



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*March 10, 2019
First Sunday of Lent
Vol. 51, No. 10*



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
Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
Pat Durbin..... Parish Secretary
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
Karen Lemoine Christian Formation
Celeste Veillon Music Director
Pedro Garcia 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

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." - Lk 4:1-3

Dear Parishioners,

The writer Emilie Griffin offers the following introduction to Lent: "Lent in some sense is a plunge into a thicket, a sustained time in a wilderness place. But few of us can put aside forty days—or forty-seven days—as a time of full retreat. Instead, we visit the wilderness without leaving our daily lives. We spend an intentional time with Jesus, entering his wilderness, walking with him, and finally, sharing his Passion. Lent is a time when we deepen our faith in a journey not of grand gestures but small surrenders."

She continues, "Externally, Lent is a time of doing without. It is a time of self-denial, a penitential time, a time of repentance. But inwardly, Lent is a time of drawing closer to Jesus. The idea is to go with Jesus into the desert and journey with him there during his time of trial. Not for one day, but for an extended time: a biblical forty days."

The season of Lent is a special time of year when our hearts are unusually receptive to God's grace and guiding presence. He helps us to let go of hurts, resentments, and unhealthy attachments in order to live with a greater sense of freedom. His spirit also helps us to embrace those sometimes challenging invitations to love which lead to a deeper faith. All we have to do is make time in our lives for God to fill us with his presence.

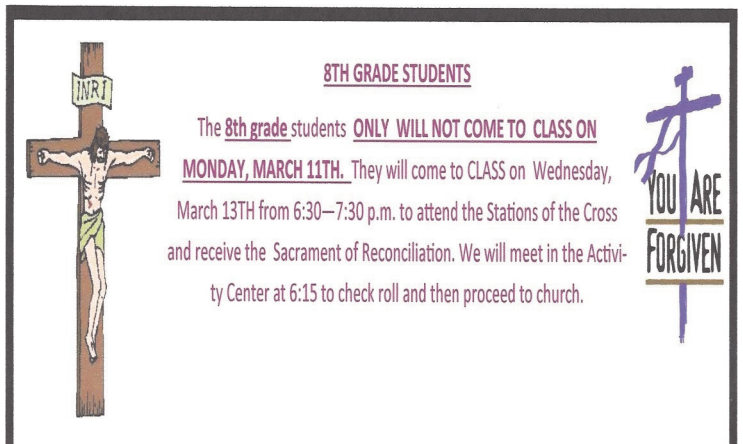
Daily Mass during Lent remains at the normal time of 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, but moves to 6:00 p.m. each Wednesday. On the **Wednesdays of Lent**, confessions are at 5:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m. and then the Way of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. I will also hear confessions from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday as part of the "Light is On for You" program.

"Women of the Well," a Catholic Women's Ministry, is offering a Lenten Evening of Reflection here this Thursday, March 14, in the Activity Center. The evening begins with a social at 6:30 p.m., to be followed by a program featuring speaker Kate Anderson and music by Mary Rosenbloom. The event is free but please register at <https://womenofthewellbr.com/events/>.

Our three-night Lenten Mission will be led this year by Father Whitney Miller, a priest of the Diocese of Lake Charles. The Mission will be held Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, April 1, 2, and 3, beginning at 7:00 p.m. each night. Father Miller will introduce the Mission by preaching at all of the weekend Masses on the Fourth Sunday of Lent.


The theme for this year's Mission is "Living the Theological Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love." Monday night's gathering will center on "Right Faith;" Tuesday night's session will focus on "Sure Hope;" Wednesday night's theme is "Perfect Charity." We look forward to his visit to our parish and the opportunity to strengthen our faith and deepen our love for God.

In Christ,
Father Matt



8TH GRADE STUDENTS

The 8th grade students **ONLY WILL NOT COME TO CLASS ON MONDAY, MARCH 11TH.** They will come to CLASS on Wednesday, March 13TH from 6:30—7:30 p.m. to attend the Stations of the Cross and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will meet in the Activity Center at 6:15 to check roll and then proceed to church.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SESSIONS FOR ALL SECOND GRADERS AND ALL OTHER STUDENTS PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST ON MONDAY, MARCH 11TH OR TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH. WE WILL ALSO HAVE SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION SESSIONS ON MONDAY MARCH 18TH OR TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH AT THEIR REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASS TIMES. STUDENTS IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WILL CHOOSE TO COME ON ONE OF THESE DAYS. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED CH. 1-4 IN YOUR BOOK.



A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus was led into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting by the Holy Spirit. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778. framerrick@gmail.com, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.

Parish Lenten Mission

Fr. Whitney Miller is an ordained priest from the Diocese of Lake Charles, LA. He completed his Ph.D. studies in Pastoral Psychology from the Graduate Theological foundation in May of 1996. In addition to these studies, Fr. Miller also has completed his Master's work from Lesley College in Cambridge, MA in the field of Expressive Therapies. Expressive Therapy incorporates the healing modalities from art therapy, psychodrama, music therapy and dance/movement therapy into the creative dynamics of the therapeutic alliance. He holds a B.A. in Psychology from St. Joseph Seminary College in Benedict, LA and a Master's of Divinity Degree from St. John's University of Colledgeville, MN.

Fr. Whitney will be presenting our Parish Lenten Mission as follows:

- Monday, April 1—"On Right Faith"
- Tuesday, April 2—"On Sure Hope"
- Wednesday, April 3—"On Perfect Charity"

Please join us as our faith community gathers to strengthen our faith during this Lenten Season through the knowledge and dynamics as presented by Fr. Whitney!



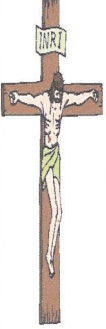
*K.C. PRO-LIFE ROSARY
SATURDAY, MARCH 16
4:00 PM—IN CHURCH*

Readings for the week of March 10, 2019

- Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 [cf. 15b]/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13
- Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [Jn 6:63b]/Mt 25:31-46
- Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/Mt 7:7-12
- Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48
- Next Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14 [1a]/Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36




**10TH GRADE
RETREAT
SUNDAY
MARCH 17
BEGINS WITH
MASS AT 11:00**



7TH GRADE STUDENTS

The 7th grade students **ONLY WILL NOT COME TO CLASS ON MONDAY, MARCH 18TH.** They will come to **CLASS on Wednesday, March 20th** from 6:30—7:30 p.m. to attend the Stations of the Cross and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will meet in the Activity Center at 6:15 to check roll and then proceed to church.



BAPTISMAL PREP

**BAPTISMAL SEMINAR
Wednesday, March 13—6:00 pm
Classroom #5 of the Christian Formation Building
MANDATORY for Parents who want to have
their children baptized.**



**RELAY FOR LIFE
PRAYER BREAKFAST**

Sponsored by SJB K.C. Council #10744
Saturday, March 23, 2019
8:30 am—Activity Center
Contact Elaine Pearce (413-7102) or deauxlady1947@yahoo.com for reservations for survivors & spouses/caregivers.



OPERATION RICE BOWL
Rice Bowls have been sent home with each Christian Formation student. Some have also been placed in the back of church. Please pick one up to place your coins in during Lent. They will be picked up during Holy Week.

**STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES
March 3, 2-019**

REGULAR:

259 Identified-	-----	\$16,916.50
Loose Collection-	-----	700.35
TOTAL-	-----	\$ 17,616.85

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



First Sunday of Lent

As we enter into this Lenten season of penance and self-denial, we're reminded that the God we follow is no stranger to these things. In this Sunday's Gospel, we see the temptations of Jesus which have parallels throughout Scripture and in our own lives. The apostle John warns against temptations to sensual lust, enticement of the eyes, and a pretentious life (cf. 1 John 2:16). Before Eve plucks the fruit from the tree, she hears it is good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom (cf. Genesis 3:6). The temptations of Jesus are our own.

"Turn these stones to bread." Here is the lure of bodily comfort, like good food or sensual lust. It's the simplest of temptations because it's instinctual. We want good for our bodies! But there may be times these bodily goods don't serve the higher good for our souls. The leap "from the temple parapet" would entice the eye of the person watching. A feat like this would prove Jesus' Messianic ability. His popularity could be a shortcut to the cross. We might not be daredevils, but we want people to like us and be impressed by us. Do we sacrifice our values along the way? To "bow and worship" the devil - and so claim power and a pretentious life - seems like a dramatic temptation. Not everyone may feel enticed by power in the professional sense, but all of us want control. A volunteer team can feel just as intense as the boardroom! How often do we prefer to be in control of our lives (and perhaps even the lives of others), rather than allow God to be God?

When we consider areas of temptation and sin, it's not to feel ashamed. The temptation in the desert reminds us that we are not alone and that the strength of Jesus can be our strength, too.