



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



402 South Kirkland Drive (River Road) P. O. Box 248, Brusly, Louisiana 70719

OFFICE: 225-749-2189
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.
Monday, 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.
Monday, Wednesday thru Friday 7:40 a.m. or by appointment

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Arun John, IMS Pastor
Dana Babin Bookkeeper
Candice Breaux Youth Group Minister
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
Jayne Jason Child Protection
Layne Mire Parish Secretary
Lil Stutes Mother’s Day Out
Celeste Veillon Music Director

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
Office closed for lunch 12:00–1:00 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.
For Cemetery information, please call Jerry Deshotel 281-0333.

PRAYER LINE

Please call the Church Parish Office.



Dear Parishioners,

One of the characteristics of the Israelite nation is that no one can get away with any atrocity inflicted against their people. They have been known to track down their enemies from any place they try to hide. Even in recent conflicts between Israel and Palestine, no terrorist activity perpetuated by Palestine has gone unpunished; it has been, bomb for bomb, killing for killing. And the punishment so far has been more devastating than the original incident that sparked it off. It is because their action has been inspired by the Old Testament laws that sanctions retaliation, “Eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth.” (Ex 20:23). The positive intention of this rule was to curb the tendency of unlimited revenge on the part of the injured person. Because justice demanded that the aggressor should be punished, in proportion to the crime committed. There was therefore, at the time of Jesus, a tradition calling for restraint and opposing revenge.

Jesus is not only against restraint, he is against retaliation of any sort. He doesn't support the Old Testament law, “Eye for eye and tooth for tooth,” as allowed in the past, rather he is asking us to offer no resistance to the wicked person. In contrast, Jesus suggests that one turns the other cheek and walks the extra mile. What Jesus means is that even if we don't follow his message literally, we should not water down the spirit of his message. At the same time, in the process of resisting evil and confronting unjust structures, Jesus doesn't mean that we give up our own rights or sacrifice a comfortable existence.

Jesus again tells us, “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you”. We know that there is no commandment that says, “Hate your enemies”, yet it is said in Psalm 5:5 that God hates evildoers, which would imply that we too ought to do the same. That is not the kind of God Jesus presents to us. The God that Jesus revealed to us is a God who is really loving, compassionate, and just to all! He causes the sun to rise on bad as well as on the good, and His rain to fall on the honest and the dishonest. Then he reasons it out for us by saying, “If you love only those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not?You must therefore be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.” Being perfect is not to be understood in a legalistic way, as keeping all the laws. Neither it is to be understood in the sense that one is free from all faults and resplendent with all virtues. The call to be perfect like our Heavenly Father means that we are invited to wholeness, to serve God with a wholehearted and single-minded devotion.

As you all know, to genuinely love our enemies may not be as easy as it sounds. Genuine love for the so-called enemy needs to come from the heart, but we can not so easily forget the number of times we have been insulted, humiliated or harmed. We, therefore, have to back up our intentions to love with the psychological help that we all need. We have to understand ourselves and others in a way that gradually leads us to forgiveness and love. The love commandment reaches its peak in today's Gospel. The Lord teaches us that love doesn't retaliate, on the other hand it reaches out not only to family and friends, but even to our enemies. Jesus is one who lived what he preached; and we as his disciples are called to live what Jesus lived and preached. Pray for God's grace to really practice Jesus' preaching.

God Bless You,

Fr. John

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

NO Religion Classes on February 20th, 21st or 22nd due to Mardi Gras holiday.

NO Religion Classes on February 27th, 28th or March 1st due to Church Mission.

Religion Mass for K-8 students will be at 5:30pm on March 13th.



Please welcome these baby boys to our faith community that were baptized on February 12th!

Ruston Thomas David
son of Joshua & Kathryn David

John Myles Hebert
son of Brandon & Julia Hebert

Lincoln Michael Suire
son of Jason & Kelsie Suire

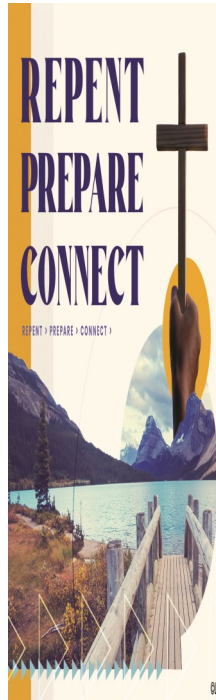
Father Miles Walsh will preach a Lenten Mission of Reconciliation and Healing, Mercy and Peace.

The Lenten Mission schedule is as follows:

Monday, February 27th, Mass at 6:00pm delivering the message of Our Lady of Fatima;

Tuesday, February 28th, Mass at 6:00pm introducing the message of Divine Mercy through St. Faustina Kowalska; and on Wednesday, March 1st at 6:00pm, he will conclude with his second talk on Divine Mercy and allow participants to make a confession.

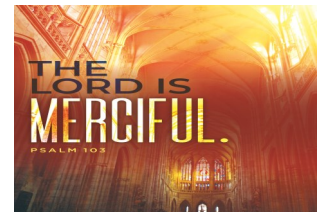
Father Walsh will celebrate the Masses with us on the weekend of February 25th & 26th as part of the Mission.



ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE

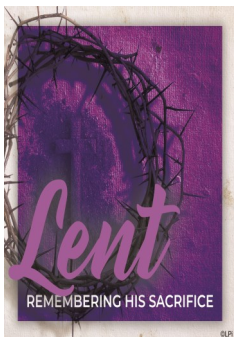
Wednesday, February 22nd
8:00am Mass & Ashes
12:00pm Mass & Ashes
6:00pm Mass & Ashes

*The Sanctuary
Candle burns
in memory of
Wallace Thibodeaux.*



Mass Changes for February 27th & March 1st

There will be NO Morning Mass at 8:00am on Monday, February 27th due to the Mission Mass that same night. We will have Mass at 8:00am on Wednesday, March 1st and Confession after the Mission at 6:00pm.



Will you love your neighbor and pray for your enemies as Jesus did?

If God is calling you to serve others as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, please contact

Father Josh Johnson,

225-336-8778,

jjohnson@diobr.org

or visit:

www.diobr.org/vocations

Stewardship of Finances February 12, 2023

Regular Collection: \$11,019.00

Contribution Tax Statements

To obtain a 2022 Contribution Tax Statement, please contact Dana Babin in the Church Office. Statements will be printed upon request.



Operation Rice Bowl

Please consider making a Lenten Pledge to crsricebowl.org/donate to help feed the hungry everywhere! You may leave your rice bowl in the back of Church. THANK YOU!



**7th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

“I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” - Mt 5:44

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

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Readings for the week of February 19, 2023

- Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 (8a)/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48
- Monday: Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29
- Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37
- Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
- Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25
- Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
- Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
- Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11



Matrimony: A Calling to Forgive
Retrouvaille Weekend offers a welcoming space to couples who are in a failing marriage. To obtain more information about this program scheduled for March 10-12, please contact Randall & Robin Bellard at 225-271-4092 or go to their website: HelpOurMarriage.org

KC FEBRUARY 2023 CALENDAR WINNERS

Sheri Domingue, Rich Gremillion, M/M Donald Hebert, Scott Parsons, Chris & Mollie Meaux, Thomas Whittington, Sr, Ann Lunsford, Dannie Clare Durand, Dr & Mrs Johnny Shelley, Gary Haydel, Donnie Fourroux, Risley St. Germain, Delta Theriot, Cindy Daigle, Harry Case, Jr, Kurt Gaudet, Blade Stelly, Anna Grace Mabile, Jocelyn LeBlanc, Jason Burns, Christopher Hebert, Mike Chustz, Velma Stewart, Brenda Green, Blaise Gravois, Chris Kershaw, Michael Fay, Annie LeBlanc



KC's Spaghetti Dinner
The KC's Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Sunday, March 5th from 11:00am-1:00pm. Tickets are \$10 each and are available for purchase through any KC member. Please call Jerry Eagan, 939-1673 to obtain tickets.