

November 8, 2015
Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 47, No. 45



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



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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
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
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

Many rich people put in large sums. Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." - Mk 12:41c, 43-44

Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis has announced a "Jubilee Year of Mercy" beginning on December 8, 2015, and ending on November 20, 2016. A *Jubilee Year* or *Holy Year* is so designated as a special time for people of faith to grow in holiness through pilgrimage and other religious observances.

In his letter announcing the year, the Pope writes that "Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith... Jesus of Nazareth, by his words, his actions, and his entire person reveals the mercy of God."

Catholics and all Christians might use this year to re-discover the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The *spiritual works of mercy* are: to admonish the sinner, to instruct the ignorant, to counsel the doubtful, to comfort the sorrowful, to bear wrongs patiently, to forgive all injuries, and to pray for the living and the dead.

The *corporal works of mercy* are: to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to visit the imprisoned, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick, and to bury the dead. The scriptural bases for the corporal works of mercy are Matthew 25:34-40 and Isaiah 58:6-10.

One person who devoted much of her adult life to practicing the works of mercy was Dorothy Day, (1897-1980) a journalist, convert to Catholicism, social activist, and co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement. Dorothy saw all fourteen of the works of mercy as intimately connected with one another and a sure path to holiness.

She described the vision of the Catholic Worker as inspired by "a new heaven and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." (2 Peter 3:13.) Justice and mercy, and spiritual and material concerns, were all vitally important. She wrote "Food for the body is not enough. There must be food for the soul." She attended daily Mass and prayed an evening rosary on most days.

Poverty, unemployment, homelessness, crime, substance abuse, and human trafficking are some of the many social concerns which touch our consciences.

The immensity of these social needs can make our efforts seem small and insignificant. But Dorothy said, "It is like the little boy with a few loaves and fishes. Christ took that little and increased it. He will do the rest." (John 6:9.)

I am thankful for your many donations of time, money, food, clothing, and household items in support of our food pantry, thrift shop, and emergency assistance fund. Some of you also volunteer at St. Vincent de Paul, the Missionaries of Charity, Catholic Charities, and other notable organizations and ministries. Many others help bring comfort to the sorrowing by participation with our Bereavement Committee.

Finally, we are hosting a parish Thanksgiving Pot-Luck Dinner and Food Drive on Thursday, November 19, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. We are also planning an Advent & Christmas Concert and Food Drive on Thursday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. in church. Please mark your calendars and join us.

In Christ,
Father Matt

Ninth Grade Retreat



Sunday, November 15th

All 9th graders attend 11:00 A.M. Mass and sit in the front where we have reserved seating. After Mass we will report to the Activity Center for lunch and then have retreat with Stephanie Davis and her team from Rosaryville until 5:00 P.M.

Eucharistic



Adoration

Our 10th graders will be afforded the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday, Nov. 17th and spend time in Adoration with Jesus. I want to invite the 10th grade parents to come spend time in adoration also. Even if you can't spend an hour maybe you could come for 15 or 30 minutes.



REMEMBER OUR VETERANS
 Wednesday, November 11th
*A special thanks to our local veterans
 for the new flag that is being proudly
 displayed over our church plaza.*

Mark Your Calendar!

POT LUCK DINNER

It's been a while since we have had a Pot Luck Dinner, so please be sure to mark your calendars for this one. It's being planned for Thursday, November 19th at 6:30 pm in the Activity Center.

The turkeys will be provided by the church and we ask you to prepare your favorite casserole, salad, veggies or desserts to share.

We will also be collecting canned goods for our Food Pantry at the dinner.

BAPTISM



BAPTISMAL SEMINAR
 Wednesday, November 11
 6:00 pm
 Classroom #5 in the Christian
 Formation Building
 Call the office to register. This
 class is mandatory prior to baptism
 of your child.

Cards for Inmates

The Catholic Community at Louisiana State Penitentiary and the Chaplain's Department are inviting our parish to once again participate in the Christmas Card Program. If you have any religious Christmas or other Greeting Cards and wish to donate, please drop them off at the Parish Office by Monday, November 23rd.

Lectors



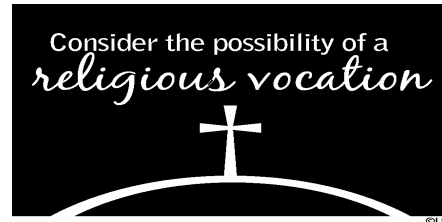
**NEW WORKBOOKS HAVE
 BEEN PLACED IN THE
 VESTING SACRISTY LABELED
 WITH YOUR NAMES.
 PLEASE PICK UP YOUR COPY
 THE NEXT TIME YOU SERVE.**

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

November 1, 2015

REGULAR:

349 Identified- - - - - \$17,801.00
 Loose Collection- - - - - 779.36
 TOTAL- - - - - \$18,580.36



A VOCATION VIEW

As the Scriptures remind us today, Jesus is always looking for a few honest, dedicated and humble people who will give the best they have in response to His call to service. If you feel God might be calling you to serve your brothers and sisters as a priest, sister, brother or deacon, then be sure to call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org.

OUR LADY OF MERCY RETREAT

Healing & Hope with IMMACULEE
 4:00 pm—9:00 pm Friday, November 13
 8:30 am—12:30 pm Saturday, November 14
 Our Lady of Mercy Church
 445 Marquette Ave., Baton Rouge, LA

Men and women are invited to a weekend of Healing & Hope with Immaculee Ilibagiza, survivor of the 1994 Rwandan genocide as she shares her universal message with the community. Space is limited. REGISTER NOW! Call Jason Romero 225.926.1883.



W.B.R. MUSEUM

50th Anniversary of A Charlie Brown Christmas Exhibit Opens November 12, 2015

The first of over forty Peanuts TV Specials, "A Charlie Brown Christmas" is the longest running cartoon special in history. It is a holiday favorite for countless families and an icon of American Pop Culture.

Featured will be artwork and creations by the talented artists and illustrators of the B.R. Cartoonist Society. Peanuts items and artifacts on loan from local visitors will also be on display. Visit the museum to enjoy this exhibit and watch the animated film, A Charlie Brown Christmas, with a cup of cocoa on Sundays at 2:30 pm, November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 27 and January 3.

For more information call 225.336.2422 x 15 or visit www.westbatonrougemuseum.com. The museum is located at 845 N. Jefferson Ave. in Port Allen.

Readings for the Week of November 8, 2015

Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44
 Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/ Jn 2:13-22
 Tuesday: Wis 2:23--3:9/Lk 17:7-10
 Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11/Lk 17:11-19
 Thursday: Wis 7:22b--8:1/Lk 17:20-25
 Friday: Wis 13:1-9/Lk 17:26-37
 Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Lk 18:1-8
 Next Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Heb 10:11-14, 18/ Mk 13:24-32

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
Stacy Gauthreaux
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman
John Windham



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury." Just two small coins, worth only a few cents--this was the greatest contribution of the day? Jesus explains that this widow's tiny sum was generous in a way that the larger amounts people gave were not. Others made noticeable, "impressive" donations to the Temple treasury, which in fact cost them nothing. These were simply "from their surplus wealth." But the poor widow "contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." She was truly generous, giving what cost her dearly. Her contribution was made out of love, not just out of obligation or for the sake of show.

God has given us all different "livelihoods." Some of us have more money, more talents, more resources. Some of us have less. But of course we know that God's love for us is not based on this external data. He loves the rich and the poor alike. The question is whether this external data affects our love for God. Sometimes, those who are poor are more aware of God's providence and protection. Sometimes, they are bitter. As for those who are rich, it can be tempting to feel so comfortable and complacent that they don't recognize their need for God or his action in their lives. But Jesus' message challenges us all today to gratefully give back to God in thanks for whatever he has given us, be it small or great. We are called not to give from our surplus but to share from our very livelihood. That is to say, we are called to acknowledge that our livelihood itself, no matter the details, is a gift from God. Let us follow the wisdom of the widow who showed gratitude for what she had and was truly generous in spite of what she lacked.