

November 19, 2017
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 49, No. 53



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
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
Wayne Delapasse..... 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 Judy Thousand, 749-9257 or the Parish office

"After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.'" - Mt 25:19-20

Dear Parishioners,

Nearly all of the numbers have now been tabulated for this year's *Feast on the Levee* and our net income looks to be roughly \$50,000. Thank you very much for all that you did to contribute to our success through the sale of raffle tickets, the donation of auction items, and the preparation of food. Thanks once again to our dedicated parish office staff, Pat Durbin and Carolyn Dupuy, and all who worked so hard to benefit our Church and community.

Last year we applied one half of the fair proceeds to our loan and used the other half to replace the flooring in our parish activity center. This year we will again dedicate one half to the loan and then use the remainder for several special projects. First, I would like to donate 10% or \$5,000 to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fannett, Texas to aid in their recovery from damages caused by Hurricane Harvey. They have been holding Masses in their mission chapel since the storm and their pastor, Father Jim McClintock, is a seminary classmate of mine. We will then use the remaining \$20,000 to address several maintenance needs around the church.

We are down to the final two weeks of ordinary time before we begin a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The Rite of Acceptance will take place at the 9:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday, the Solemnity of Christ the King, for this year's seven R.C.I.A. candidates who are inquiring into the Catholic faith. The Rite of Acceptance is the first of several thresholds that our inquirers cross as they discern entrance into the Catholic Church.

Everyone is invited to attend Mass with us at 8:00 a.m. on Thanksgiving morning. As in the past, you are also invited to bring a canned good with you to our Thanksgiving Day Mass to benefit our food pantry. Christian Formation Classes are canceled this week due to the Thanksgiving holidays.

Please mark your calendars for "Advent Joy - A Morning of Reflection" to be led by Pamela Folse and Lucy Landry on Saturday, December 16, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The Third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday, and so the

morning reflection will focus on the joy of Christ as revealed in the seasonal scripture readings.

As I mentioned last week, our parish is registered to participate in the *#iGiveCatholic* campaign on "Giving Tuesday" which is the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. The campaign runs for 24 hours from 12:01 a.m. – 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2017. "Giving Tuesday" is especially popular with younger and middle-aged adults who now conduct much of their shopping, banking, and charitable giving online.

Our goal for the day is to collect enough donations to purchase playground equipment for our new Mother's Day Out program. Parishioners, friends, and former parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church will be able to use their credit cards to help us achieve our goal. Please visit <https://igivecatholic.org/> for more information, and search for our parish under the Diocese of Baton Rouge listing.

In Christ,
Father Matt



All Are invited to our
Christian Formation
Advent Prayer Service
in Church
Monday, Nov. 27th
K- 4th Grade 5:30 pm
5th-8th Grade 7:00 pm
Tuesday, Nov. 28th
K- 4th Grade 5:30 pm

Christian Formation Update

CATECHISTS NEEDED!!!!

We are in need of a 4th Grade Catechist to complete this school year! Please contact Karen or June at (225) 749-3387 if you are able to help out.

We also need an 11:00 Children's Church Catechist beginning March, 2018. Please contact June or Karen for more details!

THANKS!!!



We will be selling magnets, scapulars and other religious items after all masses this weekend. All proceeds will help to defray the cost of the youth going to the March for Life in Washington D.C.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

In Our Support of the BAA, We Serve Others Together

Through the Bishop's Annual Appeal, Bishop Robert Muench helps ensure essential diocesan programs receive crucial funding, extending the love of Jesus Christ to parishioners and diocesan parishes that need the blessings of our faith most of all. It is a work of community-wide commitment. Devoted individuals and Catholic families, each one *Moved by Faith*, play a part. *"I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Mt 17:20b).*

Perhaps this is the year you decide to increase your gift. If so, we invite you to consider membership in the *Crosier Society* (for those whose gifts total \$500 or more), or the *Bishop Ott Society* (a tribute to the BAA's visionary founder, for parishioners whose gifts total \$1,000 or more).

As you pray about your involvement, the detailed information Bishop Muench recently mailed to you will prove very helpful. If you didn't receive a packet, please contact the Office of Stewardship at (225) 336-8790 or stewardsip@diobr.org or donate online at www.baabr.org. Together, we continue to make a difference throughout the region.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

November 12, 2017

REGULAR:

197 Identified- - - - - \$8,547.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 734.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$9,281.00



A VOCATION VIEW

"To those who have, much will be given!" Are you willing to share your talents and abilities by announcing the Good News of Jesus Christ as a priest, sister or brother? If so, call Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.



ADVENT JOY

A Morning of Reflection
Saturday, December 16, 2017
(9:00am to Noon)

Presented by Pamela Folsie
and Lucy Landry

During the liturgical season of Advent, Catholics prayerfully practice waiting...for hope, peace, joy and love. We await the coming of Christ. We believe that God hears our prayers of waiting and, with great mercy and compassion, God leads us to a greater realization of the Sacred Presence that surrounds us. On Gaudete Sunday, December 17, we light the pink Advent candle celebrating joy. The Morning of Reflection will particularly focus on joy, especially the joy found in the birth narratives of Matthew and Luke

St. John the Baptist Parishioners and Friends are invited to the Morning of Reflection. A light lunch will be served. To register, please call the Church Office (749-2189) by Thursday, December 14, 2017. There is no attendance charge.



Wishing you and yours a Happy & Blessed Thanksgiving!

MASS: Thursday, November 23 (8:00am)
The Parish Office will be closed Thursday and Friday in observance of this holiday.

Readings for the Week of November 19, 2017

Sunday:	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/ 1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21
Monday:	1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/ Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/ Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday:	2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-7/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday:	2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15/ Lk 19:11-28
Thursday:	1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/ Lk 19:41-44
Friday:	1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd-12/ Lk 19:45-48
Saturday:	1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19/Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday:	Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-3, 5-6/ 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018

Donna Badon
John Begue
Bob Bewick
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno, Vice-Chairman
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Mary Claire Meyer, Secretary
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them." In today's Gospel parable, this man represents God, and the servants represent us. The story makes a clear point about the importance of putting the gifts God has given us to good use. Unlike the first two servants, the third servant chose not to make a return on his "talent." Thus we can understand the frustration of the master. He trusted this servant, and the fellow let him down. Remember, this all began with an act of trust when the master handed over care of his things. The fact is that the third servant did not take good care of what he was given.

What have we been given? Some gifts from God we all share in common: life and salvation. But others differ from person to person. We each have our own set of "talents": our personal skills, our material blessings, our education, family background, and so on. Some have more, and some have fewer. But the point is that we are called to make the most of what we have, whatever that may be.

Perhaps the starting point for making a return on God's investment in us is to recognize that what we have is really his! In a sense, our gifts and skills, even our lives, are all "on loan" from God. He is generous in sharing his life and his blessings with us. And, like the parable's master, he is quick to praise and reward our efforts. But when we choose to be "wicked, lazy" servants, taking everything for granted and not using our gifts for God's glory, then "even what [we have] will be taken away." What we bury underground is as good as gone. So let's bring our gifts into the light of day by sharing them with others and making the best possible use of all we've received.