



*August 21, 2016
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 48, No. 34*

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
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
Sammy Collura Permanent Deacon
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
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 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

"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:29-30

Dear Parishioners,

It's all too easy for the average American to take public servants such as police officers and other first responders for granted. We enjoy their protection and take note of drug busts and other arrests as reported in the news, but we don't often stop to give thanks for the men and women who work long hours, endure stressful situations, and make untold sacrifices to safeguard our communities.

The recent killings of police in Dallas and Baton Rouge have served as a wakeup call to all of us who benefit from the dedicated service of our law enforcement professionals. Therefore we will honor all law enforcement personnel at a "Blue Mass" to be held here at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 25, 2016.

The date was chosen for its proximity to September 29, the Feast Day of St. Michael the Archangel, the patron saint of police. We will ask God to watch over these public servants, to protect them from all harm, and to grant them strength. We will also remember those who have died in the line of duty. The K.C.'s have graciously agreed to help sponsor the Mass and our cub scouts will provide the color guard. All are welcome to attend.

The RCIA process for people interested in joining the Catholic Church has an Open House this Wednesday, August 24, at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory, so please invite any interested parties to attend. We will provide an overview of the process and try to answer any questions before enjoying some light refreshments. Please pray for our inquirers and the RCIA team who will guide them on this journey of faith.

We had a beautiful turnout for the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick on the Saturday before last. Father David Allen from Holy Family Church in Port Allen was kind enough to join us so that no one had to wait very long to be anointed. I normally schedule the Anointing of the Sick twice each year in February and August, but it is also celebrated monthly at St. John Church in Plaquemine and at St. Joseph Cathedral in Baton Rouge. St. John celebrates it on the first Tuesday of the month after their 6:00 p.m. Mass, and the Cathedral celebrates it on the last Sunday of the month after their 12:00 noon Mass.

The Baton Rouge Diocese Charis Retreat Team will present a retreat for couples in their first few years of marriage next Saturday, August 27, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at St. George Activity Center. Entitled "Christ Alive in Our Marriage," the retreat will be led by Becky and Chris Eldridge and is intended for couples in their 20s and 30s. Our parishioners, Chris and Marcie Buckle, will also be one of the presenting couples for the retreat. The cost is \$40.00 and includes lunch. To register, please visit charis.website.

I am happy to announce that the long wait is almost over for football fans. Brusly High plays Plaquemine in a jamboree game this Friday, and the Saints are half-way through their preseason schedule. Most importantly, it's only two weeks until L.S.U. takes on Wisconsin at Lambeau Field in Green Bay. Happy days are here again!

In Christ,
Father Matt



AS WE BEGIN
CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES
MONDAY, AUG. 22
AND TUESDAY, AUG. 23
K-10th GRADE



**PRAY FOR OUR STUDENTS
AND TEACHERS AS WE BEGIN
THE SCHOOL YEAR.**
Please look out for children and
buses and obey the speed zones!

**GOD CALLING!
WE STILL NEED
6 CATECHISTS
Catechists!**

Mondays 5:30—6:30pm
1st Grade—1 needed
3rd Grade—2 needed
4th Grade—2 needed

Tuesdays 5:30—6:30 pm
3rd Grade—1 needed



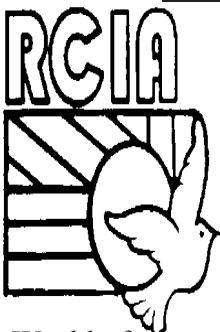
RAFFLE TICKETS
Feast on the Levee 2016
Sunday, October 30th

Be sure to MARK YOUR CALENDAR for this year's Feast on the Levee! Regular Raffle Tickets have been mailed this past week and you should receive yours soon. Super Raffle Tickets will be mailed soon! We want to get an early start on this event, so be thinking about what you can do to help this year! Chairperson this year will again be MiMi Clouatre who did a great job last year. Be sure to give her a call at (225) 603-8782 to offer your help.



OPEN HOUSE
Wednesday, August 24th
6:30 pm—Rectory
Rite of Christian Initiation
of Adults

Please join us as we come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic Faith.



Weekly focus sessions will focus on the teachings of the church, faith experiences, understanding scripture and preparing you to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation at Eastertime.



A VOCATION VIEW

The Lord is calling people from the East and West and North and South as priests and deacons, sisters and brothers. Are you one of them? If you feel God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org.

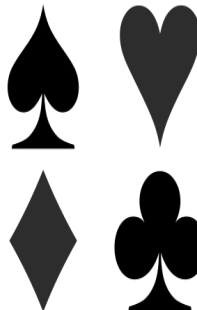


*THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW BURNING
IN MEMORY OF MARY BYRD
BY THE CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS*



ATTENTION MARRIED COUPLES

Rekindle your love for another on a get-away Weekend. What better way to celebrate the gift of your unique love than to make time to focus on each other and your marriage? Consider attending a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** to renew those feelings you had during your first few years together. The next Weekend is on **October 14-15, 2016 at the Bishop Robert E. Tracy Center in Baton Rouge.** You can get more information or register online at **LAMS-wwme.org** or by calling 470-297-8560.



CARDS, ETC.

Monday, October 10, 2016

If you haven't registered to play, please contact Terry (749-0514/413-5418)

Or Larry (749-2551/921-9700)

**All proceeds to benefit
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**

*"The Right to Life is the first among human rights."
- Pope Francis*

Readings for the Week of August 21, 2016

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1-2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/
Lk 13:22-30

Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-5/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10-13/
Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/
Jn 1:45-51

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-7/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/
Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-21/
Mt 25: 14-30

Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-7, 10-11/
Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2015-2016

Donna Badon
John Begue
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
Stacy Gauthreaux
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
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21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." For Jesus' original audience, this reference was meant for those Jews who presumed their salvation while judging others as being unworthy of entering the kingdom of God. Jesus was always quick to teach that believing in him was what mattered, not membership in a certain class or a particular religious circle. Therefore, some of the (last) Gentiles who professed faith in Jesus were ready to enter the kingdom before some of the (first) Jews who rejected the Messiah.

But we should not assume that this Gospel was only for those people in that time and place. Today, there is perhaps a different stratum of first and last. In our Christian era, we can be tempted to have the same presumptuous attitude that afflicted too many of the Jewish contemporaries of Christ. We can think that our salvation is assured just because we bear the title Christian. Likewise, we can fall prey to the idea that we are somehow better or more deserving of Christ's mercy than those who do not "belong" to our Church. This simply isn't true. God's mercy is available to everyone who humbly recognizes one's need for it. The minute we become complacent or overconfident, we close ourselves off to the gift of mercy God offers to the repentant sinner.

Jesus tells us today that we must "strive to enter through the narrow gate." This means that we must not take the easy road of presumption, assuming that we are in good shape because we look like most of the people around us. On the contrary, Jesus calls us to take the more challenging road of real repentance in order to "recline at table in the kingdom of God."