



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
Sara Hernandez Janitorial
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 and also celebrated after the 11:00am Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of Our 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 Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.

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 225-281-0333.

PRAYER LINE

Please call Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach the conclusion of the Church year in two weeks, the Gospel of this weekend speaks about our ultimate destiny. Each one of us has a destiny. Our destiny is that we will rise again after death and our destiny goes beyond this life. Jesus has proved this by his own death and resurrection. He has promised us that He would do the same for us. So, those of us who believe in Jesus, believe that He died and rose again, and will also raise us up and that we will be capable of enjoying heavenly bliss. Someone asked a Christian, "What is your age?", and he replied, "I am on the right side of 70." The person found out that he was 75 and said, "You told me you're at the right side of 70?" "So, I am," he answered, and continued, "The right side, for it is the side nearest to heaven, my blessed home." Heaven is being with Christ and so it's blessed.

To reach our heavenly home, we have to live our lives wisely, in the here and now. There is a difference between wisdom and knowledge. Knowledge is knowing about things and doing things according to the knowledge we have. Knowledge can produce both unpleasant and honorable results. For example, a genius could turn his talents or knowledge into stealing cars and forging checks, which can destroy his own life. Wisdom is knowing the right side of things, and doing things that bring out only honorary results. Wisdom will never lead us to do things that are evil. Knowledge can lead us to the ways of the world; but wisdom will try to conform us to the ways of heaven. This is the reason that we are told in today's first reading from the book of Wisdom, that we must seek wisdom from above, and it is available to those who seek her and love her. Therefore, when you lack knowledge, you must go to school, or read books to get the knowledge you desire; but if you lack wisdom, you have to get down to your knees. We can tell if a person is wise by observing his/her life and behavior. Wisdom can be an affair of values; wise people will deal with the facts of life, which will lead to eternal life. This means that wise people have foresight.

We find this foresight in the five wise virgins in today's Gospel. They could foresee that the bridegroom could be late or early, and so they needed to be prepared for anything. Therefore, they carried enough oil with them and that worked. They had enough oil to wait for the bridegroom, and at the same time, they were awake. The foolish virgins on the other hand lacked foresight, and did not take enough oil with them, and as a result, they missed the opportunity to meet the bridegroom. Christians who have foresight most often avoid evil by anticipating it. We need this foresight in order to meet the Lord when he comes. Death is crucial and can come anytime, and so we must be prepared. A Christian with foresight will be reflective and always aspire to do things right. Such people are prayerful and don't allow themselves to be burnt out by frantic pursuit of earthly things. A reflective Christian always asks, "Do I have extra oil of good works to nourish my lamp of faith?" The five wise virgins in today's parable might have thought and reflected before they left home, and so took their extra flasks of oil. Similarly, a foresighted Christian that waits for the Lord, always keeps awake so that he/she may sleep in his/her peace, and awake in his/her glory. This is where wisdom comes into play. It's good to look at our own lives and see if we are reflective and wise in our lives. Do we sometimes act like the foolish virgins, unreflective and unprepared? When we are frantically running after earthly things, do we sometimes act desperately at the last moment, allowing the decisive moment to slip by? Today, the Lord is asking us to be wise and reflective in our lives so that we may not miss the Lord when He comes.

May God bless you all!

Fr. John





Volunteers are needed for these ministries:

The Altar Society needs Leaders to clean the Church for the months of March and August. If you can help in this ministry, please contact Carolyn Bourgeois, 225-776-3325.

A Sacristan is needed for 9:00am Mass. This person is responsible for setting up prior to Mass. Please call the Church Office to sign up.

The Bereavement Committee needs a Chairperson for the months of February and August. The Committee is already established. If you can take over this role, please contact Ruth Landry, 225-749-3101.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Pantry: Distribution is on Monday, November 13th at 8:30am at the Activity Center.

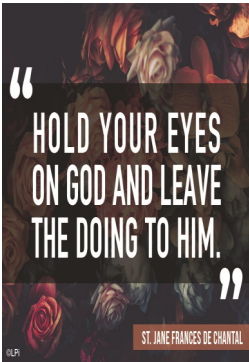
Eucharistic Revival Session on the Story of the Eucharist is at 6:30pm on Thursday, November 16th in the Activity Center.

There will be no Christian Formation Classes from November 20th-22nd due to Thanksgiving holiday.

Mass of Thanksgiving will be at 8:00am on Thursday, November 23rd, Thanksgiving Day.

Eucharist Revival Procession is after 10:00am Mass on Sunday, December 3rd. Masses will be at 7:30am and 10:00am that day.

O.L.O.L. Blood Drive will take place from 7:00am-1:00pm on Sunday, December 10th in our Church parking lot.



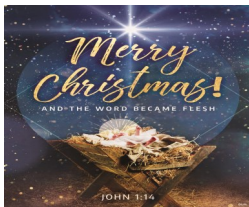
Vocations
Open your eyes to the presence of God. Pray for the wisdom to know God's will in your life. If you think God is calling you to a religious life, please contact Father Josh Johnson at 225-336-8778 or email him: jjohnson@diobr.org or visit: www.diobr.org/vocations



Large Poinsettias are available for sale for \$35 through our Church from the Kiwanis Club. These flowers will be included in our Christmas decorations in Church in honor of your loved ones. These names will be included on the Christmas flower list. You can purchase the poinsettias via cash or check made payable to our Church, and by using the form on our Church website or by obtaining an order form in the office. Thank you for your generosity during this special time of year!

Mass Intention Forms

Our Mass Intentions Policy for 2024 begins January 1st. Please complete your Mass Intention form online at the Church website: sjb-brusly.com or in the Church Office. Mass Intentions will be taken on every Wednesday of each month, except on holidays, in the Church Office.



We are collecting Christmas Cards and other greeting cards for the prison ministry now through December 7th. Please drop them off at the Church Office.

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of Warren Blanchard & Wilson Mabile.



Stewardship of Finance

Total Collection for November 5th: \$21,383.00
All Saints Collection: \$1,775.00

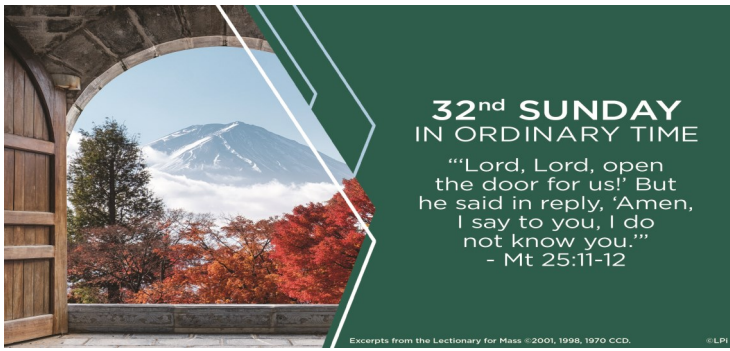
Thank you for your generosity to our Church, and for your generosity to St. Elizabeth and St. Jules Church for their restoration project.

Maintenance Committee

Richard Dugas
Joey Normand
Danny Rabalais
Nat Smith
Gary Tullier

Please thank them for all their hard work and accomplishments that your generous donations have enabled.





Readings for the week of November 12, 2023

- Sunday: Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b)/
1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13
- Monday: Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10/Lk 17:1-6
- Tuesday: Wis 2:23—3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/
Lk 17:7-10
- Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19
- Thursday: Wis 7:22b—8:1/Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135,
175/Lk 17:20-25
- Friday: Wis 13:1-9/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5ab/Lk 17:26-37
- Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43/
Lk 18:1-8
- Next Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
(see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30
or 25:14-15, 19-21

W.B.R. Senior Spirit has a bus trip heading to Branson, Missouri from April 9-12, 2024. You will stay at the Lodge of the Ozarks, enjoy three fabulous shows including Queen Esther, and go to the Top of the Rock Heritage Preserve. You can be a part of this great adventure by calling Paige Currie at Senior Spirit, 225-215-5290.

**Rosary of Healing and Hope, after a loss from suicide
Thursday, November 30th at 7:00pm
St. Aloysius Catholic Church, Baton Rouge
For more information, please call the Diocesan Office of Evangelization, 225-387-0561.**

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**W.B.R. Library Feud needs Contestants!
Tuesday, November 21st from 6:00-7:30pm
W.B.R. Library, Port Allen
Please call 225-342-7920, ext. 227 to sign up.**

