

June 14, 2015
Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 47, No. 24



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
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
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
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

"This is how it is with the kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land? Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come." - Mk 4:26, 28-29

Dear Parishioners,

We recently had some work done to repair and strengthen all of the pews in the two center sections of the church. Spacers were added to prevent the kneelers from sliding off their brackets, and the center braces which support the middle of each pew were also stabilized. We will eventually do the same to the smaller sections of pews along the walls of the church.

The finances of the church are doing very well and I plan to issue a detailed report after the fiscal year ends on June 30. As I mentioned a few weeks ago, we recently had the interior of the activity center painted, and we try to give a little attention to different areas of our campus throughout the year. I hope to address the landscaping and the brick planters in the front of church next.

With the ordination of Father Matt Graham last month, we now have five Father Matt's serving in the Diocese. For many years I was the only active priest with that most honorable name but I am now joined by Father Matt Dupré, Father Matt McCaughey, Father Matt Bonk, C.Ss.R., and Father Matt Graham. Father Bonk is a Redemptorist priest on temporary assignment in the Diocese while the rest of us are Diocesan priests. I hope to stay in Brusly another seven years or so, and then lobby for Father McCaughey or Father Graham to take my place so you don't have to waste time and energy learning a new name for your pastor.

Even with the three new priests added to our roster this summer, we still face a declining number of priests to serve an increasing number of Catholics. Just over a year ago Bishop Muench established a *Pastoral Planning Task Force* chaired by Father Trey Nelson to develop strategies for meeting the pastoral needs of the Diocese. The Task Force has surveyed all of the priests and is now in the process of visiting each of our church parishes to survey and consult the laity. A facilitator is scheduled to visit our parish on Tuesday, June 30, at 6:30 p.m. to meet with a cross section of parishioners involved in various ministries. The Task Force hopes to complete its study by the end of the year in order to present its findings and recommendations to Bishop Muench.

Remember to mark your calendars for our annual Ministry Appreciation Dinner to be held two weeks from now on Saturday, June 27, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the parish activity center. The dinner is our way of thanking all of you who contribute to the vitality of our parish through serving in one of our various ministries. Please RSVP to the parish office so we will know how much food to prepare.

We will have a training session for new altar servers this weekend, on Sunday, June 14, at 2:00 p.m. Boys and girls entering the 5th grade and above are eligible to become altar servers so please speak to your child about serving. A refresher course for current altar servers will be offered in two weeks on Sunday, June 28, at 2:00 p.m. for those wishing to review the procedures for serving at Mass.

In Christ,
Father Matt



MINISTRY APPRECIATION DINNER

Your presence and participation are what makes St. John the Baptist such a wonderful place to worship. Please come and let us show our appreciation at our Annual Ministry Appreciation Meal on **Saturday, June 27th** in the Activity Center immediately following 4:30 pm Mass.

Please call the Parish Office to RSVP no later than Friday, June 19th so that we can have a count for the caterer.

We look forward to an evening of fellowship and fun!

ALTAR SERVER PRACTICES

Practices have been scheduled for Altar Servers as follows:

NEW SERVERS:

Sunday, June 14 (2—3:30 pm)

PRESENT SERVERS:

Sunday, June 28 (2—3:00 pm)

Both sessions will be held in church.

Please make every effort to attend!

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE!





NEEDED!!!

**Children's Church Catechist
for 11:00 am Masses.
Please call Karen (749-3387)
for more information.**



**Vacation Bible School 2015
St. John the Baptist/Holy Family
"Exploring Mt. Everest,
With God Everything is Possible"
July 13—17, 2015 (9 am—12 Noon)
Grades K—5
Registration Fee \$20 (\$60 family max)**

**Pick up registration forms in the parish office or in the back
of church. You can also download applications from our
website: sjb-brusly.com**

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, June 30, 2015

NEEDED!!!

**Adult & Youth Volunteers (Forms available in the Parish
Office and in the back of church).**

Call Jennifer LeJeune: 336-4463

Karen Lemoine: 749-3387 or June Hebert: 749-3387

ATTENTION CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

We will have our monthly meeting on Wednesday,
June 17th. Dinner with the KC's will be at 6:30 pm, with the
meeting beginning at 7:00 pm. We hope to see you there.

If you are a Catholic woman, who is 18 years or older,
and are interested in joining our court, you are also invited
to come to the meeting. Or if you prefer, you may contact
Mary Benoit at (225) 324-5289 for more information.

K.C.'s MAY CALENDAR WINNERS

Mark Aillet, Brad Diaz, Anissa Benoit, Donnie Maples,
Rhonda Robillard, Rita Palmer, Lisa L Wilridge, Clayton
Defrances, Scott & Jeanette Morris, Katheryn Willis,
Chloe Markins, Lonnie Blanchard, Stephanie Hebert,
Barry Daigle, Dudley P. LeBlanc, Catherine Cordell, Alex
Oubre, Nicole Jaubert, Donna Plauche, Lori Folse White,
Martha Spedale, Terwin Gibson, Mike Cazes, Mickey
Rivet, Betty Rockforte, Matthew Maroinneaux, Don K.
Bonacorso, Clark Rodrigue, James G. Vidrine,
Blake Michael LeBlanc, Jessica Miller

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

June 7, 2015

REGULAR:

272 Identified- - - - \$15,270.00

Loose Collection- - - 612.00

TOTAL- - - \$15,882.00

A VOCATION VIEW

The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed. Christ has
sown the seed of your vocation within you. Might it be to
grow in holiness as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated
life? If you feel God is calling you to be one, call or email
Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or
visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



FOOD PANTRY

A BIG THANKS to Eagle Scout, John Aillet for making our
food pantry his scout project. John collected one ton of food
and over \$600.00 in cash for our pantry. We are all very
proud of John for the hard work he put into this project.
Thanks also to the scouts who helped John, John's family,
and to all of you who donated to his project making it a huge
success.

MISSIONERS OF CHRIST

We were recently visited by a group of young peo-
ple from around the diocese who will be traveling to villag-
es in and around Comayagua, Honduras this month. They
were asking our support to defray expenses and for items
that would be helpful to those people while growing and
sharing their Catholic faith.

Through your generosity they collected a total of
\$4,354.47 in cash and several overflowing boxes of needed
items. Also received were 5 boxes of medical supplies.

They asked us to thank all of you profusely for
your generous support in helping them spread the Word.

***CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING
NEWLYWEDS:***

*Ivy Joseph & Emiley Gassie Thibodeaux
Dexter Allen & Jillian Prejean Courville*

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY

To the family of Al Soulier upon his recent death.

***THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW BURNING
IN MEMORY OF WAYNE KNOTTS***

**LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS FOR JULY, AUGUST
& SEPTEMBER ARE IN. PICK UP YOUR COPY AT
THE PARISH OFFICE.**

Readings for the Week of June 14, 2015

Sunday: Ez 17:22-24/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34
Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10/Mt 5:38-42
Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9/Mt 5:43-48
Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11/Mt 6:7-15
Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30/Mt 6:19-23
Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10/Mt 6:24-34
Next Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41

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



11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"It is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and through it all the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how." In today's parable about the kingdom of God, Jesus gives us the image of something that grows "of its own accord." Yes, the man does the initial planting of the seed, but the real miracle of the seed turning into a full-grown plant happens without the intervention of the farmer. God makes it happen.

So too, with the kingdom of God, we are called to participate to a certain extent, but also to allow God to work. We first do our part when we "scatter seed" of faith, by living out the baptism that made us children of this glorious kingdom. But even as we make our daily choices to follow Christ and live as his children--with all the actions, decision, and commitments that entails--we still get to enjoy the miracle of sitting back and watching God's providence in action.

Just think of the beauty of creation and the seasons. Think about the gift of a newborn baby in the arms of its parents. Think about the surprising situations that resolved themselves in our relationships, jobs, and families. Think of the encouraging stories of forgiveness, reconciliation, and conversion that we have heard or experienced firsthand. Think of the blessings that have somehow come out of the trials and tribulations of our lives. Think of all the sick, poor, and lonely who have been comforted by believers. Think of the moments of peace and insight that we have received in prayer. So it is that God makes our seeds "sprout and grow" when we sincerely take that first step of faith to enter his kingdom.