

January 6, 2019  
Epiphany of the Lord  
Vol. 51, No. 1



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



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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  
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 the Parish Office

*They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11*

Dear Parishioners,

This is the time of year, similar to the time just before the start of a new football season, when hope springs eternal and ordinary humans imagine that they can bring reform and positive change to the messy areas of their lives. We begin by compiling a list of resolutions for the new year intended to make life saner and more enjoyable. These resolutions are aimed primarily at ourselves, but also sometimes include behavioral modifications for those family members and co-workers who contribute to the chaos which we endure on a daily basis. There is little hope of anyone adopting these changes, but we resolve to pursue them nonetheless in a spirit of human resiliency and solidarity.

Many people include resolutions involving food and dieting on their list of needed reforms. We examine our intake of food and drink which contain high levels of fat, caffeine, or alcohol, and which may contribute to high cholesterol or heart disease, and firmly resolve to cut back on our intake. We also give due consideration to the benefits which regular exercise could provide to our physical and emotional health. We may even peruse the websites of local fitness studios or purchase exercise equipment for home use. Other areas which are frequently treated in New Year's resolutions include budget and finance, family relationships, proper use of social media, and the organization and cleaning of one's home, office, or yard.

We find most resolutions difficult to keep because they involve lifestyle change. Making time for exercise, prayer, or family relationships means we have to sacrifice some of the time we spend on the computer or in front of the television. A healthier diet may involve a greater investment in the time necessary to prepare healthier and more balanced meals, thus making us less inclined to visit a fast food restaurant. Many times a morning or afternoon walk with a friend or spouse may produce better physical and emotional results than an individual workout at a health club. Successful change comes from self-reflection and self-knowledge, discipline, and the support and encouragement of family and friends.

Lifestyle change can also be assisted by the time of

year and the liturgical season of the Church. The new year is obviously an appropriate time, but so is the beginning of Lent, which arrives on March 6 this year. Both seasons provide opportunities to examine our compulsions and habits in terms of eating, spending, praying, working, and recreating. A healthy body, a clean house, a healthy set of relationships, and a vibrant prayer life are all related to one another. If we improve any one of these areas we usually see improvement in the others. We pray that God's grace can provide the impetus we need to become more loving and whole in this new year.

Thanks to everyone for making Christmas such a wonderful celebration in our parish. It is easy to be grateful when surrounded by the care and generosity of others, and I thank all of you for your participation in our communal life at St. John the Baptist. I hope God fulfilled many of your dreams and helped you to better appreciate the love of those around you.

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

In Christ,  
Father Matt

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION F.Y.I.**  
**THERE WILL BE NO**  
**CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES**  
**FOR K—10TH GRADE**  
**FROM DECEMBER 17TH—JANUARY 9TH**  
**DUE TO CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**  
**CLASSES WILL RESUME ON**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 14TH,**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 15TH AND**  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16TH**



 *Rest in Peace*

**PRAYERS & SYMPATHY** are extended to Deanna Landry and family upon the death of her sister, Belle Borskey Gascon. Please keep them in your prayers.

**THE BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE WISHES TO  
THANK EVERYONE FOR THE DONATIONS  
IN MEMORY OF ROSE BRIGNAC**





25th, 50th, 65th and Over  
**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Sunday, February 10, 2019—2:00 pm  
St. George Church  
7808 St. George Dr.  
Baton Rouge, LA

**Liturgy will be celebrated by Bishop Michael Duca**

Couples who have been married for 25, 50, 65 years and over will be honored at this Anniversary Celebration for our Diocese.

If you will celebrate one of these dates in 2019 and wish to attend, please call the Parish Office before Wednesday, January 30, 2019. All couples in attendance will be given a certificate to honor YOUR special date!

**PLEASE CALL BEFORE THE DEADLINE TO BE SURE THAT YOUR CERTIFICATE WILL BE READY.**

**JUST MARRIED**

Leah Marie Smicker &  
Farris Hunter Thornton

**CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES!**

**BAPTISM**



**BAPTISMAL SEMINAR**  
Wednesday, January 9, 2019  
6:00 pm—Classroom #5

**This seminar is mandatory for parents who wish to have their children baptized. It is required that you attend every 3 years. Call the parish office to register.**

***Congratulations***

*Michael Wayne Kauffman, III, son of Michael Wayne Kauffman, Jr. & Allie Ann Hedges was baptized here last weekend. Congratulations to him and his family!  
WELCOME INTO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY!*

**STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES**

December 23, 2018—4th Sunday of Advent  
179 Identified- - - - - \$ 7,352.00  
Loose Collection- - - - - 1111.00  
TOTAL- - - - - \$8,463.00

December 25, 2018—Christmas  
202 Identified- - - - - \$ 7,660.00  
Loose Collection- - - - - 2,734.00  
TOTAL- - - - - \$10,394.00

**A VOCATION VIEW**

The glory of the Lord is revealed to us every day by the ministry of our priests, religious sisters and brothers. Would you consider helping other people to walk in the Light of the Lord? If God is calling you, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, [framerrick@gmail.com](mailto:framerrick@gmail.com), or visit [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS BURNING IN MEMORY OF GES LEBLANC**

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



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

Beginning January 13, 2019, our Knights of Columbus Council #10744 will begin their Baby Bottle Campaign. You simply pick up a baby bottle as you leave church and fill it with coins, cash, and/or checks payable to Knights of Columbus. The bottle should be returned on the following Sunday. All proceeds will go to the Family Life Foundation in their ministry to help women and men in our area who are facing unplanned pregnancies.

**Readings for the Week of January 3, 2016**

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13/  
Eph 3:2a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12  
Monday: 1 Jn 3:22--4:6/Ps 2:7-8, 10-12/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25  
Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44  
Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/  
Mk 6:45-52  
Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19--5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14-15, 17/  
Lk 4:14-22a  
Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/  
Lk 5:12-16  
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Jn 3:22-30  
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11 or Is 42:1-4, 6-7/  
Ps 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30/  
Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7 or  
Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

**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 Epiphany of the Lord**

"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.'" How strange to journey so far for perhaps so little. Of course the magi go to the capitol city. Of course they entreat with King Herod. Of course this is where they expect newborn royalty to be. But where is the child? "In Bethlehem of Judea," the scribes say. And so the magi go on to what is yet another Christmas miracle.

We don't know where the magi met the Christ Child, but it cannot have been lavish. Perhaps it was the stable. Perhaps it was a small hovel Joseph had found to wait out the census. But it would have been the home of a laborer, worn and threadbare. Here, in this unassuming abode, the magi are still "overjoyed...they prostrated themselves and did him homage."

Have you ever gotten to the end of a great work and found the results to be underwhelming? How did you respond? Were you disappointed or elated at God's providence and your upended expectations? The magi journeyed hundreds of miles over treacherous terrain to pay homage to royalty they have seen prophesied in the stars. They encountered an ordinary family displaced from their home. This Sunday, the magi are an example for us. Can we see God in the unexpected? Do we encounter Him in the person who doesn't fit our expectations of propriety? Do we revere Christ's presence in the poor? Or do we expect to meet God only in places of honor and esteem? This week, ask God for the grace to honor Him in the unexpected places and unassuming people. He is waiting for you!