



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

December 8, 2013
Second Sunday of Advent
Vol. 45, No. 51



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
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.

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. - Mt 3:4-6

Dear Parishioners,

Here is how I distributed the income from this year's *Feast on the Levee*: \$20,000 was deposited in our Building Fund savings account for future needs; \$20,000 was applied to the repayment of our loan for the church restoration; and \$19,000 was deposited in our regular parish savings account to be available for special projects.

Congratulations to parishioner Julie Millard who was recognized by the Diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society for her volunteer work with the Uniforms for Kids Program in West Baton Rouge Parish. Julie is very active in our parish and community and her award is well-deserved. Thank you to everyone who donated so that all children can dress well for school.

Our Thanksgiving Day Mass was very well attended and I was edified by the amount of canned goods and other food items that were brought forward during the offertory procession. Pope Francis has been reminding us of our responsibility to show compassion for the poor and you provided a wonderful example for all of us to follow. Thank you also to all of you who volunteer your time or donate money in support of our food pantry ministry.

Please see the notice in this week's bulletin regarding the expansion of Eucharistic Adoration in our parish through the initiative of our Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus. We currently offer adoration three hours each week following the Friday morning Mass and Benediction, and they are promoting an additional twelve hours each month, from 8:00 p.m. Friday evening to 8:00 a.m. Saturday morning, on the 1st Saturday of the month. The new adoration schedule will begin on January 3-4, 2014, and will hopefully be a means for us to build on the graces received during this Advent and Christmas season.

The annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious is this weekend, December 7 & 8. This is our chance to help provide for our consecrated religious who have given so much to the Church over the years. Since this is also the weekend for our monthly Building Fund collection, I ask that you place your contributions in envelopes marked "Religious Retirement"

and then drop them in the first collection.

We can transform our lives and our community this Advent by each making a commitment to go to confession before Christmas. We already have a loving parish family but think of how much better we would be if everyone regularly sought the forgiveness of Christ in the sacrament of confession. St. John Church in Plaquemine has its penance service this Tuesday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m.; Holy Family Church in Port Allen has its service this Thursday, December 12, at 6:30 p.m.; and we have our service here at **St. John the Baptist on Tuesday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m.** Confessions are also available on Saturday afternoons from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

Remember to mark your calendars also for our December Pot Luck Dinner to be followed by an Advent & Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 19. The Pot Luck Dinner begins at the usual time of 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Activity Center. Our adult and angel choirs then invite everyone to join them in church for an evening of Advent and Christmas music beginning at 7:30 p.m. We are encouraged to bring a canned good to the concert to benefit the Food Bank.

Finally, congratulations to Father John Carville who celebrates 50 years of priesthood this month. His Mass of Thanksgiving is this Sunday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m. at his home parish of St. John the Evangelist in Plaquemine. He was ordained on December 18, 1963.

In Christ,
Father Matt

IGNITE YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT

Are you a Confirmed Senior in High School or College Student looking to deepen your Catholic faith?

Join us for the Ignite Retreat!

December 20—22, 2013

Rosaryville Spirit Life Center—Ponchatoula,

Cost—\$100/Retreatant

Scholarships Available—Contact Julie (225-749-3387)



DON'T MISS
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
Sunday, December 15
8:30 am—12:30 pm (\$6.00 each)
Activity Center



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES
 ⇒ **St. John the Evangelist**—Plaquemine
 Tuesday, Dec. 10—7:00 pm
 ⇒ **Holy Family**—Port Allen
 Thursday, Dec. 12—6:30 pm
 ⇒ **St. John the Baptist**—Brusly
 Tuesday, Dec. 17—7:00 pm

Advent Giving Tree



The Giving Tree is in the back of church. Please take only one gift tag per family. Gifts need to be returned by Friday, December 13th. We had a very low turn-out to sign up for Christmas this year so envelopes for donations to the Food Pantry will be added to the tree. Your donation can be placed in the collection baskets.

Thanks to all of you for participating and a special thanks to Rita Ourso for her generous donations throughout the year.



CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday, December 24th: 4:00 & 6:00 pm
Wednesday, December 25th: 7:30 & 10:00 am

NEW YEAR'S MASSES

Tuesday, December 31st: 4:30 pm (No am Mass)
Wednesday, January 1st: 9:00 am



BALM FOR THE SOUL COOKBOOKS
GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT—\$15 each
CALL MARGARET CANELLA
 at 749-2874 or chicknft@cox.net
 Proceeds benefit our Bereavement Committee



ATTENTION LECTORS!!
 Workbooks for 2014 are in
 Please pick up your copy in the sacristy.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

November 24, 2013

187 Identified- - - - - \$6,281.00
 Loose Collection- - - - - 885.00
 TOTAL- - - - - \$7,166.00
 Philippines Collection—\$3,915.00

December 1, 2013

269 Identified- - - - - \$12,451.00
 Loose Collection- - - - - 488.00
 TOTAL- - - - - \$12,939.00
 Campaign for Human Development—\$808.00
 Thanksgiving Day for Food Bank—\$1,036.95

A VOCATION VIEW

John the Baptist was called to prepare the way of the Lord. Is God calling you to be a priest, brother or sister to do the same? If you think God is calling you, call Fr. Matt Dupre at 225.336.8778, or email mdupre@diobr.org.



CONGRATULATIONS TO:
*Richard & Brooke Verzwyvelt and
 Jacob & Brittany Saia
 who were recently married here!*

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

2014—25th & 50th
 Sunday February 23, 2014 (3:00 pm)
 Our Lady of Mercy Church, Baton Rouge, LA
 Bishop Robert W. Muench will celebrate the Mass honoring couples on their 25th, 50th, and 65th or greater anniversary. Families of the honored couples are also invited to attend the liturgy and the reception afterward in the Activity Center. Call the Parish Office (749-2189) if you wish to participate in this celebration. Registration deadline is February 14, 2014.

BAPTIZED

The following children were recently baptized here. We send congratulations to them & their families.

Millie Patricia Coco, daughter of Greg & Ashley Coco
 Rustin Lee Hoolahan, son of Robbie & Rachael Hoolahan
 Brooklynn Jackson, daughter of Bernard & Leslie Jackson
 Cheyenne Kody Olson, daughter of Lewis & Nicole Olson
 John-David Gregory Serio, son of Brian & Denise Serio
 Keller Michael Smart, son of Troy & Melissa Smart
 Dexter Michael Tullier, son of Kacey & Jennifer Tullier
 Mason J. Bonadona, son of Brian & Brittani Bonadona
 Cullen Michael Ware, son of Joey & Dana Ware
WELCOME INTO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY!

LOST & FOUND

Some cash was recently found in the church parking lot. Please call the parish office to identify and claim.

Readings for the Week of December 8, 2013

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
 Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/
 Lk 1:26-38
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30
 Thursday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,
 10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
 Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Chris Buckle
Deacon Sammy Collura
Jerry Deshotel, Chairman
Stacy Gauthreaux
David Landry
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Vice-Chairman
John Windham, Secretary



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Eucharistic Adoration is the respect and worship we give to Jesus, who is truly present to us under the appearance of bread and wine.

St. Alphonsus Liguori wrote: "Of all devotions, that of adoring Jesus in the blessed Sacrament is the greatest after the Sacraments, the one dearest to God and the one most helpful to us."

During Eucharistic Adoration, we "watch and wait." We remain silent in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist. We can speak with Him about everything. We can offer him our petitions, our concerns, our troubles, our joys, our gratitude, our disappointments, our needs, and our aspirations. And like a magnet, the Lord draws us to Himself and gently transforms us. In its fullest essence, Eucharistic Adoration is "God and Man reaching out for each other at the same time!"

For many years, our parish has had Eucharistic Adoration for three hours every Friday morning. Many faithful adorers have participated in this ministry. The Catholic Daughters and the Knights of Columbus are trying to expand the times of Eucharistic Adoration in our parish at least one night a month. This will give those who work, attend school and any others to participate in this wonderful devotion. Copies of "Catholic Update-Eucharistic Adoration" - are located on the table in the vestibule of the Church. Please take one, read, and learn more about Adoration. Then, prayerfully consider giving an hour of your time to be with Jesus in prayer beginning at 8pm on January 3rd through 8am January 4th. God Bless You!

Catholic Daughters Meeting

The CDA Meeting will be Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00 pm in the Activity Center. We will be decorating and delivering Christmas fruit baskets to the home-bound. Please bring Christmas cards and bows. For more info call Julie at 749-8260.