



*February 14, 2016  
First Sunday of Lent  
Vol. 48, No. 7*

# 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

*Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when they were over he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." - Lk 4:1-3*

Dear Parishioners,

As a way of entering fully into this holy season of Lent, our Catholic Church tradition has long recommended the three practices of *Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving*. These observances are similar to the three legs of a stool which work together to support a person's weight.

*Prayer* is a year-round practice for Catholics but that does not mean that we cannot enhance or deepen this aspect of our faith. Daily Mass and the Stations of the Cross are two especially treasured prayer opportunities that many people embrace during Lent. Starting this week, we are moving our Wednesday Mass to 6:00 p.m. so that some of you can attend after school or work. The Wednesday evening Mass will be followed by the Stations of the Cross at 6:30 p.m.. Other parishes have an evening Mass on Tuesdays or Fridays so look around for one that best fits your schedule.

*Fasting* is intended to help us to grow in self-discipline and holiness. It is very easy to become too attached to material possessions and use them as substitutes for genuine interaction with family, friends, and God. I fast from those foods or activities which have become unhealthy or taken on too much importance. It may be alcohol, television, the computer, fast food, or whatever. Abstaining helps me to focus on other forms of food, drink, or entertainment which are more nourishing to my soul.

*Almsgiving* includes activities such as the Lenten *Rice Bowl* where we set aside money that would normally have been spent at a restaurant or movie theater, and instead donate it to Catholic Relief Services. We give of our financial resources to alleviate the suffering of those who are poor or homeless or unemployed. Any of us can struggle financially from time to time, but most of us have to admit that we are rich compared to many people around us. We show our love for God by concrete acts of kindness and compassion for those who suffer daily.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Confession during Lent offers an opportunity to deepen our sense of God's mercy and love. Confession will be available in our church every Wednesday evening from 5:30—5:50 p.m. just prior to the 6:00 p.m. Mass, and then from

6:30—7:30 p.m. (during the Way of the Cross.)

Remember to mark your calendars for this year's two-night Lenten Mission led by Father Mark Toups. The Mission will be held on Sunday, March 6, and Monday, March 7, beginning at 7:00 p.m. each night. Father Toups is a priest of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux where he serves as chancellor, spiritual director, and the author of "Oremus: A Catholic Guide to Prayer." He previously served as vocation director for his diocese at the same time that I served as vocation director for our diocese.

The K.C.'s have their annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Sunday, February 28, and so will be selling tickets after all of our Masses next weekend. Please give them your support.

In Christ,  
Father Matt

## Important - Please Note!

### PARISH GUIDE BOOK UPDATE

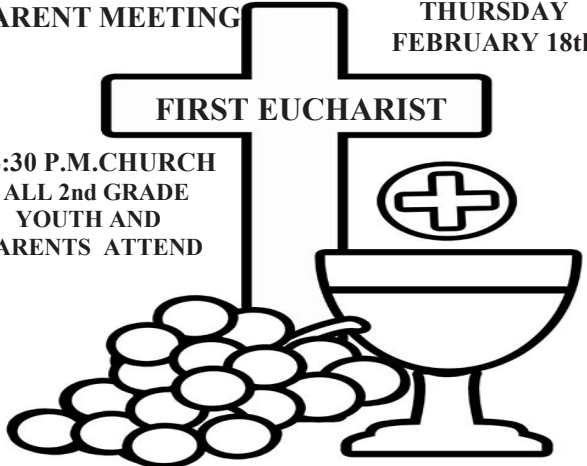
Does our church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book & Directory (if you haven't already done so).

It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.

Have you changed your phone number? Do you want your cell number listed? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Do you want your record published? If you have not already informed the Office about changes to your record, please let us know now. The Office number is 749-2189.

**PARENT MEETING** **THURSDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 18th**



**FIRST EUCHARIST**

**6:30 P.M. CHURCH**  
ALL 2nd GRADE  
YOUTH AND  
PARENTS ATTEND

# Knights of Columbus



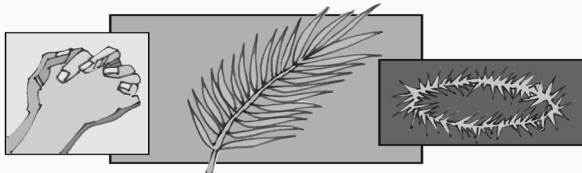
**ANNUAL K.C. SPAGHETTI DINNER**  
**Sunday, February 28, 2016**  
 SJB Activity Center—\$7:00/plate  
 Eat In or Take Out  
 Serving Beginning at 11:00 am  
 Tickets will be sold after all Masses next weekend.

**K.C. MEETING**  
**Wednesday, February 17**  
 Officers—6:00 pm; Regular—7:15 pm

**PRO -LIFE ROSARY**  
**Saturday, February 20—4:00 pm In Church**

## JANUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

Wendy & Ronald Hebert, Stella Trepagnier,  
 Stephanie Sedotal, Douglas Badeaux, Denny & Eugene  
 Bujol, Lisa Crochet, Janet Marionneaux, Craig Mixon,  
 Jamie Lacombe, Michelle Domingue, Candace Williams,  
 Nohie & Willie Landry, Sally LeBlanc, Van & Penny  
 Bordelon, Rita Gutturrez, Frank Benedetto, John Artigue,  
 Gloria Pintado, Babette Stecker, Jarred Berthelot, John &  
 Helen Gossman, Annie LeBlanc, Jeremy Saltaformaggio,  
 Buster & Brad Diaz, Penny Aucoin, Tony Mabile, Theda  
 Smith, Charles Simon, Mike Cazes, Sonya Granier,  
 Dee & Chuck Burnell



## Penitential Disciplines of Lent

“The Christian faithful, during Lent, are clearly conscious of the need to turn the mind towards those realities which really count, which require Gospel commitment and integrity of life which, through self denial of those things which are superfluous, are translated into good works and solidarity with the poor and needy” (*Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*, #125).

In addition to choosing their own penitential practices, Catholics are also asked to observe the practices of fast and abstinence during the 40 days of Lent. The Lenten Fast and Abstinence Regulations are as follows:

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. (The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday.)
3. Fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday means eating only one full, meatless meal. Two other smaller, meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.
4. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.



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# Pray for Vocations Is God calling YOU?

## A VOCATION VIEW

Jesus was led into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting by the Holy Spirit. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the life-commitment God has prepared for you? If God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org.

## PRAYERS & SYMPATHY



are extended to John Windham & family upon the death of his father, John Windham, Sr. Please keep them in your prayers.

Please call the Parish Office to schedule the Sanctuary Candle for a loved one. There are many dates still available for 2016

## *Acts of Mercy*

- ◆ Be generous enough to allow someone to help you; people need to feel needed.
- ◆ Hold Your Tongue.

## LIVING MERCY IN THE JUBILEE

### YEAR OF MERCY

#### *HOUR OF MERCY LENTEN REFLECTIONS*

St. Mary's of False River Catholic Church will be offering weekly hours of reflection on the Jubilee Year of Mercy each Monday during Lent. They will begin Monday, February 15 and continue through Monday, March 14. Each session will begin at 6:30 pm with different presenters each week. Everyone is invited to participate. For more info, call St. Mary's at (225) 638-9665.

## DONATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS

Virgie Fabre will again be collecting articles to distribute to the homeless. A hot meal will also be served for them on Saturday, February 20th. If you have any articles to send or cash donations, please call Virgie at (225) 485-4358 for details.

## Readings for the Week of February 14, 2016

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-15/Rom 10:8-13/  
 Lk 4:1-13  
 Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8-10, 15/  
 Mt 25:31-46  
 Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-7, 16-19/Mt 6:7-15  
 Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/  
 Lk 11:29-32  
 Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-3, 7-8/  
 Mt 7:7-12  
 Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-8/Mt 5:20-26  
 Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/  
 Mt 5:43-48  
 Next Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14/  
 Phil 3:17--4:1 or 3:20--4:1/  
 Lk 9:28b-36

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2014-2015**

Donna Badon  
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



**1st Sunday of Lent**

"The devil said to him... 'All this will be yours, if you worship me.'" Jesus faced temptation, like we all do. His forty-day fast in the desert wasn't full of supernatural consolation and delight. He was subject to "every temptation" and when the forty days were over, "he was hungry." In other words, he was human. Jesus' divine nature didn't cancel out his human nature. He faced struggles just like we do--both physical and spiritual--in his body and his soul.

As we see in today's Gospel, the strategy Jesus used to fight these physical and spiritual battles was to immerse himself in God's word. To silence the devil during this fast, Jesus quoted Scripture. He rooted himself in these eternal truths, relying upon them in his moments of trial. And these sacred words had a dramatic effect. Every time Satan tried to seduce him with a new promise, Jesus responded with a Bible verse. And each time, Satan was silenced and had to try a new angle. Finally, when all the devilish angles had been tried, "the devil departed from him for a time." Jesus won the victory using the weapon of God's word.

As we enter into the season of Lent, we can be armed in the same way. We now embark upon a battle against our own pride, sloth, and greed as we commit to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Ultimately, we are working to put God first, instead of bowing down to our selfishness and our desire for comfort. The devil would like nothing more than to see us "worship" him in these ways. But, instead, let's be equipped to proclaim--and to live--the words Jesus himself used: "You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve."