



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

April 28, 2013
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Vol. 45, No. 22



402 S. KIRKLAND (RIVER ROAD) • P.O. BOX 248 BRUSLY, LA 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
Sammy Collura Permanent Deacon
Julie Ginther Cilano Christian Formation
Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
Pat Durbin Parish Secretary
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 at weekend Masses. Parents should call the office early to enroll in our baptismal preparation program. Parents should be registered and actively practicing the 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.

Jesus said: "My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another." - Jn 13:33a, 34a

Dear Parishioners,

The horrific bombings near the finish line of this year's Boston Marathon, and the resultant injuries and deaths of so many innocent bystanders, provides the occasion to contemplate the reality of evil in our world. The terrible loss of homes and lives after a natural disaster such as Hurricane Katrina, or as a result of an industrial accident like the fertilizer plant explosion in Texas, are bad enough. But how do we explain the presence of evil and intentional acts of violence?

A priest who had served for many years as a chaplain in a maximum security prison once told me that he had visited many sick, twisted, and morally damaged people during the course of his ministry. Yet he never visited one of them without seeing something of himself in their broken lives. We are all susceptible to the kind of hatred, selfishness, and anger which could lead to criminal acts if not for the presence of a supportive family, community, and belief system.

Studies show that a majority of spouse and child abusers were themselves abused as children. Yet studies also show that the vast majority of people who suffer abuse as children do not grow up to become abusers. With time and love, most are able to heal and break the cycle of violence. Our goal is to seek justice and punishment in such situations without yielding to the temptation to exact revenge. Ultimately, we can never really heal from senseless acts of violence and injury without embracing some measure of forgiveness for the perpetrators.

For Christians, love is the only true remedy for evil in the world. An amazing example of a Christ-like response to evil took place in October 2006 when a local milk truck driver named Charles Roberts entered a one-room schoolhouse in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania and shot 10 young girls, killing five of them before taking his own life. The center of the story soon shifted from the evil actions of the killer to the forgiveness of the families. The killer was non-Amish while all of the school children and their families were Amish, members of a traditionalist sect of Mennonite Christians. The Amish immediately began to visit, comfort, and offer forgiveness to the shooter's wife, parents, and parents-in-law.

For most of us, the usual path to recovery from trauma is to work through the emotions of anger and grief before finally coming to some form of acceptance and forgiveness. By contrast, the Amish extended compassion right away even before they had worked through the normal human emotion of anger. They sought to make sense of the pain and loss through the practice of forgiveness and grace. Their faith-based approach to healing had a huge impact on the lives of the killer's family and even the larger world.

Charles Roberts' parents thought they would never be able to face their Amish neighbors again. However, on the day of the shooting, their Amish neighbor came to their house and stood behind Mr. Roberts rubbing his shoulders and consoling him. When the Roberts buried their son, the first parents to greet them at the graveside were Amish parents who had lost two daughters. Their actions compelled the Roberts to visit all of the Amish families whose daughters had been shot. Mrs. Roberts has spoken to various groups over the years and sometimes leaves her listeners with the question, "Is it that we cannot forgive or that we will not forgive?"

In Christ,
Father Matt



CONGRATULATIONS

2013 Graduates

You've worked hard and we're proud of you for all your accomplishments!

Fr. Matt, staff and parishioners of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church invite you and your family to Mass and a Reception in your honor on

Sunday, May 5th at 11:00 a.m.

We will gather for mass in the church with a reception to follow in the Parish Activity Center.

Please call the parish office with the number of family members attending by

Thursday, May 2nd to RSVP.



GROUNDS CLEAN-UP DAY SATURDAY, MAY 18th

Springtime brings green grass and blooming flowers that we all get to enjoy, but it also brings weeds and grounds maintenance to be done. We would like to ask that any of you who are available to join us on Saturday, May 18th at 8:00 am to help spruce up our flower beds and grounds around the church. We will be cleaning, mulching and planting, so please bring your shovels, rakes, pruner, etc. to help us.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THEN!

TOWN HALL RESPECT LIFE!

Wednesday, May 15, 2013 (6:30—9:00 pm)

St. Thomas More—Activity Center

11441 Goodwood Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA

Come join in a diocesan-wide Town Hall style meeting to discuss some of the ethical, legal and moral issues challenging Catholics today!

Some of the topics being discussed are the Planned Parenthood expansion in Louisiana, Legislative update, New federal ruling on 'Plan B', Update from Louisiana Coalition for Alternatives to the Death Penalty & The Culture of Life in Medical Practice Conference.

For more information contact Danielle Van Haute at 225-242-0164, dvanhaute@diobr.org.



ATTENTION: HIKERS & BIKERS

West Baton Rouge Parish is seeking input from persons interested in hiking, biking and multi-use trails. Please contact Kevin Durbin, Coordinator, Office of Community Planning & Development at 225-336-2434 if interested.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

April 21, 2013

Regular:

203 Identified- - - - - \$5,979.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 1,199.16

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,178.16

Building fund Collection for March 2013—\$12,719.44

A V OCATION VIEW

“By this everyone will know that you are My disciples.” How will you manifest you’re your discipleship? Consider living the Lord’s new commandment of love as a priest, sister or brother. If God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org. or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Cindi Breaux and her group for cleaning the church during the month of April. Joyce Caffarel (749-2247) will clean during the month of May. Give her a call if you want to help!

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Sandra & Gerald Fitzgerald for chairing the committee during the month of April. Chaircouple for May will be Harold & Beverly Babin. Please call them with any concerns.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sunday, May 5

- ◇ Communion Service for K.C. Members & their families at 7:30 am Mass.
- ◇ Coffee & donuts will be served after 7:30 am Mass

March Calendar Winners: Barbara Knotts, Aime Daigle, Corinne Reeves, Kayla Bercegeay, Paul Blanchard, Todd Dours, KC council 5352, Blake Lawhon, Roy Babin, Dana Mitchell, Roy Mouch, Barbara Webb, Gary Legendre, Celie Rivet, KC Council 5352, Rod Hodges, Sidney Womack, Trey Ruggiero, Matthew Distefano, Dana Mitchell, Nancy Rousseau, Margaret Navarre, Brad Ducote, Winnie Daigle, Dale Carrier, Julie Millard, Charles Felder, James Landry, Laura Bonaventure, Kevin & Lynette Landry, Pat Ramagos



Victor Baal Roger was baptized here last weekend. He is the son of Ivy June & Angie A. Roger. We send congratulations to the family. Welcome into our faith community Victor!

Readings for the Week of April 28, 2013

Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Rv 21:1-5a/
Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8 or Gn 1:26--2:3
or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/
Mt 13:54-58

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Rv 21:10-14,
22-23/Jn 14:23-29

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Chustz, Vice-chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
David Couvillon
Jerry Deshotel
Stacy Gauthreaux
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Wendy Parrish
Katie Roettger
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Chairman
John Windham, Secretary
Gerard "Jerry" Zimmerman



5th Sunday of Easter

It's not possible for even the most astute law enforcement official to have memorized every law he is subject to. The catalog of federal, state, and local laws is simply too great. Volumes of legal code cover everything from street parking to espionage, from hunting waterfowl to truancy, from drunk driving to emission standards. Laws and ordinances abound, yet the vast majority of us go about our business each day without much of a nod to their existence. A speed limit sign may catch our attention (especially if there are flashing lights behind us). We might also keep strict compliance with our local recycling laws because it makes us feel meritorious. But generally speaking we follow the law without actually knowing all of it.

Today's Gospel takes place during the Last Supper. Judas had left and the other disciples were listening to Jesus. It is in this context that he gives them a new commandment: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (Jn 13:34-35).

There is the law that we must observe if we are to consider ourselves to be disciples, that is, followers of Jesus. We don't need to memorize the entire US Code or all the laws of the state in which we live to stay in compliance with the law. In the same way it is no longer necessary for us to remember all of the laws and ordinances in the Books of Leviticus, or Numbers, or Deuteronomy. We have a new law given to us by Christ. We are to "love one another." Those three words certainly have far reaching implications. We have guidance on how to follow Christ from the church. In our daily activities we have to act on what is the most loving thing to do.