



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*September 13, 2015*  
*Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Vol. 47, No. 37*



**402 S. KIRKLAND (RIVER ROAD) • P.O. BOX 248 BRUSLY, LA 70719**

**OFFICE: 225-749-2189 • FAX: 225-749-1921**

**WEBSITE: [sjb-brusly.com](http://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

At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." - **Mk 8:33-34**

Dear Parishioners,

I have good news to report concerning our former pastor Father Phil Spano, who is recovering from surgery to his knee and leg. After almost three months in the hospital, Father Phil progressed to the point that he was released from the hospital and returned home on September 3. His rehabilitation will continue with the assistance of Home Health for an unspecified period of time. It will probably be a while before he is able to celebrate Mass so please continue to keep him in your prayers.

This year's *Feast on the Levee* is Sunday, October 25, and I hope you will all be able to join us for food, music, and fellowship. 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 12, 2015 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. Chairperson for this year's *Feast on the Levee* is Mimi Cloutre. I thank them, their assistants, and all of you for all that you do to sustain our parish community.

Catholics are once again invited to participate in "40 Days for Life," an interdenominational pro-life campaign focused on prayer & fasting, peaceful vigil, and community outreach. This will be the fifth year that the Baton Rouge religious community has participated in this national and international effort. This year's campaign runs from September 23 to November 1 which overlaps with our own Catholic Church's "Respect Life Month" observance in October.

The first and most important way to participate in this campaign is to devote daily time in prayer for an end to abortion. Second, you may wish to sign-up to participate in an hour of peaceful witness outside of the Delta Clinic on Colonial Drive in Baton Rouge. St. John the Baptist Parish has adopted Saturday, September 26, from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. as our day to pray outside of the clinic, so try to help us fill those hours if you are able. Call Mary Benoit or

Julie Millard to sign-up for an hour, or just come whenever you are able.

Next Sunday, September 20, is designated as *Catechetical Sunday* in Catholic parishes and schools throughout the United States. The theme this year is "Safeguarding the Dignity of Every Human Person." As of last week, we were still in need of a few catechists to help pass on the faith to our children so please call the Christian Formation Office if you can help. As June Hebert mentioned at the Catechist's Meeting earlier this month, "We don't need babysitters but rather faith-filled Catholics who are willing to pass on their love of God and the Church to their students." Maybe God is calling you.

In Christ,  
Father Matt



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



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Regular & Super Raffle Tickets were mailed out last week! Please return yours as soon as possible. If you need more, come by the Parish Office.

**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.

**SILENT AUCTION/PARADE OF PRIZES:** We need someone to be the organizer. I have some people who will help man the booth. Please call me at 603-8782 or Evelyn at 933-8924 or the church Office.

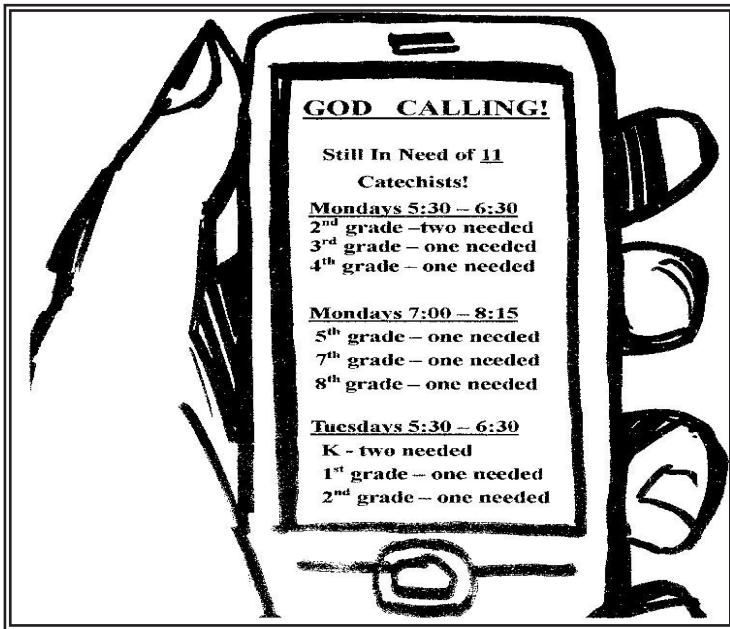
**HAMBURGER/FRENCH FRIES BOOTH:** Need a leader for this booth. Some students usually help to work this booth, but need a leader!

**STUDENTS:** Get your service hours!

**BOOK BAZAAR:** We will be selling books again this year! If you have any books to donate, please remember to donate them to the Feast.

We really appreciate everyone stepping up to help with all the hard work it takes to put on the Feast. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered. We can't do it without you, so—PLEASE VOLUNTEER. Call me at 603-8782, Evelyn at 933-8924 or the parish office.

**-MiMi Cloutre**



## Bible Study



**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY**  
Beginning Wed., September 23rd  
**12:00 Noon—Activity Center**  
Call Karen (749-3387) for more



### Grandparents Day Blessing

*God of our ancestors,  
we thank you for our children  
and our children's children.*

*They are reminders from you about how precious life can be.  
We humbly ask for wisdom and patience as we take pride and  
wonder in our grandchildren.*

*Those of us who now pray to you  
also seek your blessing upon these men and women  
who are our grandparents or who act in place of grandparents.  
Bless all the children and their parents and grandparents  
with your abundant grace.*

*We ask all this through the intercession of  
Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
patron saints of grandparents,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.*

### MARRIED COUPLES

“Marriages may be made in heaven, but the maintenance needs to be done on earth.”  
Take advantage of a weekend away together to enhance your relationship at a Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME weekend is at Tracy Center in Baton Rouge on October 30th to November 1st. For more information or to register go to LAMS-WWME.org or call Jack & Angel LaBate, 1-800-586-5469 or 470-297-8560 or at jackandangel@bellsouthnet.

### A VOCATION VIEW

We cannot increase vocations to the priesthood or religious by advertising that it will be an easy life. But then, no life worth living is an easy life. Jesus said, “If you wish to come after me you must deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow in My steps.” Pray for the gift of being able to accept a church vocation, if that is what you feel God is calling you towards. Then call or email Fr. Matt Dupre’ at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org or visit [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).

*Pray for  
Vocations*



### CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Quarterly Mass—This Sunday, September 13 (9am)  
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
**BAKE SALE—November 21/22**  
Preselling tickets the weekend of Nov. 14/15



40 Days for Life is a worldwide pro-life campaign that consists of prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil for an end to abortion. Since the first 40 Days for Life campaign, over 650,000 people have joined together in local pro-life efforts in 579 cities; 10,331 children have been saved from abortion, and 60 abortion centers have closed. Together our prayers will present a powerful appeal to God.

Baton Rouge’s fifth 40 Days for Life campaign will be **September 23 through November 1** outside of Delta abortion facility on Colonial Dr. in Baton Rouge between 7AM and 7PM on each of the 40 days. **St. John the Baptist, Brusly** has adopted **Saturday, September 26** to witness for life! Sign-up sheets will be available after Masses on the weekend before! Please consider joining our parish family for one or more hours of prayer at the vigil on that day. You may also pray on any other day during the 40 days. For more info, call Mary at 324-5289 or Julie at 749-8260 or visit our website at [www.40DaysForLifeBR.com](http://www.40DaysForLifeBR.com).

### Readings for the Week of September 13, 2015

Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35  
Monday: Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17  
Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Lk 7:31-35  
Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Lk 7:36-50  
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Lk 8:1-3  
Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Lk 8:4-15  
Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Jas 3:16--4:3/  
Mk 9:30-37

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015**

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



### 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." In this famous passage about Christian discipleship, we usually tend to focus on Jesus' call to take up our cross. This can feel frightening or unattractive to us. It can seem as though the choice to be Christian is a choice for pain and suffering. But we must not forget the last part of this verse: Jesus tells us to follow him. He is walking this journey ahead of us. He is the one who first takes up the cross. We are simply called to follow in his footsteps.

Think of how much easier it is to follow a path that someone else has already trod. Think about hiking, for example, and consider what's involved in "blazing your own trail." You have to advance face-first into the brambles and bushes; you have to navigate the right direction to your destination; you have to scale the hills and cross the waters without the aid of stair or bridge. On the other hand, when we hike on a path that someone else has created, we are spared all of these extra trials. Yes, the journey may still be intense, but we make it with great comfort and confidence, knowing that we are going in the right direction and that we have every advantage along the way thanks to someone else's efforts.

This is what it is to follow the path of Christ. Every human person will have their "crosses," whether they are Christian or not. Physical pain, disappointment, rejection, grief, and the like are not unique to the followers of Jesus. What's unique is that our Lord and Savior has walked this path before us. Through his passion and cross, Jesus has taken all of this into his own hands, blazing a trail that safely leads each of us to the joy of resurrection.