

October 1, 2017
Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 49, No. 46



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

"Which of the two did his father's will?" They answered, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." - Mt 21:31

Dear Parishioners,

I am scheduled to return from London, England late Saturday night, September 30, so you may see me sometime this Sunday morning. But just to be safe I scheduled Fathers David Allen and Ryan Hallford to celebrate all of our Masses this weekend, September 30 & October 1. Please welcome Fathers David and Ryan and thank them for their kind service to our parish.

My return is somewhat short-lived since the priests of the Baton Rouge Diocese have our annual retreat this week of October 2 - 6 at Manresa Retreat House in Convent. Our retreat director is Abbot Justin Brown, OSB, the abbot of St. Joseph Abbey in St. Benedict, Louisiana. The theme for our retreat is "The Way of the Disciple with the Gospel as our Guide."

Abbot Justin is a native of Galliano, Louisiana located in Lafourche Parish. He made his profession of monastic vows in 1984, and was elected the 5th Abbot of St. Joseph Abbey in 2001. Abbot Justin and I were contemporaries at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans and so had many classes together. I look forward to spending time with him on our retreat.

We will have Communion Services on Tuesday – Friday of this week while I am on retreat. Bishop Muench has requested that any funerals be celebrated by one of our deacons or scheduled after the conclusion of the retreat in order that we not interrupt our retreat. So please pray for us as we promise to do the same for all of you throughout the Diocese.

The Diocese of Baton Rouge is sponsoring its third annual *LifeFest* next Saturday, October 7, starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Tracy Center Ballroom in Baton Rouge. Admission is free and lunch is provided. The theme is "Proclaiming the Gospel of Life as Missionary Disciples," and the keynote speaker is Dr. Brian Pedraza, assistant professor of theology at Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady University. The day will conclude with the annual Bishop's Respect Life Mass celebrated at 4:00 p.m. Visit www.MFLDIOBR.org to register or for more information.

This Friday evening and Saturday morning, October 6 & 7, is the monthly all-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament led by our Catholic Daughters. The twelve

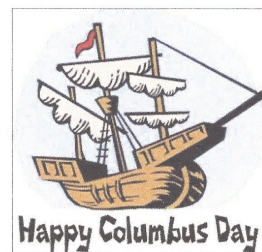
hour period begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday evening and ends with 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday morning. A schedule is available in the back of church if you would like to sign-up for an hour of prayer and adoration in the presence of our Lord.

Our annual *Cards, Etc. Party* is just one week away and set for Monday, October 9, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. The cost is \$25 which includes a spaghetti and meatballs lunch. Chairpersons for the *Card Party* are Terry Guidry and Larry Durbin. The *Feast on the Levee* is four weeks away and scheduled for Sunday, October 29, 2017.

Bishop Muench has requested that all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion attend a refresher course designed to enhance one's appreciation of this important ministry. We have scheduled a 90 minute training session on Thursday, October 12, at 6:30 p.m., and again on Sunday, October 15, at 5:00 p.m. in the church. It will be the same presentation on both nights, so new and continuing Eucharistic Ministers may choose either session to attend.

In Christ,
Father Matt

Christian Formation Update



WE WILL NOT HAVE
CLASS ON
Monday, Oct. 9th and
Tuesday, Oct. 10th
due to Columbus Day
holiday on Monday.



FEAST ON THE LEVEE

October 29, 2017

What Will You Do?

Our Feast on the Levee, biggest fundraiser in the year for our church!

We already have several cooks and booth workers, but are still needing more. **CAN YOU HELP???**

COOKS—Can you make a corn & shrimp soup, maybe red beans/sausage & rice? Anything you would like to contribute!

CASSEROLES: Please contact Ms. Tut Diez at 749-3976.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION STUDENTS

Need Hours? Contact June or Karen at 749-3387.

RAFFLE TICKETS

Keep those tickets coming in! If you sell all your tickets and need some more, you can pick up more at the Parish Office.

We don't have a fair chairperson, so we are trying to get it organized through the parish office. If you wish to help and haven't been contacted, please give us a call!

We still need someone to chair the Silent Auction! This booth is one of the favorites of our guests.

THANK YOU FOR ANYTHING YOU CAN DO !

A VOCATION VIEW

Actions speak louder than words. What are your actions saying? Can your word be trusted? Turning from evil and doing good is what God wants. If you think God is calling you, then call Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.

Eucharistic Ministers

There will be a special Eucharistic Ministers Training Session mandated by the Diocese of Baton Rouge on Thursday, October 12 (6:30-8:00 pm) or Sunday, October 15 (5:00—6:30 pm) in the Church. Choose either session. This training session is mandatory for all people serving in this ministry (old and new). Also, if you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, it would be good for you to attend.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

What return shall I make to the Lord for all he has given to me? We may begin by giving Him an hour of our time!

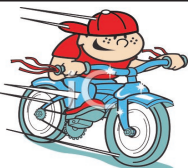
All night Eucharistic Adoration is Friday, October 6th at 8 pm thru Saturday, October 7th at 8 am.

Sign-up sheets are in the foyer of Church.

For more info, contact Julie @ 749-8260 or Mary @ 324-5289.



**5K
1-Mile Fun Run
Bike Ride**



This year we will be hosting our run on October 28th, which is the Saturday before the Feast on the Levee. Registration forms will be available in the back of church. Please fill them out (1 per participant) and drop off at the Church Office, in the collection basket or morning of the race. We are also offering on-line registration at feastonthelevee.org.

\$20—5K Race (Includes a dry-fit shirt!)

\$15—1 Mile Run/Walk

\$10—per bike rider/\$40 for a family of 4 or more

So, come on out! Bring your bike, kids, family and enjoy a run or family bike ride on top of our beautiful new levee-top trail! Contact Jamie Chustz at: jchustz@hotmail.com or Cherie Prejean at: cherieprejean@gotech-inc.com with any questions.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

September 24, 2017

REGULAR:

193 Identified- - - - - \$6,577.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 883.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,460.00



Cards, Etc.

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 9th
ACTIVITY CENTER**

If you haven't signed up to play, please do so ASAP! Also, if you have any homemade goodies or other Door Prizes to donate, please bring them to the Parish Office. THANKS!!

Readings for the Week of October 1, 2017

- Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32
- Monday: Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-23, 29/Mt 18:1-5, 10
- Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-7/Lk 9:51-56
- Wednesday: Neh 2:1-8/Ps 137:1-6/Lk 9:57-62
- Thursday: Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8-11/Lk 10:1-12
- Friday: Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9/Lk 10:13-16
- Saturday: Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-37/Lk 10:17-24
- Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12-16, 19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

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
Toni Tolar, Chairman



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you." Ouch. If Jesus weren't speaking the truth, this would seem like a nasty insult. To the ears of the chief priests and elders to whom he was speaking, it was as good as saying, "You're bigger sinners than the biggest sinners around." Jesus had a way of cutting to the heart of matters. In this case, he was calling out these religious leaders for their stubborn resistance to the revelation of God. At least the "sinners" heard and heeded John the Baptist's message of repentance. But those who considered themselves too righteous to repent were missing the opportunity to experience the healing power of mercy.

As we know, God the Father wants to extend mercy to his children. Just as any good parents want what's best for their children, God wants us to see the truth and follow it. But he won't force our hand. God always respects our freedom. He invites, encourages, assists, and persists in drawing us in, but ultimately the choice is ours. One way God invites us to spiritual healing is through the sacrament of reconciliation. This is a perfect example of God's desire to extend forgiveness. But if we don't take advantage of this gift, we miss the grace that it offers us.

Let us beware of thinking that we aren't the kinds of sinners that really need to repent. If we don't acknowledge our need for God's forgiveness we, become like the chief priests who closed themselves off to God's healing. It doesn't matter how far we may have fallen-this is why Jesus specifies that even "big" sinners can enter the kingdom of God-rather, what matters is that we have hearts open to recognizing and responding to God's love.