



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

July 13, 2014
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 46, No. 28



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

"The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:22-23

Dear Parishioners,

As I mentioned in last week's bulletin, Father Michael Begley, C.S.Sp., will visit our parish next weekend, July 19-20, to make an appeal on behalf of the *Congregation of the Holy Spirit*, also known as the *Holy Ghost Fathers* or the *Spiritans*. His visit is coordinated by our Diocesan Propagation of the Faith Office and provides an opportunity for us to support the pastoral ministry and missionary activity of the Church. We will have a second collection at each of our Masses that weekend to benefit the *Spiritans* and their important ministry. As always, please make your checks out to *St. John the Baptist Church* so we can count and deposit the collection, and then forward the proceeds to our Propagation of the Faith Office, who will then forward the money to the *Congregation of the Holy Spirit*.

The *Spiritans* are primarily missionaries who help to bring the Gospel and the sacramental graces of the Catholic Church to the far corners of the world. They work in Africa, Asia, Australia, and Latin America. They also serve immigrant and ethnic populations here in the United States. As consecrated religious and missionaries, they differ from Diocesan priests in that they come from all over the world and they serve all over the world. As a Diocesan priest I live out my vocation here in the Baton Rouge Diocese in service to the Catholics of our Diocese. Both types of priests are needed in order to fulfill Christ's command to baptize and make disciples of all the nations.

Within religious congregations there are further distinctions between communities which are more contemplative in nature and those which are apostolic. Some serve God and the Church by devoting themselves to prayer while others serve in hospitals, schools, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters. By comparison, most diocesan priests are parish priests but a small number may also serve as chaplains to hospitals, prisons, and nursing homes, or serve in diocesan administration. Both diocesan and religious order priests may serve at retreat houses or spend time as military chaplains.

Please give some thought to volunteering to teach religion to our school children or to serve in a liturgical

ministry at Mass. Prospective catechists can call our Christian Formation Office to sign up, and new liturgical ministers can attend the training sessions on Tuesday, July 22, at the following times: altar servers (5th grade and up) at 4:30 p.m., lectors at 5:30 p.m., Eucharistic Ministers at 6:00 p.m., and ushers at 6:30 p.m. in the church. (It is not necessary for current liturgical ministers to attend the training unless you are unsure of the procedures and wish to review them.)

Vacation Bible School is this week from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Monday through Thursday, in the activity center and classrooms. Please watch out for the children and be extra careful in the parking lot during drop off and pick up. I know the kids will have a great time getting together with their friends and classmates for a fun week of activities. Thank you to all of our volunteers from St. John the Baptist and Holy Family Parishes who give so generously of their time to make VBS a success.

In Christ,
Father Matt

Attention Youth

REAL WORLD SERVICE CAMP

Join other youth from around the Diocese at the Real World Service Camp and the Change graduate program. Teens will be housed at St. Isidore Catholic Church, and serve in Baton Rouge and New Orleans areas from July 22-26. It is open to 9th grade and above. Cost is \$100.

For more information and to register, visit www.realworldservicecamp.com or contact Julie at julie@sjbcc.brcoxmail.com.



CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

for 2014-2015

**Retreat is July 28-30 at
Rosaryville Retreat Center.**

Please be sure to RSVP.

Call (225)749-3387



Interested in being more engaged in the parish? Come get involved with passing on the Catholic Faith to our young people! They need role models like YOU! Contact the Christian Formation Office for more info.



ARE YOU SOMEONE OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO...

- ◊ Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- ◊ Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For more information please contact the parish office at 749-2189.

WOMEN'S IGNATIAN RETREAT

Rosaryville, LA (August 14-16)

Patti Clement—Presenter

A weekend of reflection, rediscovery, and refreshment. The Spiritual Exercises are a compilation of meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices developed by St. Ignatius Loyola to help people deepen their relationship with God. The cost is double shared room for \$200 or single private room for \$230. Patti is a parishioner of St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Baton Rouge. She is a single woman who recently completed a Master's Degree in Ministry from Creighton University in their Theology Department. She directs retreats wherever she is called, journeys with others as a Spiritual Director on an ongoing basis, and works professionally on an "as needed" basis as a business consultant. She has directed retreats in Atlanta, Georgia, Dallas, Texas; Oshkosh, Wisconsin; St. Louis, Missouri; Grand Coteau, Louisiana, and in numerous churches in Louisiana, South Carolina and Texas.

For more information or to register, call the Rosaryville Office at (225) 294-5039.

A VOCATION VIEW

The Lord is the sower of seeds of vocations to priesthood and religious life. By prayer and a spirit of generosity, be encouraged to offer your talents and abilities if you if you feel God may be calling you to a Church vocation. If so, call Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336-8778, mdupre@diobr.org.

"Infertility: You're Not Alone"

The Office of Marriage & Family Life for the Diocese of Baton Rouge will be offering a day-long workshop called "Infertility: You're Not Alone" discussing the struggles of infertility from a Catholic perspective. The day will include discussions on the medical causes and treatment options, exploring the emotional effects of infertility, and hope to discern where the Lord may be leading you. It will take place at St. Thomas More Church's Parish Activity Center at 11441 Goodwood Blvd. in Baton Rouge, on Saturday, July 26, 2014, from 9:00 am—3:30 pm. The cost is \$10 per person and includes lunch. Register online www.FLDiobr.org. If you have any questions, please contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at 225-242-0323.



W. B. R. MUSEUM

Cool off for the summer! Visit the West Baton Rouge Museum...

Thru August 31: Carving Their Niche: The Bowie Family in Louisiana. James "Jim" Bowie's parents moved their family to colonial Louisiana around 1802. It was in Louisiana that Jim and his brothers and sisters made a name for themselves including his sister, Mary, who settled in West Baton Rouge.

July 17, Noon Lunchtime Lecture: Art historian and new curator at the LSU Museum of Art, Katie Pfohl will present "Impressionism in Paris around 1900". FREE.

Readings for the Week of July 13, 2014

Sunday:	Is 55:10-11/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday:	Is 1:10-17/Mt 10:34--11:1
Tuesday:	Is 7:1-9/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday:	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday:	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Mt 11:28-30
Friday:	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday:	Mi 2:1-5/Mt 12:14-21
Next Sunday:	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015

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



15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Hear then the parable of the sower." With his analogy of the sower and the seed, Jesus gives us four images to help us gauge the depth of our spiritual maturity. What kind of "soil" does our faith exist in? Are we fruitful Christians? Does our seed yield as much as it could?

The first image is of the seed that fell on the path. This describes those who hear about Christianity "without understanding it." Nothing can grow, nothing can blossom at this level. We should ask ourselves if we have taken the time to be sure we understand the faith we practice. Are we stuck at a superficial level, allowing stereotypes, popular opinion, or media distortions to "steal away" the richness of the Catholic faith?

Perhaps we have been properly educated in the teachings of the faith, but our commitment has been fickle. Are we the seed on the rocky ground, that "has no root and lasts only for a time"? Have we experienced difficulties in the practice of our faith that have led us to become indifferent? Have we found it just too troublesome to bring our faith into our everyday lives?

Or have we heard the word, but allowed it to be choked by "worldly anxiety and the lure of riches"? Do we appreciate Christianity but fail to make the sacrifices that it requires? Are we more interested in a comfortable life than anything else?

Many of us have sampled these stages at different times. But ultimately, our goal as Christians is to be "the seed sown on rich soil." We are called to be open to hearing the word, to seek to understand it, and to allow it to take firm root in our hearts. When we do this, the seed of our own faith can produce a rich harvest for the world.