

September 3, 2017  
Twenty-Second 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](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  
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

*"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life?" - Mt 16:24b-26*

Dear Parishioners,

As I mentioned in last week's bulletin, I am out of town this weekend attending to important business in Houston — namely, the season opening football game between LSU and BYU. Taking a long weekend off for a college football game is something of a luxury for a priest so I feel blessed to be able to do so once a year. Thanks again to Father Jon Koehler for kindly celebrating this weekend's Masses in my absence.

I wrote earlier this summer that our area of the Diocese, known as the Northwest Deanery, was blessed to have a newly ordained priest assigned to us in the person of Father Ryan Hallford who is stationed at Holy Family Parish in Port Allen. A young priest is helpful not only to his own parish but to the neighboring parishes as well. However the arrival of Father Ryan doesn't offset the recent departure of two other priests from our Deanery.

Father Joey Angeles completed 12 years as pastor of St. Joan of Arc in Bayou Pigeon and Our Lady of Prompt Succor in White Castle, and so has been reassigned to nursing home ministry in Baton Rouge. And just last week it was announced that Father Jack Nutter, the parochial vicar at St. Mary's in New Roads, is retiring early for health reasons. Father Jack's family has a history of early cognitive decline and he has begun to experience some symptoms of this illness.

The Diocese does not have priests available to replace Fathers Angeles and Nutter, so Father Paul Yi, pastor of Ascension Parish in Donaldsonville, has been appointed temporary administrator of Our Lady of Prompt Succor and St. Joan of Arc Parishes. He celebrates a Sunday Mass at OLPS and Father Al Davidson of St. Joseph in Pierre Part celebrates a Vigil Mass at St. Joan of Arc. Msgr. Berggreen may have to handle the pastoral needs of St. Mary's Parish by himself with assistance from his neighbors.

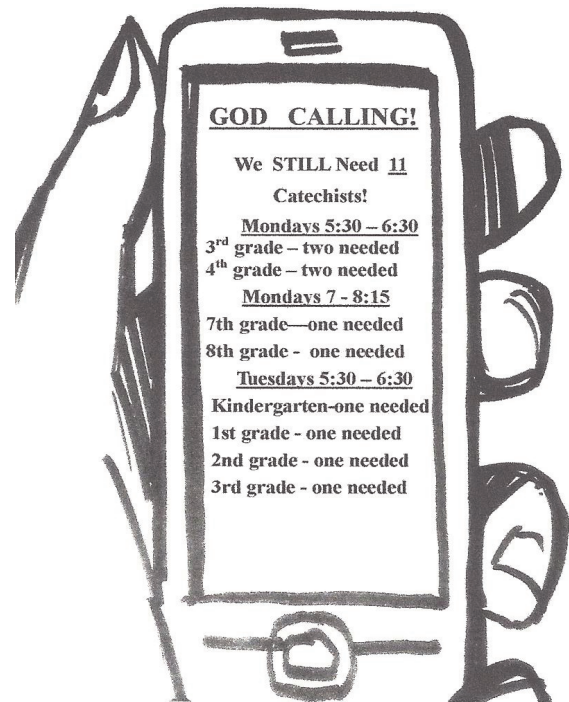
I choose to be a person of hope even as I am mindful of these sobering realities. God will provide for the Church which is the mystical Body of Christ. We may have to drive a little farther for Mass and other pastoral needs, but they are still readily available for most people. Priests will have to adjust to a changing landscape

as well. Still, we recognize that Catholics in many other parts of the world face much greater challenges than us.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual *Ava and Jacob Saucier Memorial Scholarship Benefit Jambalaya* will take place next Sunday, September 10, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Holy Family Parish Hall in Port Allen. The dinners are \$8 each and the proceeds are used to provide tuition scholarships to Holy Family School.

The parish office will be closed on Monday, September 4, in recognition of Labor Day and to allow our hard-working staff a day of rest. I pray you also enjoy time with family and friends this Labor Day, and I also pray for those who are unemployed and in search of meaningful work.

In Christ,  
Father Matt



**NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH**

**OR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH**

**DUE TO LABOR DAY HOLIDAYS**



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.



The Parish Office will be closed  
Monday, Sept. 4 for Labor Day

BAPTISM



BAPTISMAL SEMEINAR

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

## Feast on the Levee 2017

Our Feast on the Levee date is rapidly ap-  
proaching. What can you do?

- ⇒ Help Set up (October 26, 27 & 28)
- ⇒ Put out Signs
- ⇒ Booth worker
- ⇒ Cook
- ⇒ Silent Auction
- ⇒ Childrens' Games
- ⇒ Help Clean Up

Although we still do not have a chairperson we  
are trying to make plans through the Parish Office. If  
you can help in any way, please give us a call.

**WE NEED YOU TO MAKE IT WORK!!!**

Raffle tickets have been mailed out for the reg-  
ular and Super Raffle.. Please try to sell yours as early  
as possible and if you need more, please let us know.  
We have many books available.

# Pray for Vocations



### A VOCATION VIEW

If you wish to follow Him, Jesus said you must deny  
yourself, take up your cross and follow Him. Are you  
courageous enough to follow Jesus as a priest, brother,  
or sister? If so, call Fr. Andrew Merrick at  
225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.



*THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS  
NOW BURNING IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF  
HELEN THIBODEAUX*

## DIVINE MERCY SERIES

Donna Carville (776-3205) is offering a 10-part se-  
ries that will begin on Thursday, September 7 at 1:30 to 3:00  
pm or 6:30—8:00 pm and on Monday at 6:30—8:00 pm and  
conclude on Thursday, November 9, 2017 and on Monday,  
November 13, 2017. You are welcomed to attend any of  
these 3 sessions; just please give her a call so that she will  
have your study guide ready for you (no homework).

In this series on Divine Mercy renowned speaker and  
author Fr. Michael Gaitley tells the dramatic history of God's  
love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative  
message of St Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary  
at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-  
changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II. Featuring the bril-  
liant cinematic artistry of the Augustine Institute's film stu-  
dio, the vast panorama of God's work of Mercy in the world



Ava and Jacob Saucier Memorial Jambalaya Benefit

Sunday, September 10, 2017 from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm

Holy Family Parish Hall

Jefferson Ave., Port Allen, LA 70767

### Readings for the Week of September 3, 2017

Sunday:	Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/ Mt 16:21-27
Monday:	1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13/ Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/ Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10-11/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6/ Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Saturday:	Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday:	Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 13:8-10/ Mt 18:15-20

**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



**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Peter had expressed horror at the prophetic words announcing that Jesus' suffering and death were imminent. Peter didn't want his friend and teacher to undergo this terrible ordeal. He wanted "no such thing" ever to happen to his Lord. But Jesus sharply rebuked Peter's response, comparing it to that of the tempter, Satan. Just as temptation becomes an obstacle to our doing what is right, so Peter was presenting an obstacle to Christ's mission. Suffering was part of it, like it or not. To deny this difficult element of Christ's work would be to deny the bigger plan of God. And so Jesus rightly told Peter that he wasn't thinking like God thinks.

Of course, since we are human, it's only natural that we should think as human beings do. We, like Peter, tend to recoil at the idea of facing unpleasant or painful circumstances. But clearly God sometimes allows such situations to take place for a greater good. Jesus understood this; even as he prophesied about his death, he also mentioned his resurrection.

Today's Gospel challenges us to think "as God does" by holding both of these elements together. Unlike Peter who only focused on the sad part of the story, we are called to recognize the Resurrection on the other side of the cross, and to be willing to do whatever is necessary to get there. In fact, Jesus tells us later in this Gospel to take up our cross and follow him. That is not the "human" way of thinking. It's the Godly way. Our natural response is to reject and scorn the trials and tribulations that we face, but Jesus wants us to embrace them patiently and "come after" him on the (sometimes rough) road to eternal life.