



March 22, 2015
Fifth Sunday of Lent
Vol. 47, No. 12

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
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

"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." - Jn 12:24, 31-32

Dear Parishioners,

This is the last full week before Holy Week, so please make plans to come to confession in preparation for Easter if you have not already done so. Confessions will be heard on Monday night, March 23, immediately following Father Blaise's 7:00 p.m. mission talk. Father Paul Counce and Father Todd Lloyd will be here to assist Father Blaise and me with confessions. We will not have confessions this Wednesday night due to the mission, but we will have the 6:00 p.m. Mass and 6:30 p.m. Way of the Cross for those who wish to come early.

In addition to his main presentations at 7:00 p.m. this Sunday through Wednesday, Father Blaise is offering an 8:00 a.m. Mass with an extended homily on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week for those who are not able to come at night. We will also take up a collection on Wednesday night, the last night of the mission, to benefit Father Blaise's ministry and his Passionist religious community.

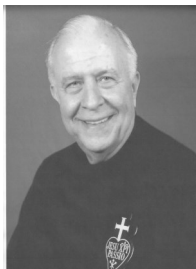
Our schedule for Holy Week is as follows: The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening is at 7:00 p.m. The Mass will be followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for about one hour. On Good Friday, the Way of the Cross will be led by Deacon Sammy at 12:00 noon, and then the Celebration of the Lord's Passion will begin at 3:00 p.m. (Remember that Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.) On Holy Saturday the Easter Vigil will begin after nightfall at 8:00 p.m. as required by the Church. The Vigil begins in the front of the church with the blessing of the Easter fire and the lighting of our new paschal candle. Our Masses on Easter Sunday will be at the regular times of 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday is next weekend so we will be cleaning and trimming palm branches this Thursday morning, March 26, at 8:30 a.m. under the rectory carport. Volunteer help is always appreciated, as are donations of sago palm branches if you have some in your yard. Many hands make a tedious job quick and easy, but you might want to bring a pair of gloves to protect against the thorns. You are also invited to bring your Rice Bowl monies to Mass on Palm Sunday weekend if you participated in that particular Lenten program.

Every year, the American Cancer Society sponsors its "Relay for Life" in communities all over the country to support cancer survivors, caregivers, and ongoing research. The West Baton Rouge Relay will be held Friday, April 17, beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Brusly High School. To help promote the event, we are hosting the annual Relay for Life *Prayer Breakfast* next Saturday, March 28, at 8:30 a.m. in our Activity Center. For more information or to register, please call Elaine Pearce at 413-7102 or email deauxlady1947@yahoo.com. It's always a very nice event.

Our Christian Formation program celebrated its last class of the school year last week. It is not always easy to engage children in another lesson at the end of the day so I consider our volunteer catechists to be truly heroic in their dedication to God and our faith. I wish to thank all of them as well as our Christian Formation secretary Karen Lemoine for another year of great service.

In Christ,
Father Matt



PARISH MISSION

"On the Way to Jesus Christ"

Father Blaise Czaja—Presenter

Four Nights—March 22—25

7:00 pm in Church

8:00 am Masses March 23—25

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 2

Mass of the Lord's Supper—7:00 pm
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament for 1 hour.

Friday, April 3

Way of the Cross—12:00 noon
The Lord's Passion—3:00 pm

Saturday, April 4

Easter Vigil—8:00 pm

Easter Sunday, April 5

Masses 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 am

CLEANING & CUTTING PALMS

We will be cleaning and cutting palms on Thursday, March 26 at 8:30 am under the rectory carport.. Please be sure to bring your gloves and shears. Also, sago palm branches would be appreciated if you have some to spare.

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY
RELAY FOR LIFE BREAKFAST**

Sponsored by
St. John the Baptist Knights of Columbus
Saturday, March 28 (8:30 am)
Reservations for survivors and sponsors and
caregivers—Call Elaine Pearce (413-7102) or
deauxlady1947@yahoo.com



Mark Your Calendars!!!

Vacation Bible School

July 13—17, 2015

**“Exploring Mt. Everest, With
God Everything is possible.”**

GUIDE BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED

Be sure to call the Office if you have any updates on
your census information such as changes in phone
number, address, children who have moved out of your
home. Publication will begin this month!



RICE BOWL

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

CRS Rice Bowl invites us to learn more about the
Democratic Republic of Congo which has seen nearly
20 years of internal violence and high levels of malnu-
trition. The Rice Bowl was born of the desire of
American Catholics to respond to famine in Africa, and
40 years later this commitment continues. Locally,
where 25% of your contribution is directed, Catholic
Charities Disaster Operations helps to rebuild homes
and families after disasters—most recently Hurricane
Isaac. Pray for those who build up communities and
give that they may continue the good work they have
begun. Please turn in your Rice Bowls some time dur-
ing Holy Week.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

March 15, 2015

REGULAR:

255 Identified- - - - - \$10,907.83

Loose Collection- - - - - 588.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$11,495.83

Catholic Relief Services—\$834.00

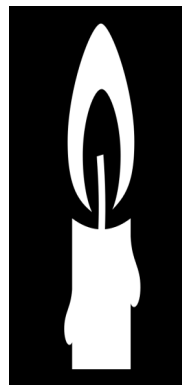
A VOCATION VIEW

Unless a seed first dries out and dies it cannot be plant-
ed in the earth to grow. Unless we die to our selfish
ways we can never expect to be people whom will “lay
down their lives for their friends”. If you think God is
calling you to lay down your life as a priest or religious
for His Church, call Father Matt Dupre’ at
225.336.8778, mldupre@diobr.org. or visit,
www.dibr.org/vocations.

**CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS
SCHOLARSHIP—2015**

Court St. John the Baptist #2079 will award
a \$500 undergraduate scholarship to a grad-
uating female high school senior who is a
parishioner of St John the Baptist Catholic
Church Parish in Brusly. The deadline for
returning the scholarship form is Monday,
April 6, 2015. For more info and forms, con-
tact Laura Mayeux at 749-2144 or 278-3563
(texting available with this number).

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



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extend-
ed to Barbara Knotts & family upon the
death of her husband, Wayne and to
Thomas & Mary Acosta upon the death
of their son, William. Please keep them
in your prayers.

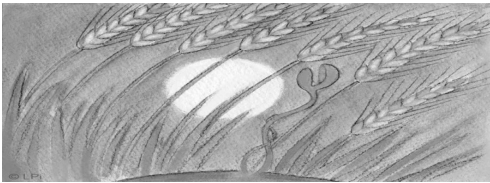
**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
IS NOW BURNING IN MEMORY OF
JOHNNY MORAIN**

Readings for the Week of March 22, 2015

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33
Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or
13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/
Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56
Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/
Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1--15:47 or
15:1-39

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



5th Sunday of Lent

"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be." In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about death. He gives the analogy of the grain of wheat that must fall to the ground and die in order to produce much fruit. Later, he speaks about how he will be "lifted up from the earth," making reference to his crucifixion. He says that the fruit of this will be that he will "draw everyone" to himself.

Jesus is telling us that death yields a greater good, that it produces fruit. So, when he insists that we must follow him, we can take courage. Yes, following Jesus means accompanying him all the way to the cross. It means that we too are called to carry our own cross and die to ourselves: "Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life." But this death leads to a greater kind of life. When we stay connected to Jesus through thick and thin, we receive eternal life in the end! Jesus says, "The Father will honor whoever serves me."

The season of Lent is designed not only to help us reflect a bit more deeply on the sufferings and death of Christ, but also to prepare us for the glory that follows. The joy of Easter and the triumph of the Resurrection are all the more powerful precisely because they emerge out of the darkest, most "hopeless" of situations. When we cling to Jesus even through these kinds of circumstances in our own lives--whether they be sickness, unemployment, conflict, or disappointment--we are those servants that Jesus spoke of, the ones who go where Jesus goes, even when the going gets tough. But let us remember, as we march through Lent, that this journey will bear much fruit.