



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*February 28, 2016
Third Sunday of Lent
Vol. 48, No. 9*



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

And he told them this parable: "There once was a person who had a fig tree planted in his orchard, and when he came in search of fruit on it but found none, he said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?'" - Lk 13:6-7

Dear Parishioners,

A new metal historical marker was recently installed in front of our church by the large oak tree. It replaces the smaller wooden sign that was becoming unreadable, and contains substantially more parish history than the previous sign.

The new sign includes the date of our incorporation, March 19, 1835, as well as the year the present church was built, 1907, and the year the rectory was built, 1935. The previous church and rectory were both destroyed by fires. The text also mentions that our church underwent an extensive restoration in 2011.

I wish to thank Joanne Bourgeois, Brian Falcon, and the Town of Brusly for collaborating on the design and cost of the new historical marker. The reverse side of the marker is a French translation of our parish history in recognition of the founding families of the parish. The old wooden sign is preserved in the parish activity center near the other historical items.

We are in the process of compiling and editing the information for our 2016 Parish Guidebook and Directory. This is an updated version of the small directory that was mailed out to all parishioners last spring. It contains the telephone number and mailing address for all parishioners as well as contact information for various parish ministries and the calendar dates for Christian Formation. Be sure to call the parish office if you are new to the parish or if your contact information has changed so we can update our records.

Our monthly 12 hour period of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament begins at 8:00 p.m. this Friday, March 4, and ends with 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, March 5. All are invited to sign-up for an hour of prayer and adoration during the night or early morning. You are free to sit or kneel in silent prayer, or pray the rosary, or engage in spiritual reading and meditation while in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

Our two-night Lenten Mission led by Father Mark Toups begins at 7:00 p.m. next Sunday, March 6, and concludes on Monday night, March 7. 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.

I encourage you to go to confession sometime during Lent and before the start of Holy Week. I am available for confession on Saturday afternoons and every Wednesday evening from 5:30 – 5:50 p.m. just prior to the 6:00 p.m. Mass, and then for a whole hour from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. (during the Way of the Cross). I imagine that Father Toups will also hear confessions while he is in our parish for the mission.

Have a good week!

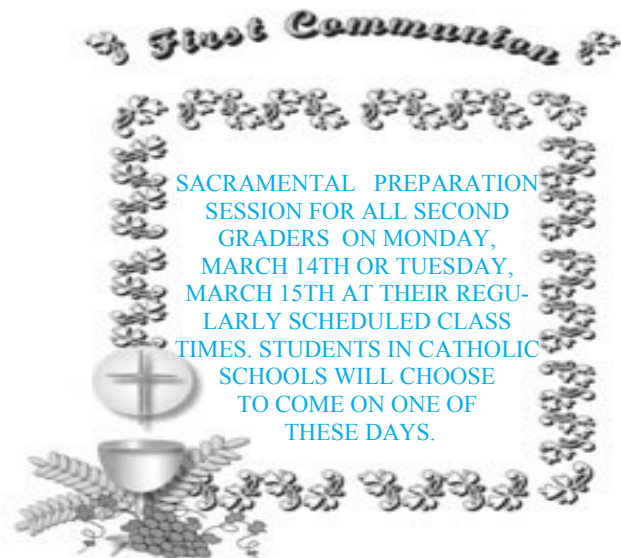
In Christ,
Father Matt

Christian Formation Info

**NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES
MONDAY, MARCH 7th OR TUESDAY,
MARCH 8th DUE TO PARISH MISSION.**



10TH GRADE RETREAT
SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH
BEGINS WITH MASS AT 11:00 am



ACTS OF MERCY

Offer to babysit for a busy Mom to go out and have a couple of hours to herself!

Lenten Mission

WELCOME FATHER MARK TOUPS!

Make plans NOW to attend our Lenten Mission on March 7th & 8th.

Presenter will be Rev. Mark Toups. Ordained in 2001, Fr. Mark Toups is a priest for the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux in south Louisiana. He currently serves the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux as Chancellor, focusing primarily on strategic planning. In addition, Fr. Toups is a faculty member of the institute for Priestly Formation, where he serves a professor of Spiritual Theology, spiritual director, and program coordinator for the Spiritual Exercises, 30-day retreat. He is the author of "Oremus: A Catholic Guide to Prayer"—an 8-week teaching on the basics of prayer and the spiritual life.

He received his Master's of Divinity from Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans. A college graduate of Nichols State University, he is a native of Houma, LA.



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY to...

Jane Brou & family upon the death of her brother, Herbert Babin. Please keep them in your prayers.

Congratulations!

The following children were baptized here last Sunday. We congratulate them and their families: Maxwell James Braud, son of Byron & Kim Braud and Lola Elizabeth Fabre, daughter of Ryan & Christy Fabre. Welcome into our faith community!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sunday, March 6

- ⇒ Communion Service for K.C. Members & their families at 7:30 am Mass
- ⇒ Coffee & Donuts will be served after 7:30 am Mass in the Activity Center

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Bill & Geri Schneider for chairing the committee during the month of February. Chaircouple for March will be Ella Dean & Scrap Tbibodeaux (749-5754). Please give them a call with any concerns.

THANKS TO THE FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF BLANCHE DUPUY, NORMAN BROWN & EMILEY THIBODEAUX FOR THEIR RECENT DONATIONS.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

February 14, 2016

REGULAR:

197 Identified-	-----	\$6,386.00
Loose Collection-	-----	1,013.00
TOTAL-	-----	\$7,399.00

*Pray for
Vocations*



A VOCATION VIEW

When called by the Lord, Moses' immediate response was "Here I am." If you feel that God is calling you to the priesthood or to religious life, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org.,

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.*

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

*He was scourged for us! He was crowned with thorns for us!
He carried His heavy cross for us!*

Can we not spend one hour with Him?

Eucharistic Adoration offers us many hours to thank God for the suffering he endured for our sake. All night Adoration is Friday, March 4th at 8pm thru Saturday, March 5th at 8am.

Signup sheets are in the foyer of church. For more info, contact Julie@749-8260 or Mary@324-5289.

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Patricia Lefeaux and her group for cleaning the church during the month of February. Cleaning for March will be done by Maria Bertrand (776-0052). Please give her a call to offer your help.

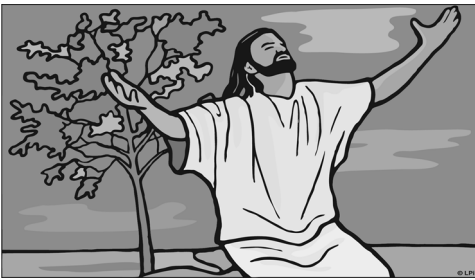
PLEASE NOTE: *We still need group leaders for the months of May, November & December. Please call the office (749-2189) if you can help.*

Readings for the Week of February 28, 2016

Sunday:	Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 11/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3-4/ Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-9/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20/ Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6-11, 14, 17/ Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-21/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday:	Jos 5:9a, 10-12/Ps 34:2-7/2 Cor 5:17-21/ Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

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



3rd Sunday of Lent

"But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" Who wants to repent? Who wants to change habits, make sacrifices, or chart a more challenging course? Repentance isn't the easy road. Few of us are naturally drawn towards it. Perhaps that's why Jesus had to speak with such boldness in today's Gospel. Repent, or perish. Change, or suffer and die. Not what we like to hear. Not what we like to do. But we would be foolish not to listen.

The entire Gospel message is certainly one of mercy and compassion. Jesus was the first to show forgiveness to sinners, and he always called others to do the same. He suffered and died so that WE wouldn't have to suffer eternal death. But the fact remains that we can still CHOOSE to "perish." We can choose to stay rooted in our favorite sins and to cling tightly to the comfortable vices that stifle a virtuous life. When we won't let go of them, then we don't truly repent. But Jesus urges us to change so that we can enjoy the eternal benefits of his mercy. He doesn't want us to perish! As we hear in today's psalm, "He redeems your life from destruction, crowns you with kindness and compassion." Repenting--turning back to God--puts us in the right position for this spiritual coronation.

Lent is a time especially built for repentance. It is a season that calls us not only to recognize where we need to change, but to actually set those changes into motion. Lent isn't just a pious liturgical ritual. These forty days are a response to Christ's stern warning that we need to repent in order to save our souls. Let's not pretend to be exempt from the message. Lent is meant for ALL of us.