



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

January 7, 2018
The Epiphany of the Lord
Vol. 50, No. 1



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
Larry Durbin..... Maintenance Supervisor
Wayne Delapasse..... Maintenance
Katie Roettger..... Mothers’s 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 Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." - Mt 2:1-2

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord. The Epiphany was traditionally celebrated as a holy day of obligation on January 6, twelve days after Christmas, but was moved to the Sunday between January 2 and 8 by the Bishops' Conferences of many countries in order to highlight its importance. The Feast of the Epiphany also marks the beginning of the Carnival season for us living in south Louisiana.

Confirmation candidates have their final "Day of Reflection" next Sunday, January 14, in preparation for celebrating their Confirmation at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 18. In a similar manner, our 2nd Graders will have a short retreat on Saturday, January 27, in preparation for celebrating their First Reconciliation at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 31. Please pray for all of our 2nd graders, 11th graders, and their families.

Monday, January 22, is designated as a "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children" for all dioceses in the United States. It is the 45th anniversary of the *Roe vs. Wade* Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion. The national "March for Life" will take place in Washington, DC on Friday, January 19, and all Catholics are encouraged to spend some time in prayer and fasting for the protection of unborn children. The "Louisiana Life March" will be held on Saturday, January 20, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the State Capitol. Participants will march to the Riverfront where there will be speeches and prayers for the sanctity of life.

Our maintenance supervisor, Larry Durbin, has rejoined the ranks of happily retired persons effective December 31, 2017. Larry has served the church on a part-time basis and was especially helpful during the extensive renovation and restoration of our church. He facilitated communications with contractors and inspectors, and helped steer the process to a successful conclusion. He was also invaluable in maintaining our computer network at church. Many thanks to Larry for a job well done.

We are fortunate to have Wayne Delapasse already in our employ who is able to take over the duties previously handled by Larry. Wayne has done an exemp-

lary job since succeeding Richard Rabalais as custodian and groundskeeper, and I know he will continue to build upon the good work of his predecessors. I also thank Wayne's wife Mary for assisting Wayne in beautifying the flower beds around the church. Their generous labor is very much appreciated.

Please say a prayer for Father Eric Gyan who has been accused of misconduct with a minor during the time in which he served as our pastor here in Brusly. Father Eric has strongly denied the allegation but the Diocese is obligated to investigate every allegation thoroughly and to notify the proper civil authorities. Please pray for a just outcome to this situation and for the healing of all those who have suffered abuse as children.

The College Football Championship game is Monday night. Enjoy the game!

In Christ,
Father Matt

CHRISTIAN FORMATION UPDATE

CONFIRMATION WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 18TH AT 7:00 P.M. RECEPTION TO FOLLOW IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER. THANKS TO ALL OF THE PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE BEEN PRAYING FOR OUR YOUNG ADULTS ON THIS FAITH JOURNEY. THANKS TO THE CONFIRMATION TEAM FOR BEING WITNESSES TO OUR FAITH AND TO THE CANDIDATES' OPENNESS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASS INFORMATION

CLASSES WILL RESUME ON

MONDAY, JANUARY 22ND AND TUESDAY, JANUARY 23RD. FOR K-8

10TH GRADE WILL RESUME CLASS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9TH.

9TH GRADE WILL RESUME CLASS WITH RETREAT ON SUNDAY, FEB. 11TH

Attention Volunteers

CATECHISTS NEEDED

**4th Grade Catechist to complete this school year!
11:00 am Children's church beginning March 2018
Call Karen or June at 749-3387.**

THERE WILL BE A SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SESSION FOR ALL SECOND GRADERS ON MONDAY, JANUARY 22ND OR TUESDAY, JANUARY 23RD AT THEIR REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASS TIMES. STUDENTS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WILL CHOOSE TO COME ON ONE OF THESE DAYS. FIRST RECONCILIATION RETREAT FOR ALL SECOND GRADERS AND THEIR PARENTS WILL BE ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 27TH FROM 9 A.M.—12 P.M. IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER. PLEASE COMPLETE CHAPTERS 5 AND 6 IN THEIR RECONCILIATION BOOKS AND BRING THEM TO THE RETREAT. FIRST RECONCILIATION WILL BE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31ST 6:00 P.M. IN CHURCH



A VOCATION VIEW

The Son of God is manifested to the world first through the visit of the magi. Today God's Son is brought into the world and is present to the world through His Church. 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.



BAPTISMAL SEMINAR

Wednesday, January 10—6pm—CF Room #5
This class is mandatory for parents who wish to baptize their children. Call Pat at 749-2189 to register.

Knights of Columbus

Monthly Meeting in the Activity Center

Wednesday, January 17, 2018
Officers—6:00 pm
Regular—7:15 pm

Pro-Life Rosary in Memory of the Unborn

Saturday, January 20, 2018
4:00 pm—In Church

November Calendar Winners

Mickey Wilbert, Carolyn Sheets, Samantha Cockerham, Daniel Ackman, Beverly Prejean, Wayne Clement, Sophia Barber, Donnie Fourroux, Deette Hunt, John LeBlanc, Kathy Blanchard, Ruth Acosta, Mike Cazes, Katie & Seth Hudson, Amber Pierson, Aimee Poche, Anthony Falcon, Jada Diamond, June Pinsonat, Ronnie & Jean Bryant, Tracy Gaudet, Beau Landry, Herman Mabile, Josie & Kirk Theriot, Eddie Craft, Catherine B. Miller, Biney Rowland, Gale Thibodeaux, Mary Brown, Kenny Laurent



Prayers & Sympathy are extended to Andy Vidrine & Family upon the death of his brother, Burton Vidrine & to Sara Ann Sarradet & Family upon the death of her brother, Tommy Griffon. Please keep them in your prayers.

DATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR SCHEDULING THE SANCTUARY CANDLE DURING 2018



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW BURNING IN MEMORY OF RONNIE BABIN

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 17, 2017

187 Identified- - - - - \$10,051.83
Loose Collection- - - - - 762.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$10,813.83

December 23-24, 2017

166 Identified- - - - - \$6,099.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 497.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$6,099.00

December 25, 2017

214 Identified- - - - - \$9,239.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 2,012.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$11,251.00

December 31, 2017

163 Identified- - - - - \$ 6,788.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 733.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$ 7,521.00

Readings for the Week of January 7, 2018

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3] Mk 1:7 11
Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:21-28 or 1 Sm 1:1-8 and 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1]/Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 [27b]/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 [2]/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, -7 [2a]/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/ Jn 1:35-42

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018

Donna Badon
John Begue
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



January 7, 2018 The Epiphany of the Lord

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." What a wonderful example the Magi give us in their visit to the infant Jesus. First of all, they demonstrate profound faith in God's word, spoken through the prophet Micah: "And you, Bethlehem ... from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel" (cf. 5:2). Embarking on a long and difficult journey, they trust that they will find this newborn king of the Jews in Bethlehem as the prophecy announced

On their arrival at the home of the Holy Family, the Magi also give us an example of profound humility. These important men, to whom kings look for guidance and advice, do not hesitate to bow down, to "prostrate themselves" and give homage to a tiny babe. Putting their own position out of their minds, they reverently worship the infant Lord even as he sits on the lap of his mother.

The generosity of these three "kings" is also evident as they open their treasure boxes and give to the poor child the richest of gifts. Traditionally, we understand the gold to symbolize the earthly kingship of Christ, the frankincense to represent his divinity, and the myrrh to stand as a symbol of the anointing he will receive upon his death.

Finally, the wisdom of these men is evident in their decision to return to their country "by another way." Understanding the threat that King Herod posed to Jesus, they followed a plan that would help keep the divine child safe even though it meant inconvenience to themselves.

Faith, humility, generosity, and wisdom. These gifts are the real legacy of the Three Kings. Today, let us ask God for the blessing of having these gifts in our lives.