



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*January 4, 2015
Epiphany of the Lord
Vol. 47, 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
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 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,

Sunday, January 4, is the tenth day of Christmas and the day on which we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany this year. Many countries engage in gift giving on the Epiphany rather than on Christmas in remembrance of the gifts presented to Jesus by the Magi. Our liturgical celebration of Christmas extends for one more week and concludes with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord next Sunday.

Our music director, Celeste Veillon, is offering a concert of seasonal music this Sunday, January 4, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in the church. The concert is entitled "What Child is This," and Celeste will be joined by Elisa Galeano on piano, Iura de Rezende on clarinet, Joey Roth on vocals, and members of our own parish choir. (We did not purposely schedule it this way, but Father Greg Daigle also has a concert this same day and time at St. John in Plaquemine to benefit St. John School.)

Our Diocesan Respect Life Rally is set for Sunday, January 11, 2015, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Bishop Tracy Center in Baton Rouge. This year's keynote speaker is Mr. Bobby Schindler, the brother of Terri Schiavo, who will share his powerful account of Terri's story and its effect on America. The Pro-Life Oratory contest winner will also deliver his or her winning address, and Catholics of all ages are invited to attend.

Confirmation candidates are reminded of their final "Day of Reflection" next Sunday, January 11, in preparation for celebrating their Confirmation at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 15. Bishop Robert Muench always enjoys interacting with youth and I know he will make the celebration of the sacrament a memorable experience for our candidates and their families. Since Confirmation completes the sacraments of initiation, our 11th graders will now be qualified to serve as godparents at baptisms and as sponsors at future confirmations.

I will be away from the parish from next Sunday afternoon, January 11, through Thursday, January 15, attending the annual Spring Formation Days with all of the priests of the Baton Rouge Diocese. Our theme this year is "Learning to Embrace the Gifts of Priesthood:

Getting to Healthy and Happy," and our presenters are Very Rev. James Greenfield, OSFS, a member of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales with extensive experience in priestly formation and human development; Mr. Jeff Soileau, a Wellness Representative with Healthy Lives with a background in Exercise Physiology; and Ms. Claudia Cormier, RD, a registered dietitian and certified health coach with Healthy Lives and Our Lady of the Lake.

Since the Study Days are mandatory for all priests, we will not be able to have daily Mass on Tuesday – Thursday of that week. The priests who I sometimes call to celebrate Mass in my absence will also be attending the study days, so we will have Communion Services in place of the Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of this week. Bishop Muench 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.

In Christ,
Father Matt

A Blessed New Year



Christian Formation

NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

January 5th & 6th

**PLEASE NOTE: ONLY 8th GRADE WILL MEET
ON JANUARY 5th**

All others resume on January 12th

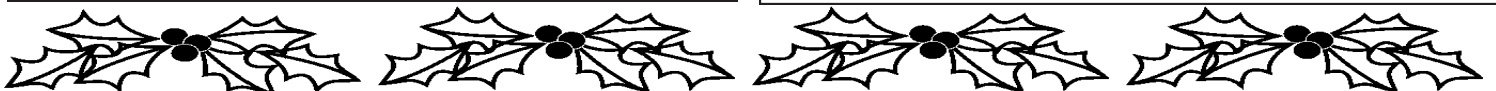
DAY OF REFLECTION

Confirmation Candidates & Sponsors

**Sunday, January 11 beginning with 11:00 am Mass ,
ending approximately 5:00 pm.**

Lunch will be included.

NEEDED: Children's Church Catechist—9:00 Mass





**CONCERT
THIS SUNDAY,
JANUARY 4, 2015
4:00 PM—IN CHURCH
PLEASE JOIN US!**

IN THE NAME OF JESUS BE HEALED!

**Seelos Birthday Healing Mass
With Sacrament of Anointing**

Sunday, January 11, 2015 (1:00 pm)

Celebrant: Fr. Philip Dabney C.Ss.R.

National Seelos Shrine/St. Mary's Assumption
Church

919 Josephine St. (Corner of Josephine & Constance
Streets), New Orleans, LA

For more information call (504) 525-2491



**ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS
RETREAT CENTER**

5500 St. Mary St., Metairie, LA

"Living as a Beloved Child of God"

Presenter: Rev. Joe Palermo

January 23—25, 2015

Call (504) 267-9604 to register.



**ROSARYVILLE SPIRIT LIFE CENTER
Ponchatoula, LA**

Women's Retreat for all Ages

March 13—15, 2015

Women's Retreat for all Denominations

Spend a weekend exploring how you are a Pattern
Designed by God. Dr. JoAnn Forbes will lead wom-
en deeper into understanding how they are uniquely
and wonderfully made through prayer, laughter, mu-
sic, love and fellowship. The cost is \$100 per day for
commuter, double shared room \$180, or single private
room for \$210. Call (225) 294-5039 for more infor-
mation or to register.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 21, 2014

REGULAR:

242 Identified- - - - - \$7,978.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 770.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$8,748.00

**Total Building Fund Donations (November)
\$12,880.41**

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 Matt Dupre' at
225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit
www.diobr.org/vocations.

BAPTISM



BAPTISMAL SEMINAR

Wednesday, January 14th

6:00 pm

Classroom #5

**Christian Formation Building
Please call the Parish Office
to register.**

**This seminar is mandatory for
parents before Baptism.**

Advent Giving Tree

*The Food Pantry would like to thank the following for
their generous donations during the Thanksgiving and
Christmas holidays:*



- Giving Tree Participants*
- Thanksgiving Mass Donations*
- Cub Scout Pack 39*
- Brusly Lions Club*
- The Zippers*
- Catholic Daughter of America*

*With your generosity we were able to fill 40 Christmas
baskets and give 41 gifts to the needy in our area.*

**LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS
FOR
JANUARY, FEBRUARY &
MARCH ARE IN.
PICK UP YOUR COPY
IN THE PARISH OFFICE.**



Epiphany

Readings for the Week of January 4, 2015

- Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- Monday: 1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52
- Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Lk 4:14-22a
- Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16
- Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30
- Next Sunday: Is 55:1-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/1 Jn 5:1-9 or
Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015

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



The Epiphany of the Lord

"They departed for their country by another way."
Things were different now. An encounter with the baby Jesus changed the Magi. Before finding the child, they had made a secret alliance with a worldly king, Herod. But after seeing this infant resting in the arms of Mary, their allegiance shifted. Now they became servants of the little Lord Jesus. They had a kind of conversion through their encounter with Christ, and they knew that they could no longer serve the whims of a wicked ruler.

We call this Sunday "Epiphany" because that's what the three wise men had: an epiphany, a moment of realizing the truth about God. In this moment these three men--kings that they were--"prostrated themselves and did homage" to the King of Kings. Then they went home by a different route, undoubtedly as different men. Now, their own authority as worldly leaders took on a new character. Now, they were men who served a power greater than themselves. As it was prophesied in the Old Testament reading from Isaiah, even kings would walk by the "shining radiance" of the Lord.

Let us ask ourselves today how the Epiphany of the Lord can redirect us. What worldly allegiances have we made that need to be changed? Are we servants of our neighbors' good opinion or of the power of money? Are we secretly aligned with popularity or prestige? No matter what "rules" our hearts, we are invited to change our direction. We are invited to encounter the little Lord Jesus and offer ourselves to his gentle and loving guidance. After all, his is a kingship of concern for us. As today's psalm says, this King "shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him."