



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

October 11, 2015
Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 47, No. 41



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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

"Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me . . . "At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions. Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" - Mk 10:21c-23

Dear Parishioners,

Cardinal Sean O'Malley, chairman of the *Committee on Pro-Life Activities* for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, penned a beautiful reflection for this Respect Life Month. Here are a few excerpts:

"One of the deepest desires of the human heart is to discover our identity. So often, as a society and as individuals, we identify ourselves by what we do. We base our worth on how productive we are at work or at home, and we determine our lives to be more or less good depending on the degree of independence or pleasure. We may even begin to believe that if our lives, or those of others, don't "measure up" to a certain standard, they are somehow less valuable or less worth living."

"Respect Life Month is a fitting time to reflect on the truth of who we are. Our worth is based not on our skills or levels of productivity. Rather, we discover our worth when we discover our true identity found in the unchangeable, permanent fact that we are created in God's image and likeness and called to an eternal destiny with him."

"Whether it lasts for a brief moment or for a hundred years, each of our lives is a good and perfect gift. At every stage and in every circumstance, we are held in existence by God's love. An elderly man whose health is quickly deteriorating; an unborn baby girl whose diagnosis indicates she may not live long; a little boy with Down syndrome; a mother facing terminal cancer—each may have great difficulties and need our assistance, but each of their lives is worth living."

"When we encounter the suffering of another, let us reach out and embrace them in love, allowing God to work through us. This might mean slowing down and taking the time to listen. It might mean providing respite care or preparing meals for a family facing serious illness. It might mean simply being present and available. And of course, it always means prayer--bringing their needs before the Father and asking him to work in their lives."

"Let us learn to let go of our own standards of perfection and instead learn more deeply how to live according to God's standards. He does not call us to perfect efficiency or material success; he calls us to

self-sacrificial love. He invites us to embrace each life for as long as it is given—our own lives and the lives of those he has placed in our paths. Every life is worth living."

Please note that we will follow a special Mass schedule on October 24-25, the weekend of the "Feast on the Levee." The 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass and 7:30 a.m. Mass are unchanged, but we substitute a **special 10:00 a.m. Mass** in place of the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses. Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. and the food booths are scheduled to begin serving at 11:00 a.m., following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. We have a 5 K Run beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday so please be extra careful of runners and pedestrians when arriving and departing for Mass on October 25.

This year's *Blessing of the Graves* will take place on Saturday, October 31, at 12:00 noon in our parish cemetery. All are invited to attend.

In Christ,
Father Matt



FEAST ON THE LEVEE
October 25, 2015
Can you help???

⇒ **CALLING ALL COOKS!!!**

We know that some of the best cooks in the state live in Brusly! Please call if you plan to help in this area this year. **PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED ANY SUPPLIES FOR YOUR BOOTH!** Please call **within the next two weeks**

⇒ **STUDENTS:**

Get your service hours!

⇒ **SILENT AUCTION/PARADE OF PRIZES:**

WE REALLY NEED SOMEONE TO BE THE ORGANIZER! We have some people who will help man the booth. Please call me at 603-8782 or Evelyn at 933-8924 or the church Office. Still need donations and volunteers.

⇒ **BOOK BAZAAR:**

We have enough books! Thanks to everyone for their contributions.

⇒ **CHRISTENING GOWN RAFFLE:**

\$2.00/ticket or 3 for \$5.00. You can get tickets at the Parish Office or after Masses.

⇒ **SWEET SHOP:**

Please deliver your items by 10:00 am. the morning of the Feast.

Christian Formation Update

COLUMBUS DAY CLASSES

Tuesday, October 13—9th Grade **WILL HAVE CLASS!**

Grades K-8 **WILL NOT** have classes on Monday, Oct. 12th and Tuesday, Oct. 13 due to Columbus Day Holiday.



Julie Millard, Bishop Muench, June Hebert and Merlyn Bourgeois recently attended a breakfast at the Catholic Life Center to honor Julie and Merlyn for their 20 years of dedicated service as catechists for our parish. They were presented with certificates and beautifully engraved crosses by Bishop Muench. Also honored but not present were Rita Ourso and Susie Prejean. Thank you to all our catechists who share their gifts and talents with God's precious children each week.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

In this year's special anniversary BAA, we acknowledge God's lasting goodness and invite you to celebrate thirty years of enduring ministry by once again contributing to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. As evidence of your devotion of Christ and your love for others, parishioners from St. John the Baptist Parish have prayerfully made the BAA a priority, and that support is a great encouragement to others.

Three decades ago, Bishop Stanley Ott initiated the BAA with an emphasis on both evangelization and education. Through your generosity, attentive development of the Bishop Tracy Center, enhanced Youth Ministry and Catechesis, and the growth in influence of Catholic Life TV have been possible. Catholic Charities' staff and volunteers minister to thousands of your neighbors, the Sanctuary for Life provides a home and care for expectant mothers, and deserving young people experience a quality Catholic education—all because you give.

Last week, Bishop Muench mailed each parishioner and family an invitation to participate in the BAA. In it, we celebrate last year's successful campaign even as we salute thirty years of generosity and look ahead, asking how God might bless our Catholic community going forward. Please *Glorify God and Save Others* and be a part of that effort by contributing to the Bishop's Annual Appeal this year.

If you haven't received a packet, simply call the Office of Stewardship, (225) 336-8790 or email stewardship@diobr.org.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

October 4, 2015

REGULAR:

292 Identified- - - -\$15,963.00
Loose Collection- - - 614.00
TOTAL- - - \$16,577.00

Pray for Vocations Is God calling YOU?

A VOCATION VIEW

If we really believe in something it does not seem to be a sacrifice to give up everything else to pursue that one dream Jesus asks the same as any great leader...total dedication; but He promises rewards no one else can promise, "You will then have treasure in Heaven." Come; follow the call of Christ as a priest, sister, brother, or deacon. If you think God is calling you to one of these, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Anita Hutchinson & family upon the death of her husband, Merton "Hutch". Please keep them in your prayers.

THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW BURNING IN MEMORY OF ALLEN DAVID.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS MEETING
 Wednesday, October 21st at 7:00 pm
 Dinner with KC's at :30 pm

ANNUAL WHITE COAT MASS

Sunday, October 18 (10:00 am)

Our Lady of the Lake Chapel

All Health Care professionals, their families and friends are invited to attend this special opportunity of blessing, praying for and remembering all health care workers. A reception will follow. Please RSVP to steven.felix@ololrhc.com.



PRO-LIFE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Need volunteers to gather data using the Internet and Microsoft Excel. Contact Martin Reiser at reiser33@gmail.com.

Readings for the Week of October 11, 2015

Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30
 or 10:17-27
 Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Lk 11:29-32
 Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Lk 11:37-41
 Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Lk 11:42-46
 Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Lk 11:47-54
 Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Lk 12:1-7
 Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18/Lk 12:8-12
 Next Sunday: Is 53:10-11/Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45
 or 10:42-45

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



28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions." Jesus gave this man some challenging news. And sadly, the man turned away instead of taking up the challenge. When the fellow had first approached Jesus, he was excited, optimistic, and confident. We know this because he ran up to the Lord and "knelt down before him." He may have been quite proud of himself when he was able to say about the commandments, "all of these I have observed from my youth." The fellow probably thought his work was done. But Jesus knew this man better than he knew himself.

The Lord understood that even though this believer had followed the rules, his heart was not yet really filled with the love of God. Instead, his heart was filled with his possessions. When Jesus challenged him to become detached from his wealth--to sell his things and give to the poor--it was too much. The man left Jesus. His excitement and confidence were gone, and he was sad. Instead of following Jesus with wholehearted generosity, this rich man chose to keep his worldly comforts. But he gave up Jesus' invitation to "have treasure in heaven." Yes, he kept his stuff. But he was miserable.

What are we clinging to that prevents us from accepting Jesus' invitation? For some of us it may be wealth or possessions, for others the quest for success or the desire for popularity. Or it may be entirely different. God knows, and deep down we do too. Today, Jesus is calling us to love him with our whole heart, not just a comfortable percentage. It may seem too much to give, but this faithful surrender is the path to happiness, both now and in the life to come.

