$7.00/plate. Eat in or Take out. 11:00 am—1:00 pm. Get your tickets from any K.C. Member.

January Calendar Winners

Jason Pennison, Brian Prejean, Jay Faust, James & Tammy Jackson, Bryan Brooks, Brooke Daigle, Mary Ann Gregoire, Elbon Vidrine, Cathy Aguilard, Lena Simoneaux, Jack Franklin, Jennifer Piendel, Carly Theriot, Susie Hebert, Cathy & David Landry, Scott Hunt, KC Council 5352, Peyton Rhodes, Jennifer Landry, Raleigh J. Landry, Patricia Hergruder, Ruth Acosta, RRR Screen Creation, Kelsey Holmes, Aline Landry, Sheri Young, Lance Deculus, Aldon Daigle, Jr., Jared Mayers, Linwood Guillot, Lycia Doucet



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS
NOW BURNING IN LOVING
MEMORY OF
HARLAN TRUXILLO**

Prayers & Sympathy are extended to Robert & Ralph Suire and families upon the death of their father, Freddie Suire, and to Angie Marks & family upon the death of her mother, Genell Goudeau. Please keep them in your prayers.

Congratulations to Anna Claire Owens, daughter of Ben & Jessica Owens. She was baptized here last weekend. Welcome into our faith community.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PARISH COUNCIL VALENTINES DAY RAFFLE WINNERS:

- 1st Place—Brian Prejean (His & Hers Basket)*
2nd Place—David Couvillon (Roses & Wine)
3rd Place—Shawn Dunn (Roses & Wine)

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!!

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

February 9, 2014

REGULAR:

223 Identified- - - - - \$7,011.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 723.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$7,734.00

A VOCATION VIEW

Anyone who will not take up his cross is not worthy to follow Jesus. Therefore, pray that many more generous men and women will be willing to embrace the cross and follow Jesus as a priest, brother or sister. If you think God is calling you, call Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org.



A program of healing from separation or divorce begins Sunday, March 9.

Required registration forms available from the office or at www.stjamesbr.org/return-to-life.html

An ecumenical series sponsored by:



For additional information, please contact Angela Falgoust at 343-6657, ext 3031 or afalgoust@staloyusparish.com.

CDA ANNUAL BOOK TEA

Sunday, February 23, 2014 (2:00 pm)
St. Ann, Morganza Religious Ed Building
Guest speaker, Ms. Flory Reynolds, will review two books, True Devotion to Mary and Thirty-Day Devotions for the Holy Souls, along with reflections from her very recent pilgrimage to Medjugorje. You are invited to attend and encouraged to bring a friend.

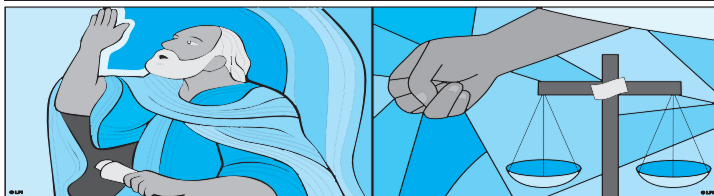


Readings for the Week of February 16, 2014

Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37
or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27/Mk 8:22-26
Thursday: Jas 2:1-9/Mk 8:27-33
Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26/Mk 8:34--9:1
Saturday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
Next Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/1 Cor 3:16-23/
Mt 5:38-48

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2013-2014

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Chris Buckle
Deacon Sammy Collura
Jerry Deshotel, Chairman
Stacy Gauthreaux
David Landry
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Vice-Chairman
John Windham, Secretary



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment." In today's Gospel, Jesus takes the Ten Commandments to a deeper level. Instead of focusing merely on external actions, like murder or adultery, Jesus wants us to examine what is in our hearts, like anger or lust. These internal dispositions are the root cause of the outward sins. Jesus is teaching us to take responsibility for our attitudes as well as our actions.

Some may say that we cannot control our internal thoughts and feelings, or that it's unrealistic to expect us to eliminate anger and lust from our inner selves. But, as Saint Thérèse of Lisieux put it, Christ would not command the impossible. So it must be possible to purify our hearts and control our thoughts. But we don't have to do this on our own power. Jesus expects great things of us, but he doesn't expect us to do them alone! Through the presence of his Spirit in our hearts, we have divine assistance to accomplish this task.

When we pray to God for the gift of the Holy Spirit, he responds by filling our hearts with the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, fear of the Lord, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity. When these wonderful things are present within us, the bad things have nowhere to settle. Thus we can be transformed into people who don't just live the commandments, but who love them as well.