

December 11, 2016  
Third Sunday of Advent  
Vol. 48, No. 50



# 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](http://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

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." - Mt 11:10-11

Dear Parishioners,

The following is part of an Advent reflection from author and speaker Judy Landrieu Klein: *"To be an Advent people is to make Christ's coming truly present among us, not as some far-off distant memory, but as a calling forth into the present moment the presence of the One who is real. To be an Advent people is to choose not to ignore the pain and darkness in this world, but instead to embrace those realities with confidence and trust that Someone has come, is coming, and will come again to liberate us from the long night of sin."*

*"Advent hope breaks right through the misery of sin to remind us of the mercy of God. It clears our vision of earthly concerns by inviting us to see light in the darkness. It blesses the human condition by remembering that a fully human God has redeemed our frail humanity. Advent is the hallowed time during which we gratefully acknowledge that our finite limits have already been met by eternal limitlessness."*

Please join us for our *Advent/Christmas Concert* to be held this Tuesday, December 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the church. We receive many complements from visitors on the singing of our choir and this concert gives us a chance to enjoy their beautiful singing outside of Mass. Admission is free but you are invited to bring a canned good for our food bank. A Christmas Cookie reception will follow in the Parish Activity Center.

Saturday, December 17, is Pope Francis's birthday, so please say a prayer for the continued health and well-being of our Holy Father. He turns 80 this year and seems to be in very good health despite a very full schedule. Our own Bishop Robert Muench, also has a birthday this month and turns 74 on December 28. This will probably be his last full year of shepherding our diocese since bishops are required to submit their resignation to the Pope on their 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. We pray that this may be a grace-filled year for Bishop Muench and our diocese.

Our Advent Penance service is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20, at 6:30 p.m. We will also have our regular Saturday afternoon confessions from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. next Saturday, December 17. However, please note that we will not have confessions on Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve.

Our schedule of services for Christmas includes two Masses on Christmas Eve and two Masses on Christmas morning. The celebration begins on Christmas Eve with a choir concert at 3:15 p.m. followed by our 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass. We then have a second Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. which includes a dramatization of the Gospel by some of the children of our parish. Masses on Christmas Day are at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.. (We do not have a midnight Mass.)

In the August 14 bulletin, I wrote that we would be raising the sale price of a standard cemetery ground plot from \$800 to \$1,000 effective January 1, 2017. This will help us to stay in line with other cemeteries while retaining the sacred nature of our cemetery. Also effective January 1 will be the requirement that a vault be used for all ground burials. Vaults are available in various price ranges and any of the options are acceptable. Please make a note of these changes.

In Christ,  
Father Matt

## *Christian Formation Update*

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>th</sup> AND  
TUESDAY DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>  
WILL BE FOR GRADES K-4 ONLY.  
THERE WILL BE NO CHRISTIAN  
FORMATION CLASSES FOR GRADES  
5<sup>TH</sup>—10<sup>TH</sup> ON THESE DAYS.**



### **CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE**

*Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve  
Vigil Masses at 4:00 and 6:00 p.m.*

*Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day  
Masses at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.*

### **SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF GOD MASS SCHEDULE**

*Saturday, December 31 at 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday, January 1 at 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.*

**The Parish Office will be closed on  
Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and  
Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> for the holidays.**

## NATIVITY CAROL

~an evening of Advent and Christmas song~

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

7:00PM

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH  
BRUSLY, LOUISIANA



Canned good donations to benefit the  
Food Bank are welcome!

A Christmas Cookie reception to follow in the Activity Center.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Christmas Social

Thursday, December 15, 2016  
6:30 pm—Activity Center

Pro-Life Rosary  
Saturday, December 17  
4:00 pm—In Church

### PLEASE ADD TO DECEMBER MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Dec. 24 (4:00 pm)

Bobby Dupuy; Herd Daigle, Sr., Alfred  
Rodriguez, Mac Rodriguez, Lonnie Rodrigue,  
Manuel Doming & John Daigle & Flys.;  
For healing of Debbie Mancuso, Evella, Joe  
& Jody Pollage & Merlyn Bourgeois



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW  
BURNING IN LOVING MEMORY  
OF LILLIE MABLE**

**LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS FOR JANUARY,  
FEBRUARY & MARCH ARE IN.  
PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE PARISH  
OFFICE.**

### STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 4, 2016

REGULAR:

184 Identified- - - - - \$9,353.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 1,260.00

TOTAL- - - - \$10,613.00

Christmas Flowers—\$2,134.00



### A VOCATION VIEW

As John was called by God to be a messenger of His Son, so Jesus still calls men and women today to be the messengers of His Good News. If you think God is calling you to a church vocation, call Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.



### 2017—25TH & 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 12, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Mercy Church

445 Marquette Ave., Baton Rouge, LA

Bishop Robert W. Muench will celebrate a liturgy honoring couples on their 25th, 50th, and 65th or greater wedding anniversary. The families of the honored couples are also invited to attend the liturgy and reception afterward in the Our Lady of Mercy Parish Activity Center.

**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO  
REGISTER (749-2189)**



### ROSARYVILLE RETREAT

“St. Teresa’s Interior Castles”

Preached Retreat with Kate Theriot

January 20-22, 2017

Using St. Teresa of Avila’s teachings in her book “Interior Castles” participants will journey through the 7 mansions of their soul finding union with the Creator for which we all yearn.

“Prayer is not just spending time with God. It is partly that—But if it ends there, it is fruitless. No, prayer is dynamic. Authentic Prayer changes us—unmasks us—strips us—indicates where growth is needed. Authentic prayer never leads to complacency. But, needles us—makes us uneasy at times. It leads us to true self-knowledge. To true humility.” -St. Teresa of Avila

Kate Theriot is a certified Spiritual Director with a Masters degree in Pastoral Studies and has 32+ years of experience in Church administration.

Contact Rosaryville at 225.294.5039 or  
sdavis@oppeace.org for more info or to register.

### Readings for the Week of December 11, 2016

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/  
Jdt 13/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Ps 85/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30/Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67/Jn 5:33-36

Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17

Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

**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  
Andrea Smicker  
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman  
John Windham



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"The blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised." Jesus has quite a résumé. When asked whether or not he is the long awaited Messiah, Jesus replies with this list of his credentials as proof of his position. These signs and wonders speak volumes, to be sure. But perhaps the most interesting line on the list is his concluding one, "the poor have the good news proclaimed to them." Why does he count this among his litany of miracles? What is so remarkable about sharing good news?

Perhaps Jesus included this element of his work--the preaching of good news--to remind his followers that the physical healings were not the ultimate goal of his mission. Rather, the spiritual healing that comes from hearing the good news of salvation is what Jesus was really about. The "poor"--which in a sense means all of us sinners, trapped by the poverty of the sins that enslave us--are freed by Jesus' message of a loving God who wants to bring us into his kingdom. Our poverty is erased by his richness. His mercy "undoes" our sin and we are invited to become the children of God who share in the glories of his heavenly abode.

Sometimes it's tempting to just want the visible miracles. But the invisible ones--the conversions that take place in the silence of the human heart--are truly the more important works of God. Such interior transformation is what leads us to eternal life; even a physical cure won't last for eternity--death still comes at some point. But the really good news is that this miracle of conversion is available to all of us. And this season of Advent is the perfect time to let God work his miracles in our hearts.