



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

402 S. Kirkland (River Road) • P.O. Box 248
Brusly, LA 70719

Parish Office: (225) 749-2189 • Christian Formation Office: (225) 749-3387
Parish Fax: (225) 749-1921 • Website: sjb-brusly.com

Parish Staff

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*
Larry Durbin, *Maintenance Supervisor*
Richard Rabalais, *Maintenance*
Celeste Veillon, *Music Director*

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 am) or by appointment

Baptism

Celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents should call the office early to enroll in our baptismal preparation program. Parents should be registered and actively practicing the 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.

Office Hours

Monday–Friday 8:30–4:30
Office closed for lunch 12:30–1:30

March 10, 2013



4th Sunday of Lent

Last October forecasts were predicting higher pork prices in the spring and summer, based on a larger than normal sow slaughter in the fall. Market analysts viewed the trend with some trepidation. They saw the greater than average weekly slaughter as a sign of some herd liquidation, a result attributed to the higher feed prices brought about by last summer's drought. With pork producers unwilling to foot the bill for the increased cost of feeding, there was a surge in animals brought to market. While consumers realized an initial benefit with lower prices in the fall and winter, the lack of feeder animals in the production pipeline means higher prices at the grocery store this spring. The Easter ham may be a little more expensive this year.

This weekend's Gospel is so familiar that most of us could probably relay the events the parable recounts by heart. The younger son ends up hiring himself out to a hog farmer, a particularly despicable trade in the cultural context of Jesus' time, since swine were considered unclean according to Jewish law. In his suffering the young man longed to eat the food that he was feeding to the pigs. He finally came to his senses, realizing that he needed to change his life. His profligate spending and former life of excess had brought him to a low point from which he needed to recover.

The economic situation of the past few years might serve as a reminder to all of us that life is more than a healthy bank account. A year ago spring, it looked like farmers would have a bumper crop. Then the drought came, affecting food prices and a lot more. Even when we think we have it all, we are still dependent. In the Gospel, the younger son turned back to his father in his need. The older son needed to turn back to his father because he had forgotten that he was always there.

"He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'" - Lk 15:31-32

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you very much to everyone who attended our Parish Mission last week. The large turnout exceeded my expectations and gives evidence of your strong desire to deepen your faith this Lent. Let's continue to pray for one another as we approach Holy Week and Easter that God will draw us closer to one another and to His Son Jesus.

Father Alello is certainly a gifted speaker and we are fortunate to have him in our Diocese. In addition to his primary assignment as pastor of St. Philomena Parish in Labadieville he also serves on the Continuing Formation of Priests Committee and the Clergy Personnel Board. It was nice to hear him say that the summer he spent at St. John the Baptist Parish as a seminarian contributed in some way to his preparation for the priesthood.

Father Alello began his mission by quoting Mother Theresa's definition of holiness as "doing God's will with a smile." We know from experience that smiles are contagious; we respond to a smile by smiling ourselves. Perhaps our growth in holiness can also be influenced and encouraged by one another's example. Father Alello stated that the question is not so much whether we are perfect, but whether we are "in the race."

Lent is the ideal time to examine those things that prevent us from getting into or staying in the race. Father Alello also recommended that we start slow with achievable goals such as devoting as little as 12 minutes a day to prayer. He reminded us of Pope John Paul II's statement to "pray any way you like as long as you pray." He also shared a quote from Martha Fernandez-Sardina of the Archdiocese of San Antonio that "seriously-committed athletes win gold. Seriously-committed Christians become saints, fully Christ-like." That is a beautiful thought to encourage us during the remainder of this season and beyond.

The Holy Family School "Bear Fair" takes place next weekend, March 15-17, on the campus of the church and school in Port Allen. Parent volunteers are selling raffle tickets after our Masses this weekend so please give your support to this important fundraiser and

community builder for the school. We have 64 students enrolled at Holy Family this year, and Byron Braud serves as our parish representative on their school board.

Please continue to pray for all of the cardinals of our Church as they meet for discussion and prayer prior to electing our next pope. They need our prayers for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to insure that they choose the right shepherd to lead our Church at this particular moment in history. Sometimes the most unlikely candidate, at least from a business perspective, turns out to be just the right person for safeguarding our unity and faith. We trust that this will continue to be the case at this upcoming conclave.

In Christ,
Father Matt



FRIDAY SERVICES

Adoration—2:30 pm
Confessions—5:00—5:30 pm
Benediction—5:40 pm
Mass—6:00 pm
Way of the Cross—6:30 pm



We will be cutting & cleaning palms at 9:00 am on Thursday, March 21st. Wear your gloves and bring your shears. We could use your help!

Christian Formation

[Adult Confirmation 2013 \(over age 18\).](#)
To participate please contact the Christian Formation Office before April 16th. Sessions begin in April.

ATTENTION 10th GRADE PARENTS *Tap Into Prayer*

We need your attendance, along with your child, for class on Sunday, March 17, 2013. We begin at 9:15 am in the Activity Center and end before 11:00 am Mass.

Youth Ministry



Time to clean out closets!!!

The Youth Ministry will now be collecting items for resale at the Spring Garage Sale. To drop off items please contact the Christian Formation Office at 749-3387. Proceeds benefit Youth Ministry and the Parish Building Fund.

The Garage Sale is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, April 13th in the Parish Activity Center.



Congratulations to our very own Elizabeth Wallace for being a recipient of the St. Timothy Youth Award at the Diocesan Youth Conference! (She is pictured second from left in the above picture.) This award is the highest recognition from the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry that a Diocese can confer to a junior or senior in high school. Recipients demonstrate the following qualities: Lives as a disciple of Christ, setting a positive example for other youth; witnesses to their faith by exhibiting Catholic morals and integrity; demonstrates Gospel values through service to others; and exhibits Christian leadership in parish, school, and/or community settings. We are so proud of Elizabeth!”

The Catholicism Project...It's Your Story

Adults, do you want to learn more about your Catholic Faith? Join us for a video series that uses the art, architecture, literature, music and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition to illuminate the timeless teachings of the Church.

“Happy Are WE: The Teachings of Jesus “

Thursday, March 14h, 7:00PM

Activity Center

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

March 3, 2013

REGULAR:

227 Identified- - - - - \$ 9,348.00

Loose Collection- - - - 1,395.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$10,743.00

A VOCATION VIEW

Like the father in the Gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness, and calls us to a life of holiness. Where are you at home? Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? If He is challenging you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Penance Services will be held on Wednesdays, March 13 & 20 during Lent at the following churches and times:

- ◆ St. John the Evangelist in Plaquemine (6:00—7:30 pm)
- ◆ St. Mary's in New Roads (6:00—7:30 pm)
- ◆ Holy Family in Port Allen (6:00—7:00 pm)

Everyone is invited. This is a perfect opportunity for reconciliation during the Lenten Season.



RELAY FOR LIFE CANCER SURVIVOR PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 16—8:30 AM

St. John the Baptist Activity Center

Sponsored by St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus

For reservations for you and your spouse or caregiver, call the Church Office (749-2189) or Elaine Pearce (413-7102) or email deauxlady1947@yahoo.com.

Readings for the Week of March 10, 2013

Sunday: Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/
Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

Next Sunday: Is 43:16-21/Phil 3:8-14/Jn 8:1-11

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Chustz, Vice-chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
David Couvillon
Jerry Deshotel
Stacy Gauthreaux
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Wendy Parrish
Katie Roettger
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Chairman
John Windham, Secretary
Gerard "Jerry" Zimmerman



*THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW
BURNING IN LOVING MEMORY OF
RUBY ROBICHEAUX.*

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended
to the families of Shirley Martin, "Jack" LeJeune
and Raymond Lamotte upon their recent deaths.

A Note of thanks...

*"My family and I would like to thank everyone for
the many prayers, calls, cards and all of the good wishes
during my recent illness. Everything is fine and I am now
doing very well. I look forward to seeing everyone again
real soon!"*

*Love,
Rena Lee Dupuy"*

W.B.R. MUSEUM

A Battle for Food: Civil War Era Cooking Class

On Tuesday, March 12 at 10:30 am expert open hearth cook Gayle Smith will present a period cooking class she calls "*A Battle for Food: Civil War Era Southern Recipe Books.*" Smith will engage participants in open hearth cooking using the food stuffs and recipes from the Civil War era that reflect the changes and shortages between 1861 and 1865. Come & learn how to make a tasty fresh apple pie without apples (!), potato soup, planked fish, squirrel stew, corn pone and collard greens. The class is free to attend. Call for reservations: (225) 336-2422 x 15.

**LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS FOR
APRIL, MAY & JUNE ARE IN.
PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE
PARISH OFFICE.**

The stewardship message in the parable of the prodigal son is that it is never too late to become a good steward. Blessed is the elder brother who had been a good steward all along, but blessed, too, is the prodigal, who had to lose all he had in order to understand the value of what he'd been given.