

May 17, 2015
The Ascension of Our Lord
Vol. 47, No. 20



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

"Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

- Mk 16:15b-17, 18c

Dear Parishioners,

Young adult missionaries from the Baton Rouge Diocese are scheduled to visit our parish next weekend, May 23-24, to speak to us about their upcoming trip to Honduras. This is the same group that visited our parish in March 2012 and they are here to once again ask for our prayers and material support for this year's mission. The local contact for the ministry is Mr. Steven Brooksher who is very active in the Diocese and at his home parish of St. Aloysius in Baton Rouge.

Catholics have a long and rich tradition of supporting missionary efforts around the world. We enjoy opportunities to see faith in action as volunteers and religious help to improve the quality of life for people living in impoverished countries or areas. Not everyone is called to serve in the foreign missions but all of us are called to at least have a missionary spirit. Missionaries from our Diocese who serve for even a few weeks are able to come back to Louisiana and raise awareness of our brothers and sisters in other lands.

We are also inspired by the example of our fellow Catholics who serve the poor and needy here at home. Some visit the prisons to bring communion or teach adult religious education. Others serve at the soup kitchens and homeless shelters, and still others offer to bring the elderly to the doctor or grocery store. Some are good at listening and praying with the sick and others are good at organizing food drives and emergency assistance. All of us are called to pray for one another and help lift the spirits of the down trodden.

This Thursday is the last day of school in West Baton Rouge Parish so I congratulate all of our students and teachers on the completion of another successful year. Beginnings and endings are sacred moments which help us to pause and give thanks for the past and future. We do our best to forget the painful or unpleasant moments and hold on to the beautiful and grace-filled moments. I pray that all have a restful and enjoyable summer vacation while the rest of us work to keep the economy afloat.

Vacation Bible School is July 13-17 this year so be sure to mark your calendars and come enjoy a week's

activities with classmates and friends. We need teachers and aides as well as participants so all are invited to join us. As you know, VBS is a joint effort of Holy Family and St. John the Baptist Parishes and that always adds to the fun.

As I mentioned last week, the *Feast of the Ascension of the Lord* was traditionally celebrated 40 days after Easter, or last Thursday, but has since been transferred to the following Sunday in most dioceses in the U.S., which is this weekend. The risen Christ ascended to heaven to prepare a place for all of his baptized followers. The opening prayer asks that we may be granted to even now dwell spiritually "in heavenly realms." Next Sunday is Pentecost and the completion of the 50 days of Easter.

In Christ,
Father Matt

Manresa Retreat

Men of St. John the Baptist Parish:

Treat yourself to a rewarding weekend of spiritual growth and time with the Lord, by making a retreat with a group of men from our parish beginning July 2nd and ending July 5th at the Manresa House of Retreats in Convent, LA. For more details and registration information, please contact Deacon Sammy Collura at (225-603-9635) or Grayson Brewer at (225-975-3603).



THE POT LUCK DINNER PLANNED FOR THURSDAY, MAY 21st HAS BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO MAINTENANCE WORK BEING DONE IN THE ACTIVITY CENTER.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

Vacation Bible School

July 13—17, 2015

**"Exploring Mt. Everest,
With God Everything is
possible."**





We are in the process of putting together our new Guide Book Directory. In addition to the directory being mailed to all of the congregation, the guide section will be made available online. This means if you own a business and would like to be featured in the book, you will also have a direct link to your website from the guide section. For more information, please contact Holli Nunn @ 225-223-1498 or email hollinunn@gmail.com.



THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW BURNING IN MEMORY OF VIRGIE "BEA" CURCIO

Prayers & Sympathy are extended to the family of Leona Mayeux upon her death, to the family of Patricia Hebert upon her death and to Larry Peltier & family upon the death of his father, Larry Peltier, Sr. Please keep them in your prayers.

THANK YOU!

The Bereavement Committee wishes to thank Helen & Andy Dupuy for the tablecloths they recently donated in memory of Julie Sarradet Lemoine.



APRIL K.C. CALENDAR WINNERS

Rebecca Cazes, Danny Robert, Cheri & Donnie Blanchard, Judy Pitre, Mary Ann Gregoire, Alton Boudreaux, Toni Willeford, Tommy Landry, Rachel Matherne, Mildred Whittington, Anthony Simoneaux, Mike Cazes, Julie Bourgoyne, Cherie Schlatre, St. John Fathers Club, Vickey Vicknair Sanchez, Lance Ardoin, Patricia Durbin, Michael Fenton, Ronnie Stevens, Jr., Kristi Rabalais, Brooke Blanchard, Steve & Jill Ritzmann, Wanda Leonard, Fr. Joel LaBauve, Patty Marks, Darlene & Lorenz LeBlanc, Chase Delrie, Barry Hebert, Emma Jean Fisher

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

May 10, 2015

REGULAR:

227 Identified- - - - - \$8,762.00

Loose Collection- - - - 611.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$9,373.00

Catholic Commentator—\$933.00

A VOCATION VIEW

After the Risen Lord ascended into heaven, his disciples continued his work on earth. Blest are the ones found working when he returns. If you feel a call to a Church vocation, call or email Father Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.

ROSARYVILLE RETREATS

Experiencing the Giftedness of Years

June 25, 2015

Sister Rose Bowen, O.P., Presenter

How to be a real apostle now in your everyday location and circumstances.

Cost: \$35.00 which includes lunch.

Healing the Hurts of the Heart

June 26—28, 2015

Dorothea DeGrandis-Sudol, Presenter

Prayer, Healing & Songs to Lighten your Burden & Lift Your Heart

Cost: \$100

Call Rosaryville at 225-294-5039 with any questions or to register.

CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL CONFERENCE

June 12, 2015

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Lafayette Homeschool Conference will be held at the Cajundome & Convention Center, 444 Cajundome Blvd., in Lafayette on Friday, June 12 (12:00 Noon—6:00 pm). Confirmed speakers include: Fr. Bryce Sibley, Dr. Ray Guarendi, and Mrs. Virginia Seuffert.

Admission is free and pre-registration is not required. For more info call (540) 636-1946.

Readings for the Week of May 17, 2015

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13
or Eph 1:17-23/Mk 16:15-20

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/
Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b
or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/
Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39

Day: Acts 2:1-11/Gal 5:16-25 or
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 15:26-27;
16:12-15 or Jn 20:19-23

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



The Ascension of the Lord

"So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven ... But they went forth and preached everywhere." What a roller coaster of emotions the disciples must have experienced. First, they had come to know Jesus and had changed their lives to follow him. Then they had watched him die a tragic death on the cross. Following that, they were astonished to experience the glory of his resurrection, and then they enjoyed his company for a while longer. But now, they had to bid farewell again. Now they watched as Jesus ascended into heaven, leaving them with their instructions: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."

It's inspiring to see how the disciples handled all of this. Even though they must have been struggling with a kind of sadness or disappointment when Jesus left them, they didn't dwell on that. They went out and did what they had been called to do. They "preached everywhere" and shared with others the good news. Focusing on the joy they had come to know through their relationship with Jesus, they were able to share that joy with the people around them.

Like the first disciples, we are also called to share the gospel with others. Certainly through our lived example we should reveal to others the joy that Jesus brings. Even though he is not physically walking amongst us, the lives of Christian believers reveal an ongoing relationship with him. There may be times and situations, however, that require more of us than just being witnesses. Sometimes God calls us to share more directly and more courageously the message of faith. May we follow the example of the disciples, who readily embraced this call.