

July 30, 2017  
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Vol. 49, No. 38



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



**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  
Larry Durbin..... Maintenance Supervisor

### 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

"Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Do you understand all these things?" They answered, "Yes." - Mt 13:49-51

Dear Parishioners,

I am in Asheville, NC this weekend so I thank Father Oliver Smalls for celebrating our Masses while making an appeal on behalf of his Diocese of Belize City-Belmopan and all of its laity, priests, and consecrated religious. I will return late Thursday night and should be back in the office sometime on Friday.

This Friday evening and Saturday morning, August 4 & 5, is the monthly all-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament led by our Catholic Daughters. The twelve hour period begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday evening and ends with 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday morning. A schedule is available in the back of church if you would like to sign-up for an hour of prayer and adoration in the presence of our Lord.

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick next Saturday, August 5, immediately following the 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass. Any person who is seriously ill because of sickness, old age, or injury may be anointed. The illness may be either physical or mental, and can include addictions. Anointing is also allowed prior to undergoing surgery. Please spread the word to your family and friends who may be in need of the healing graces provided through this special sacrament. And please pray for your fellow parishioners who are hospitalized, homebound, or struggling with cancer or some other serious illness.

We finally closed out the books on the 2016-2017 fiscal year so I will include an overview of our income and expenditures in next week's bulletin. I do not write about finances very often but you do need to be kept informed of both our blessings and challenges. We had another blessed year financially and I thank God for his goodness and for the great tradition of community support here at St. John the Baptist.

Tuesday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a holyday of obligation. We will celebrate our regular 8:00 a.m. Mass that morning and then an evening Mass at 6:00 p.m. in honor of the feast day. If your schedule does not allow you to attend either of those, then please check with one of our neighboring parishes to see if there is a Mass that will fit your needs. Holydays sometimes

involve sacrifice on our part but we know that such sacrifices also bring blessings to our lives.

We bid farewell to seminarian Danny Roussel this weekend as he completes his summer internship in our parish. Danny can now enjoy a couple of weeks of rest and relaxation before he reports back to the seminary on August 20 to begin his second year of theology. God willing he will be ordained to the priesthood in May of 2020. His mailing address is Danny Roussel, Notre Dame Seminary, 2901 S. Carrollton Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70118. Please continue to keep Danny and all of our seminarians in your prayers.

In Christ,  
Father Matt



### **WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CHURCH?**

In response to those who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith and receiving the sacraments, we are having an *Open House on Wednesday, August 23 at 6:30 pm in the Rectory.*

This meeting is especially for—

- ⇒ Someone who wants to become Catholic and has never been baptized.
- ⇒ Someone baptized into another faith and now wants to become Catholic.
- ⇒ Someone baptized Catholic wanting to receive Eucharist and Confirmation.

This meeting is a great time to come, listen, ask questions. If you feel better bringing someone with you, please do so. We are happy to welcome them, too. There are no obligations for attending. If you come and then decide this is not right for you, that's fine. We welcome you anyway.

### CALLING ALL CATECHISTS

If you are currently a catechist and plan on continuing in this wonderful ministry please contact June or Karen at 749-3387. If you think God may be calling you to be a catechist please contact us as well. There will be a Catechist Meeting on Thursday, Aug. 17th at 6:30 P.M. in the Activity Center.





# A Message from Danny...

Dear St. John the Baptist Parishioners,

In March when I found out I was being assigned to St. John the Baptist in Brusly I knew that I was going to love it here, and believe me I was not wrong. To say that I loved it here would be an understatement!!! Everyone and everything was fantastic. From getting to meet all of you, to the family dinners that I was invited to, the Senior Spirit bus trip, the Angola retreat, Vacation Bible School, the ministry appreciation dinner, and the celebration of the Eucharist daily/weekly all were very special to me. I always had tomatoes and the best boiled crabs, even boudin delivered to the rectory—talk about nice!

When I talked to other seminarians over the summer they said they liked their assignments, but I was always quick to say that I LOVED my parish!! I actually remembered more names than I ever dreamed I would in eight weeks, and that alone is a miracle. It was easy to remember names because of the smiling, loving faces that accompanied those names. This parish is so blessed because of the many people of all ages that are involved in the day-to-day happenings of parish life.

Father Matt has been a gracious host and all of you are blessed to have him as Pastor, as he is equally blessed to have all of you as his church family. Please know that I will be back for the Feast on the Levee in October and when I am ordained in 34 months (God willing—it sounds better saying months rather than years). I will return here to celebrate one of my first Masses.

I will never forget my time here or any of you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your hospitality, friendship and generosity and please continue to pray for me and for all seminarians and know of my prayers for all of you. Feel free to call, write or text. My cell number is (985) 817-0906. My school address is Danny Roussel, Notre Dame Seminary, 2901 south Carrollton Ave., New Orleans, LA 70118. May God continue the good work He has done here at St. John the Baptist and may He always shine His face down upon us and renew us with His love day by day! God's Blessings today and always.

Love,  
Danny



A BIG THANK YOU goes out to all of the Vacation Bible School children who made donations to our food pantry! We appreciate it very much and they will be used to feed the needy in our community.

## STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

July 23, 2017

### REGULAR:

175 Identified- - - - - \$5,494.00  
Loose Collection- - - - - 889.11  
TOTAL- - - - - \$6,383.11

## A VOCATION VIEW

Are you willing to sell everything you own and follow the Lord? Once you accept the Lord into your life—as a priest, sister or brother—you will not miss those things you have ‘given up’. Rather, you will rejoice in what you have ‘found’. If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778 [amerrick@diobr.org](mailto:amerrick@diobr.org).



## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

*“Do whatever He tells you.” (John 2:5)*

Being faithful to this request from the Holy Mother of God can bring joy and peace to our souls. Our Mother loves us very much and knows what is best for her children. Visit her Son during Eucharistic Adoration and pay attention to what He is asking of you!

All night Eucharistic Adoration is Fri. August 4th at 8pm thru Sat., August 5th at 8am.

Sign-up sheets are in the foyer of Church  
Call Julie@749-8260 or Mary@324-5289 for more info

## Altar Servers

We are in need of Altar Servers for weekend Masses. If you have completed 4th Grade and are interested in serving in this ministry, please give us a call at (225) 749-2189. We are planning a Practice Session soon!

## Congratulations!

*Congratulations to the following children who were baptized here last weekend and to their families: Zander Joseph Daigle, son of Brennan & Heather Daigle; Noah Alexander Ellis, son of Alex & Emily Ellis; Tucker Alan Harlan, son of Christopher & Brooke Harlan; Azrielle AmyRenae Kelley, daughter of Heather Marie Kelley; and Jansen Jeremy Saale, son of Jeremy & Lina Saale.*



## BEST WISHES

*Just Married:  
Victor Albert Dellucci  
Tina Marie Parrish*

## Readings for the Week of July 30, 2017

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77,  
127-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52  
or 13:44-46  
Monday: Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-23/  
Mt 13:31-35  
Tuesday: Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-13/  
Mt 13:36-43  
Wednesday: Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5-7, 9/Mt 13:44-46  
Thursday: Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11/  
Mt 13:47-53  
Friday: Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/  
Ps 81:3-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58  
Saturday: Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/  
Mt 14:1-12  
Next Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/  
2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2016-2017**

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



**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it." Jesus today gives us the image of a merchant who knows he has discovered a great treasure. In fact, its value is so tremendous that the man is willing to sell everything else in order to possess it. Why? Because he knows it will all be worth it. He knows that the pearl will bring him more reward than anything else he has ever owned, more even than all his possessions combined.

This Gospel story is meant to help us understand the unfathomable value of the kingdom of heaven. Nothing else can compare to it. No material item, no honor or success, can compete with this pearl of great price. Everything we have, short of this, is finite: limited, temporary, and ultimately fleeting. Eternal happiness, on the other hand, is infinite. It never ends. This is the deep contentment, the satisfaction, the peace, and happiness that we crave, the kind that doesn't disappoint.

Like the merchant in the parable, we too should understand the value of this discovery. As Christians, we have "found" the treasure beyond all other treasures! Life in Christ, both now and in heaven, is truly the pearl of great price. The only question is whether we are willing to "sell" all that we have to obtain it. In other words, are we willing to release the other things that claim hold on us? Are we ready to put Christ first in our lives? All of us need to take pause from time to time and examine our attachments and priorities. Money, pleasure, success, or comfort can often seem so important to us that we falsely begin to imagine these things will bring the happiness we so desire. But the message is loud and clear today: the kingdom of heaven is the true treasure we long for.