



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST
 catholic church

October 4, 2015
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 47, No. 40



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
 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

He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female." - **Mk 10:3-6**

Dear Parishioners,

Our country and our Church were blessed by the remarkable pastoral visit of Pope Francis just over a week ago. On his return flight to the Vatican, Pope Francis was asked by a reporter what surprised him about his first visit to the United States. He answered, "What surprised me was the warmth, the warmth of the people, so lovable. It was a beautiful thing and also different: in Washington the welcome was warm but more formal; New York was a bit exuberant. Philadelphia very expressive. Three different kinds of welcome. I was very struck by this kindness and welcome but also by the religious ceremonies and also by the piety, the religiosity of the people... you could see the people pray and this struck me a lot. Beautiful."

Overall, I thought the media did an admirable job in covering the Pope's visit. Every network devoted time and resources to his many appearances, and were by and large respectful of the Pope and his message. His visit demonstrates that it is possible to be cordial and respectful of people even in a diverse and pluralistic society. The attack ads which accompany political campaigning are often shameful and can create lasting divisions within our communities. We need to limit our consumption of such negative speech and images so they do not affect our Christian outlook.

We all need encouragement and guidance from the shepherds that Christ has appointed to lead his Church. As a priest I certainly need to hear the words of pastoral concern from our Holy Father and bishops. I also need to see their own good efforts at putting these words into practice. It is obvious that Pope Francis is a man of prayer and reflection, someone who takes his faith seriously and tries to live it on a daily basis. His witness makes me want to be a better priest.

It's providential that the priests of the Baton Rouge Diocese will be on retreat this week, from Monday, October 5 - Thursday, October 8, at Manresa Retreat House in Convent. Our retreat director is Father Christopher Renz, OP, a Dominican priest who serves as academic dean and assistant professor at the Dominican School of Philosophy & Theology in Berkeley, CA. The theme for our retreat is "Stewards of the Mysteries," taken from 1 Corinthians 4:1.

We will have Communion Services on Tuesday – Thursday 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.

As I mentioned last week, the Diocese of Baton Rouge is also sponsoring its first annual *LifeFest* next Saturday, October 10, starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Tracy Center Ballroom in Baton Rouge. Admission is free and lunch is provided. The theme is "Created in God's Image: The Dignity of the Human Person," and the keynote speaker is Brian Butler of Dumb Ox Ministries. 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.

In Christ,
Father Matt



FEAST ON THE LEVEE
October 25, 2015

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.

NEEDED: 20 foot construction dumpster if you know of anyone who could supply one.

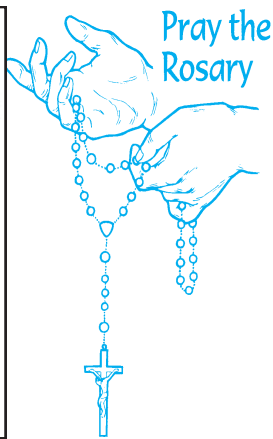
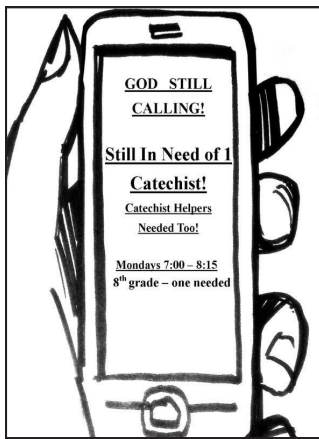
STUDENTS: Get your service hours!

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 will be selling books again this year! If you have any books to donate, please call **Judy Cazes** at 749-3265.

CHRISTENING GOWN RAFFLE: \$2.00/ticket or 3 for \$5.00. You can get tickets at the Parish Office.

SWEET SHOP: Please deliver your items by 10:00 am.



Pray for Vocations



A VOCATION VIEW

Matrimony—A beautiful vocation so misunderstood today. Whether we do God’s work in pairs or as a single person in ministry or a community, we do God’s work because He calls us. If you feel God is calling you, call Fr. Matt Dupre’ at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, www.dobr.org/vocations.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to the families of James Frens & Kenny Galloway upon their recent deaths. Please keep them in your prayers.

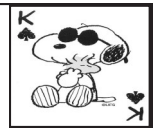
THANKS!

The Bereavement Committee wishes to thank families and friends of Jerry Deville, James Frens & Kenny Galloway for their recent donations.

The family of Leona Mayeux would like to thank everyone who contributed to the annual CDA Scholarship. Total was \$2500.00!

Thanks to Linda Mott for helping Lisa Beraud clean the church during the month of September.

CARDS, ETC.—OCTOBER 12, 2015
10:00 am—3:00 pm
Activity Center



All proceeds from Cards, Etc. will benefit SJB Building Fund. Make sure to sign your group up to play NOW! \$25 donation includes Spaghetti & Meatballs Lunch. Call Terry (749-0514 or 413-5418) or Larry (749-2551 or 921-9700) for info or to register.

A REMINDER!!! LIFE FEST 2015!

Saturday, October 15th—Tracy Center Ballroom
“Created in God’s Image The Dignity of the Human Person”
10 am—4pm Bishop’s Respect Life Mass
Something for Everyone—Kid’s Track (ages 5-11)
Registration: Free—Go to www.MFLDioBR.org

Readings for the Week of October 4, 2015

Sunday: Gn 2:18-24/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12
Monday: Jon 1:1--2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b/Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
Ronda Perrault
for transforming our
chalkboards into
whiteboards in our
classrooms!!

BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL

Celebrate a Generous Legacy: Glorify God and Serve others.

When Bishop Stanley Ott established the Bishop’s Annual Appeal thirty years ago, he imagined an effort that would extend ministry effectiveness and fund special projects and programs throughout the Diocese of Baton Rouge. Special needs often exceed annual budgets, so he proposed a visionary annual campaign to address them. By any measure, through God’s grace and the generosity of Diocesan parishioners, the Bishop’s Annual appeal has fostered three decades of fruitful ministry. You can help broaden that legacy in this anniversary year.

To the glory of God, last year’s appeal was the most successful ever, expanding ministry programs, meeting needs, and providing hope to even more of your neighbors and fellow worshippers. 71 parishioners from St. John the Baptist Parish participated in that banner campaign, contributing a total of \$11,280.00. As a valued member of your Catholic community, thank you for your prayers and participation. With such great opportunity for influence and growth, please do so again.

In the mail this coming week, you will receive a packet from Bishop Robert Muench, inviting you to *Glorify God and Serve Others*. What better way to commemorate thirty years of essential service than to commit your prayerful financial support this year. As the psalmist wrote, “Great is the Lord...One generation praises your deeds to the next...” (Ps 145:3-4).

When you receive your materials from Bishop Muench, please read carefully with plans to respond with your generous contribution. If, for any reason, you do not receive your packet timely, contact the Office of Stewardship at (225) 336-8790 or email stewardship@diobr.org. To see ministries in action or to contribute online, visit baabr.org. The Lord has blessed your investment, and the work of vital ministry continues.



STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

September 27, 2015

REGULAR:

194 Identified- - - - \$7,440.00

Loose Collection- - - 985.00

TOTAL- - - \$8,425.00

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



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female ..." In today's Gospel, Jesus sheds light on the nature of Christian marriage. The Pharisees were trying to trick him, but Jesus transformed their plot into a teachable moment. Speaking of the Mosaic law that allowed a man to divorce his wife, Jesus indicated that this man-made law was not the standard by which marriage should be understood. Instead, he referred back to "the beginning of creation."

In the story of Adam and Eve, we see the first human couple living in a state of perfect harmony and bliss with each other and with God. As today's Old Testament reading reveals, Adam was thrilled with Eve. "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh," he declares with joy and relief. God's original plan for marriage was part of the joyful paradise in Eden. But sin entered the world, and with it came a rupture in the pristine unity of the man and the woman.

The tensions between husbands and wives have been problematic ever since. Thus Jesus explains divorce as the result of sin (i. e., "the hardness of your hearts"). But as always, Jesus calls us to transcend the slavery of sin. And more than that, he promises us his own divine help, his grace, and his Spirit to enable us to accomplish what we could not do on our own power. So when he replaces the Mosaic law with his commandment about marriage--"what God has joined together, no human being must separate"--he is calling us to a more beautiful understanding of marriage: one that is blessed by the true marital unity that can transcend the sadness of sin.