



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*January 13 2019*  
*Baptism of the Lord*  
*Vol. 51, No. 2*



**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  
Carolyn Dupuy ..... Bookkeeper  
Pat Durbin..... Parish Secretary  
June Hebert ..... Director of Religious Education  
Karen Lemoine ..... Christian Formation  
Celeste Veillon ..... Music Director  
Pedro Garcia ..... 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 the Parish Office

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

Dear Parishioners,

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord also serves as the First Sunday in Ordinary Time. Easter is late this year so we will have about seven weeks of Ordinary Time before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent on March 6. We are following the Gospel of Luke this year with the exception of next Sunday which is the wedding at Cana from John's gospel.

The priests of the Baton Rouge Diocese have their annual Spring Formation Days January 14-18, 2019, so I will be away from the parish this whole week. Our theme this year is "Caring for Our Disabled and Elderly," and our presenters are Mrs. Jamie Landry Karam, Dr. Lindsay Mullins, Mr. Hugh Eley, and Ms. Allison Fuljoin.

Since the Study Days are mandatory for all priests, we will not be able to have daily Mass on Tuesday – Friday of this week. We will have Communion Services in place of the Masses on those days. Bishop Duca has also published a letter in the *Catholic Commentator* asking that funerals be scheduled after the study days are over if possible, or that one of our deacons celebrate the funeral without a Mass.

The national "March for Life" will take place in Washington, DC this Friday, January 18. We pray for all of the participants in the March, especially the young people from our parish and diocese, who give powerful witness to the beauty of life and the dignity of each person.

Confirmation candidates have their final "Day of Reflection" next Sunday, January 20, in preparation for celebrating their Confirmation at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 24. Please pray for all of our 11<sup>th</sup> graders, their sponsors, and their families.

The NFL playoffs begin to get interesting this week since the New Orleans Saints, who had a bye last weekend, have their first playoff game at 3:40 p.m. this afternoon. It's going to be loud in the Dome as the Saints begin their post-season march to the Super Bowl.

The Bishops of the United States attended a retreat earlier this month as requested by Pope Francis in

the aftermath of the sexual abuse crisis. Pope Francis sent a letter to the bishops stating that "the Church's credibility has been seriously undercut and diminished by these sins and crimes, but even more by the efforts made to deny or conceal them." He added, "As we know, the mentality that would cover things up, far from helping to resolve conflicts, enabled them to fester and cause even greater harm to the network of relationships that today we are called to heal and restore."

It is very painful to contemplate the evil that was committed by sick priests against innocent children, and the additional harm caused by bishops and other church officials who failed to take action to prevent further abuse. The outside audit commissioned by the Diocese of Baton Rouge is now complete and a list of priests with credible allegations will be published in the near future. This is a painful but necessary step in providing justice and healing for victims and their families.

In Christ,  
Father Matt

## Christian Formation Info

### CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASS INFORMATION

#### CLASSES WILL RESUME ON

MONDAY, JANUARY 14TH, TUESDAY, JANUARY 15TH, AND WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16TH

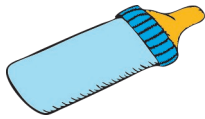
FOR GRADES K-8

9TH GRADE WILL RESUME CLASS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 15TH.

10TH GRADE WILL RESUME CLASS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH



CONFIRMATION WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 24TH 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.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

The KC Baby Bottle Campaign starts TODAY! This campaign makes it easy for you to participate in the ministry of the Family Life Foundation Problem Pregnancy Center. Just pick up a Baby Bottle from the KC's in the back of church as you leave and fill it with coins, cash, and/or checks payable to the Knights of Columbus. It's that easy. Fill a bottle and Help Change Lives!

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
Monthly Meeting  
Wednesday, January 16—6:00 pm  
Activity Center**

**K.C. PRO-LIFE ROSARY  
IN MEMORY OF THE UNBORN  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 19—4:00 PM in CHURCH**

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS' MEETING**  
The Catholic Daughters will meet Wednesday, January 16th in the Activity Center. (6 pm Rosary, 6:30 pm Dinner with K.C.'s, 7:00 pm Meeting) Please try to attend!! We also invite all Catholic women over the age of 18 to attend and learn about our Catholic Daughters Court #2079.

**LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS  
FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH  
ARE IN—SMALL PRINT—\$1.00/LARGE PRINT—\$2.00  
PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE PARISH OFFICE**



**TAX STATEMENTS ARE READY  
CALL THE OFFICE (749-2189)  
IF YOU WANT YOUR PRINT-OUT.**

**STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES**

December 30, 2018

183 Identified- - - - - \$6,089.00  
Loose Collection- - - - - 963.00  
TOTAL- - - - - \$7,052.00

Solemnity of Mary

95 Identified- - - - - \$2,150.00  
Loose Collection- - - - - 694.00  
TOTAL- - - - - \$2,844.00

January 6, 2019

276 Identified- - - - - \$18,076.50  
Loose Collection- - - - - 911.00  
TOTAL- - - - - \$18,987.50



**A VOCATION VIEW**

Jesus' identity is revealed as "The Son of God" through our baptism. Our lives, then, must constantly witness Jesus as Lord. 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](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).



**25th, 50th, 60th and Over  
Wedding Anniversary Celebration  
Sunday, February 10—2pm  
St. George Church—Baton Rouge, LA  
Call the Parish Office before January  
30th if you are celebrating one of these  
anniversaries and would like to attend.**

**Day of Prayer & Healing  
for Those Touched by Abortion**



A Day of Prayer and Healing will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 for women and men who have lost a child to abortion.

This one-day retreat is part of [Entering Canaan Ministry](#) - a multi-faceted program that offers days of prayer and healing, monthly gatherings and more.

Sponsored by the Office of Marriage and Family Life.

**Readings for the week of January 13, 2019**

- Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
- Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:1420
- Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17
- Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018**

John Begue  
Bob Bewick  
Jamie Bourg  
Chris Buckle  
Christie Chapman  
Jules Lefeaux, Vice-Chairman  
Mark Loreno, Chairman  
Fr. Matt Lorrain  
Mary Claire Meyer, Secretary  
Jason Murphey  
Joey Normand  
Derek Scott  
Andrea Smicker



**The Baptism of the Lord**

Think of what it's like to wait a long time. Can you imagine what it would be like to wait for centuries? No one person lives that long, of course. But for the Israelites, they had heard the stories from generation to generation. They had been conquered time and time again, and now "the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ." They had been waiting for a Messiah, one who did miraculous deeds and said profound things; someone aglow with the glory of God. We all know what it's like to hope and be disappointed. But what if your hopes were fulfilled?

That day at the Jordan River, an audience had gathered. Among the crowd for baptism was an unknown man. Perhaps he was dirty from weeks in the desert. His hands had the calloused palms of a tradesman, a carpenter. He and John the Baptist may have embraced with the familiarity of the cousins they were. This man wades into the Jordan for a good, solid dunking. As he rises from the water, the One who breathed life into Adam gasps for air like any other man.

But then "heaven was opened." The clouds in the sky part miles above. "And the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove." An apparition with substance sails through the sky. It exudes gentleness and power all at once. "And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" Can you imagine the sight? For the crowd, there is no doubting what they have seen, who they have seen. Can you imagine this encounter with our God who keeps His promises? What are you waiting for?