



*March 9, 2014  
First Sunday in Lent  
Vol. 46, No. 10*

# 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  
Sammy Collura ..... Permanent Deacon  
Julie Ginther Cilano ..... Christian Formation  
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 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.

*The tempter approached and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread." He said in reply, "It is written: One does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." - Mt 4:3-4*

Dear Parishioners,

Even though Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, I personally like to begin counting the 40 days with the First Sunday of Lent and end on the evening of Holy Thursday, including all of the Sundays of Lent with no weekly vacation from my penances. Others start the count on Ash Wednesday and give themselves a little reprieve from their sacrifices on each Sunday of Lent. Both options are acceptable so please pick one and make the most of this sacred season.

I recently picked up one of the *"Take Out – Family Faith on the Go"* handouts that are available on our pamphlet rack in the back of church. These are published by Our Sunday Visitor and we usually order a few copies for the benefit of our families with school age children. The current issue is designed as a family guide to Lent and includes the reminder that even though Lent "is a time of sacrifice, that doesn't mean that it should be a time of sorrow." So the authors offered five simple ways to bring more joy into Lent this year.

**"Try new recipes for meatless Fridays.** Some may end up family favorites." We have plenty of meatless options in Louisiana but it's still a great idea to try a new recipe as a way of adding a little fun to our days of abstinence.

**"Dress up.** Wear your best clothes to Mass on Sundays." We can usually tell when a baptism is scheduled after one of our Masses because the family is dressed so nicely. Why not dress up in recognition of God's graces this Lent?

**"Remember beauty.** Buy a small bouquet of flowers or pick evergreens from the yard to bring spring's hope into the house." A vase of flowers is a simple way to beautify and transform your table or kitchen island.

**"Grow for the future.** Do something life-giving and creative such as planting a garden or even just a small pot of flowers."

**"Celebrate new life.** Visit a farm or zoo to see new baby animals and thank God for his gift of creation." And say a prayer for unborn children as well.

I had the opportunity to hear confessions for some

high school students recently and they really made beautiful confessions. As adults we need to follow their good example and celebrate the sacrament of God's forgiveness this Lent. We are one of the host parishes for "The Light is On for You," so confessions will be available in our church every Wednesday evening from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., beginning this week and ending the Wednesday before Holy Week. Confessions will also be heard every Friday evening from 5:00 – 5:30 p.m., just prior to Benediction at 5:40, Mass at 6:00, and Way of the Cross at 6:30. Please take advantage of these opportunities and bring your family with you.

As I mentioned last week, we are excited to offer a two-night Parish Mission this Lent led by Mr. Cooper Ray, former Director of Youth Ministry for the Diocese of Baton Rouge. The theme of the mission is "The Call" and Cooper's talks will explore the Gospel call to holiness, relationship, and mission. Cooper is a dynamic speaker and musician and will offer a few words of introduction at all of our Masses the weekend of April 5 & 6, before giving his main presentations at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 6 and Monday, April 7. Please reserve the dates on your calendar and join us for two nights of prayer, witness, and song.

In Christ,  
Father Matt



## LENTEN SCHEDULE

### Weekday Masses:

Tuesday through Thursday—8:00 am

### Friday Schedule:

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



**ABBEY YOUTH FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, March 22nd**

Cost \$46 (includes registration, 2 meals and t-shirt)

Call 749-3387 to register.



**“SENIOR PROM”**

At the Hop

Featuring the band: PENALTY BOX

Friday, March 28 (7—10 pm)

Ages 50+ Invited to attend.

Wear your favorite 50’s outfit or Dressy Attire!

Come Vote for Prom King and Queen!

Tickets \$15/person

**JUNIOR HIGH LOCK IN**

**Friday, April 11 (8pm—8am)**

Cost: \$30 (covers food, activities and inflatable)

**SJB Activity Center**

Parents—If you are available to help please contact Julie.

**SAVE THESE DATES**

Parish Mission—April 6-7 (7:00 pm)

SJB Parish Mission Featuring Cooper Ray

Vacation Bible School (July 14—17, 2014)

St. John the Baptist//Holy Family



**BAPTISMAL SEMINAR**  
**Wednesday, March 12—6:30 pm**  
**Classroom #5**

**Mandatory for parents to baptize their children.**

**Call the office to register.**

*Thank You!*

*The Bereavement Committee sends thanks to all who recently made donations in Memory of Charles LeGlue, Leighton Delahaye, Freddie Suire and Peggy LeBlanc.*

**STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES**

February 23, 2014

REGULAR:

194 Identified- - - - - \$5,364.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 462.30

TOTAL- - - - - \$5,826.30

**A VOCATION VIEW**

Jesus prayed and fasted for forty days and nights. We can take His example, begging the Lord of the Harvest for an increase of Church vocations. If you think God is calling you, call Fr. Matt Dupre’ at 225.336.8778, mdupre@dobr.org.

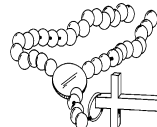
**FREE** *from*  
**temptation**

**THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU  
 LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES**

Penance Services will be held on Wednesdays, March 12, 19, & 26 and April 2 & 9 (6 pm—7pm) during Lent at the following churches:

- ⇒ St. Mary’s in New Roads
- ⇒ Immaculate Heart of Mary—Maringouin
- ⇒ St. John the Baptist—Brusly
- ⇒ St. John the Evangelist—Plaquemine

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



**Holy Land Gifts**

**Olive Wood Carvings for Sale**

Saida & Geoge Rashmawi, volunteer members from the Roman Catholic Church in Bethlehem in the Holy Land are visiting our parish the weekend of March 22 & 23. They have some beautiful Olive Wood carvings which are all handmade by the Catholic people over there.

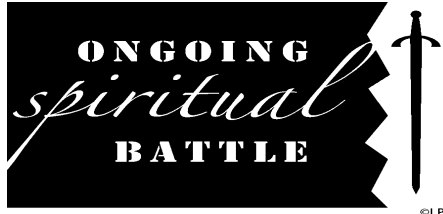
This is a Church mission to maintain the existence of the Catholic people in the Holy Land. Catholic Christians were once the majority in that land, but the percentage has now dropped to less than 1.5%. Please take time to look at the carvings, make a purchase and help this worthy cause. These carvings make great sacramental gifts that have an added special significance.

**Readings for the Week of March 9, 2014**

- Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11
- Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46
- Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15
- Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32
- Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12
- Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26
- Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48
- Next Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2013-2014**

Donna Badon  
Maria Bertrand  
Chris Buckle  
Deacon Sammy Collura  
Jerry Deshotel, Chairman  
Stacy Gauthreaux  
David Landry  
Jules Lefeaux  
Mark Loreno  
Fr. Matt Lorrain  
Andrea Smicker  
Toni Tolar  
David Toups, Vice-Chairman  
John Windham, Secretary



**1st Sunday of Lent**

"Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil." Today's Gospel brings us face-to-face with the reality of spiritual warfare. A battle is going on in the desert. The devil is out to win the allegiance of the Son of God. But Jesus fights back. Not with fists or knives, but with the word of God. For every temptation the devil proposes, Jesus arms himself with "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph 6:17). This strategy proves effective. Ultimately, "the devil left him," and then Jesus was consoled by the presence of angels.

In our modern era, we face a new temptation: to deny the existence of spiritual beings. Angels appear to be little more than lawn ornaments or Christmas crafts, and too often the devil is reduced to an analogy for the vague presence of evil. Perhaps the greatest achievement of the father of lies, as Pope Francis has suggested, is to make us believe that he does not exist. But the word of God gives us a different idea: "Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour" (1 Pt 5:8). This is no fairy tale. Satan wants to win our allegiance too.

During Lent, we have the opportunity to fortify ourselves for this serious, if silent, combat. Just as Jesus fasted and prayed for forty days before that diabolical encounter, we take these forty days of Lent to "conquer" the weak spots where we are susceptible to attack. We fast to strengthen our self-control, we give alms to strengthen our generosity, and we pray to strengthen our faith in God's power and providence. A sincere effort now, in the "desert" of Lent, can lead us to victory as we engage in the ongoing spiritual battle for the allegiance of our souls.