

September 10, 2017
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 49, No. 42



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

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

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.'" - Mt 18:15-16

Dear Parishioners,

Bishop Muench has asked that all parishes take up a second collection to assist the victims of Hurricane Harvey. Therefore we will have a second collection next weekend, September 16-17, at all of our Masses. Thank you in advance for your generosity and please continue to pray for those who died as well as for those who lost their homes or businesses.

Next Sunday, September 17, is also designated as Catechetical Sunday in Catholic parishes and schools throughout the United States. The theme this year is "Living As Missionary Disciples." All of our parish catechists will be invited forward during Mass to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each of us plays in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel.

In his Apostolic Exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel," Pope Francis wrote: *In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples (cf. Mt 28:19). All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization, and it would be insufficient to envisage a plan of evangelization to be carried out by professionals while the rest of the faithful would simply be passive recipients. The new evangelization calls for personal involvement on the part of each of the baptized. Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization; indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love. Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus: we no longer say that we are "disciples" and "missionaries", but rather that we are always "missionary disciples". (Evangelii Gaudium, 120)*

This year's *Feast on the Levee* is Sunday, October 29, so please mark your calendars. A book of raffle tickets was recently mailed to all of our families and I ask that you please help to insure the continued success of our fair by either selling or purchasing the entire book. For those who can afford a little more, we also have the large raffle tickets available for \$100 each. They

have already been mailed to everyone who purchased a ticket in the past, and extras are also available in the parish office if you or someone you know would like to buy one this year.

Serving as a warmup event for the *Feast* is our annual *Cards, Etc. Party* scheduled 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 the sister and brother duo of Terry Guidry and Larry Durbin. I thank them, their assistants, and all of you for all that you do to sustain our parish community. We have not been able to find anyone as yet to chair this year's *Feast* so we have been running things as best we can from the church office.

I am happy to announce that Wayne Delapasse has been hired to take care of the custodial and maintenance needs of our church. He replaces Richard Rabalais who retired earlier this year for health reasons. I know he will do a great job caring for our beautiful church and campus.

In Christ,
Father Matt



**MASS FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION
STUDENTS K-8**

**GRANDPARENTS INVITED
TO ATTEND WITH GRANDCHILDREN**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH
DROP OFF IN ACTIVITY CENTER 5:15
PICK UP IN ACTIVITY CENTER
AT 6:30.**

**THERE WILL BE NO CLASS
ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH
DUE TO MASS ON TUESDAY.**

Thanks to all our Catechists who serve our parish by witnessing to God's precious children. They will be honored at all masses on Catechetical Sunday, September 17th.



BAPTISM



BAPTISMAL SEMINAR

Wednesday, September 13, 2017
6:30 pm in Classroom #5
of the Catechetical Building
This Seminar is mandatory for the
parents of child being baptized.
Call the parish office for more info.

Congratulations to the following children and their families: *Anne Mathilde Barkerding, daughter of Theodore F. & Mallory Ann Wesner Barkeding; Zachary Charles Bertrand, son of Aaron & Devyn N. Pierce Bertrand; and Faith Alexis Finley, daughter of Stephen Wayne & Jessica A. Lambert Finley.*
The children were all baptized here last weekend.

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.
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.



**Cards, Etc.
Door Prizes**

Cards, Etc. is scheduled for Monday, October 9th and we are presently gathering Door Prizes for the event! If you do any canning, preserves, pickles, jellies, please consider donating some of your delicacies which will be included in a special basket for a Door Prize.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

August 27, 3017

REGULAR:

196 Identified- - - - - \$7,101.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 706.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$7,807.00

A VOCATION VIEW

As a parish family, and in your individual families, pray that God will bless us with an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. If you think you may have such a call, contact Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.

Catholic Daughters

The Catholic Daughters will hold a Bake Sale after all Masses the weekend of September 17 & 18. All proceeds will benefit the Metanoia House that is overseen by Fr. Bayhi. The facility is a place of refuge for adolescent victims of human rights trafficking.

A CDA Mass will be held on September 17th at 9:00 am.
All Catholic Daughters are urged to attend.

CREIGHTON MODEL FERTILITYCARE

- ⇒ If you are looking to avoid pregnancy in a natural way without contraceptives, this system is for you!
- ⇒ If you suffer from infertility, low fertility, or recurrent miscarriages and are trying to achieve pregnancy, this system is for you!
- ⇒ If you are single but would like to monitor your reproductive health as well as identify abnormalities and seek healing, this system is for you!

If you are interested in this program send an email to [Katie Roettger at katieroettger.crms@gmail.com](mailto:KatieRoettger@katieroettger.crms@gmail.com) or give her a call at (225) 955-2748.

Check This Out...

TAKE A TRIP TO GREECE & TURKEY!

Travel with Father Ryan Hallford on an amazing "faith and fun" pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey in the Footsteps of St. Paul the Apostle planned for April 11-21, 2018. Included in this pilgrimage is a 3-day cruise in the Greek Isles.

An informational meeting is planned for Monday, September 18 at 6:00 p.m. in Marian Hall at Holy Family Church where representatives from the tour company will be able to answer all your questions. If this is too late notice to attend the meeting, information and sign-up forms can be found at <http://www.ropakele.com/Greece1.html>. Space is limited. Deadline to register is October 2.

Readings for the Week of September 17, 2017

Sunday: Sir 27:30--28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Rom 14:7-14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35
Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7-9/Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-3ab, 5-6/Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-6/Lk 7:31-35
Thursday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-5/Mt 9:9-13
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-10, 17-20/Lk 8:1-3
Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-5/Lk 8:4-15
Next Sunday: Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18/
Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2016—2017

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



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." This is a fascinating promise. Jesus enlightens us today about the power of communal faith. He emphasizes that a gathering of like-minded believers, small though it may be, has a powerful effect. As he tells his disciples, "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father."

Alright then, what are we waiting for? We should take Jesus up on this amazing offer! Going to Mass is one way to do so. When we gather together every Sunday, we do more than listen to readings and receive the Eucharist. We also PRAY together. The priest leads us in these prayers, of course, but we are meant to join with him, as the Second Vatican Council put it, with "fully conscious, and active participation" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, #14). We are to make the prayers our own by attentively joining in with them from our hearts. Mindlessly reciting "Amen" or absently whispering the words of the Our Father likely loses the effect Jesus was talking about in today's Gospel. But truly praying together with our parish community certainly fits the bill.

We need not be at church to fulfill this kind of prayer, however. It only takes two! Those of us who live with others can exercise communal prayer every day in our own homes, just by joining each other for a few moments of petition or praise. Those who live alone may need to reach out more deliberately, but it only takes a phone call to "gather together" with another believer and offer up our prayers. May we have the courage to invite others to join us as we bring our needs to God.