



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST
 catholic church

*September 5, 2021
 Twenty-Third Sunday
 In Ordinary Time
 Volume 53, No. 36*



402 SOUTH KIRKLAND DRIVE (RIVER ROAD) P. O. BOX 248, BRUSLY, LOUISIANA 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

Rev. Matthew P. Lorrain Pastor
 Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
 June Hebert Director of Religious Education
 Pedro Hernandez Custodian
 Layne Mire Parish Secretary
 Celeste Veillon Music Director
 Lil Stutes Mothers' Day Out

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 – Please 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 as soon as possible. Communion calls to homebound weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

CHRISTIAN BURIAL

Family should contact the Pastor to begin funeral arrangements.

PRAYER LINE

Please call the Parish Office.



Dear Parishioners,

Three years ago, I, together with my sister, brother, and father, made the difficult decision to place my mother in a small assisted living home so she could receive appropriate care for her developing Alzheimer's disease. Then, about two years ago we became dissatisfied with the level of care she was receiving and so moved her to a larger and newer facility – *Inspired Living* in Kenner. This facility is better staffed and has a large outdoor area where she can walk when the weather is nice.

My father recently decided to move into the same facility but in a separate apartment. He is still in good health for 92 years old, but stopped driving about a year ago and missed being able to get out and interact with people. My father's apartment is in the assisted living section while my mother's room is in the memory unit of the same large facility.

So far it seems to be working as well as can be expected for both of them. My father is able to visit my mother on a daily basis, and even bring her to his area for meals and other activities, and this has made a big difference in their overall health and happiness. Communion is brought weekly and Mass is celebrated once a month for the residents.

As people of faith, we naturally hope to be able to live at home surrounded by family and friends until God calls us to heaven. However, as God's servants we leave the circumstances of the end of our lives in His good hands. We do our best to accept suffering if we are given suffering, hospitalization when circumstances require it, and change of living conditions as life demands.

Some people, and even a few states and countries, believe we should be able to determine the end of our lives by choosing physician assisted suicide or what is sometimes called "death with dignity." As attractive as that might sound to those who are suffering from painful and incurable diseases, it is not compatible with our Catholic faith and our deep reverence for life.

In reflecting on the death of his father, the writer David Mills offered: "'Death with dignity' seems to offer not only an escape from pain and humiliation but a rational and apparently noble way to leave this life...All 'dying with dignity' requires is that you declare yourself God. Make yourself the lord of life and death, and you can do what you want...Declare yourself, on the matter at hand, the final authority, the last judge, the one vote that counts."

"But you are not God, and, the Christian believes, the decision of when to leave this life is not one He has delegated to you. It is not your call...The Lord gives and the Lord takes away; blessed be the name of the Lord. And that, as far as dying goes, is that."

The parish office will be closed on Monday, September 6, in recognition of Labor Day and to allow our hard-working staff a day of rest. I hope you are able to enjoy the long weekend as well, preferably in the company of family and friends.

In Christ,
Father Matt



Please welcome to our faith community
Ensley Mae Verret
 daughter of Matthew & Brooke Verret
 who was baptized on August 29th.

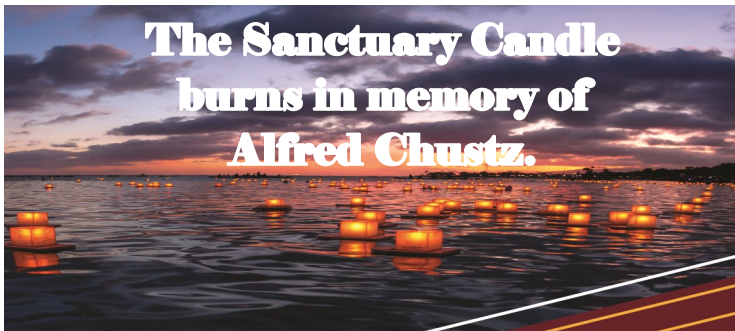
St. Francis Hall: Part One

Our church office, St. Francis Hall, recalls a lost community and is the oldest building standing on our campus. It began its life as St. Francis of Assisi Chapel, a mission of St. John the Baptist, located at Sardine Point at the southern border of West Baton Rouge.

A bit of its history can be traced through period Catholic Directories which published vital information on every Catholic institution in the country. *Hoffman's Catholic Directory, Almanac and Clergy List* first notes a mission of St. John the Baptist at Sardine Point in 1897. Rev. Laroche was assigned to Brusly Landing and served St. Francis as part of his administration. The directory information of 1898 was updated to include the name of the church, St. Francis of Assisi. This indicates that a substantial structure was likely built at or before this time.

The chapel was built on the property of Victorin Comeaux. He desired to have the educational and spiritual needs of the area's residents met so they wouldn't have to leave the Point. According to his descendant, Norman Comeaux, Victorin donated the land and likely participated in the chapel's construction as he had with the adjacent Cleanwood School also on his property. A mercantile store nearby rounded out the basic necessities of a community.

History provided by Brian Falcon



The Sanctuary Candle
 burns in memory of
Alfred Chustz.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

There will be **NO Classes** on September 5, 6, 7 & 8 due to Labor Day holiday.

Christian Formation Mass for K-8
 Tuesday, September 14th @ 5:30pm
 Drop-off your child @ 5:15pm at the Activity Center and pick-up your child in Church @ 6:30pm.

MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN CHURCH.
 Parents are welcome to attend with their child.

Baptism Seminar
September 8th
6:00pm

Please call the Church Office to register.



For Jambalaya benefit tickets, please call Andrea Normand 328-4843.

Jambalaya Benefit
 for the
Ava and Jacob Saucier
 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP TO HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL
Sunday, September 26, 2021
10:30-1:00 at the Holy Family Parish Hall
 Dine in or Drive through, sweets.
ONLINE SILENT AUCTION DONATION \$8.00



Please join the KCs on Saturday, September 18th @ 4:00pm for the Pro-Life Rosary.



Can you continue God's work as a priest, deacon, brother or sister? If you want to follow this path, please contact Father Josh Johnson 225-336-8778, jjohnson@diobr.org or visit: www.diobr.org/vocations



Classes begin on Wednesday, September 1st @ 6:30pm for R.C.I.A. Please join us in the Church Office to learn about the Catholic Faith.

St John the Baptist Parish Council Members

2020-2021

Bob Bewick

Audy Bourgeois

Christie Chapman, Secretary

Justin Clouatre

Wayne Delapasse

Paige Fitzgerald

Janice Hebert

Fr. Matt Lorrain

Mary Claire Meyer, Chairman

Joey Normand

Edana Robnett

Derek Scott, Vice-Chairman

Jewel Woods



23RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" —that is, "Be opened!"
- Mk 7:32-34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Readings for the week of September 5, 2021

- Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/
Mk 7:31-37
- Monday: Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11
- Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/
Lk 6:12-19
- Wednesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c
[Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
- Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/Lk 6:27-38
- Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11
[cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42
- Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 [2]/
Lk 6:43-49
- Next Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/
Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

