



St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

402 S. Kirkland (River Road) • P.O. Box 248
Brusly, LA 70719

Parish Office: (225) 749-2189 • Christian Formation Office: (225) 749-3387
Parish Fax: (225) 749-1921 • Website: sjb-brusly.com

Parish Staff

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*
Larry Durbin, *Maintenance Supervisor*
Richard Rabalais, *Maintenance*
Celeste Veillon, *Music Director*

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 am) or by appointment

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.

Office Hours

Monday–Friday 8:30–4:30
Office closed for lunch 12:30–1:30

January 13, 2013



The Baptism of the Lord

By the end of next weekend we will know the two teams that will be playing in Super Bowl XLVII. When the NFL draft took place during the last weekend of April many fans watched in eager anticipation to see whom their favorite team would select. When the draft was over, some of those same fans began an analysis of their team's picks trying to predict whether the new players would help their team develop into a winning combination. While seasoned players are often the ones who lead the way, the newest members of the team can be called on at a moment's notice to perform at the highest level of the sport. Fans and coaches alike were filled with expectations for these new recruits. And at this point in the season, near the end of the playoffs, we know whether those expectations were fulfilled or whether they were misplaced.

Early in his Gospel, St. Luke describes a similar situation in reference to John the Baptist. Of course, in first-century Palestine there was no "prophet draft" to see who could make the cut as best proclaimer of the word of God. We know that there was any number of people at the time of Jesus who exercised prophetic ministry. Some even claimed to be the Messiah who would throw off the yoke of a foreign oppressor, the Romans. John never claimed that.

Today's feast honors the second of three mysteries that are celebrated as the manifestation of Christ. Last week it was the Magi who bore witness. This week it is John the Baptist and the Holy Spirit descending as a dove. Next week it will be the miracle at Cana that testifies that Jesus is the Christ, the anointed One of God. Unlike some of the rookie players who were drafted last spring, we can acknowledge that Jesus has met every expectation and fulfilled all that we had hoped for.

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After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. - Lk 3:21-22a

Dear Parishioners,

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks the beginning of National Vocation Awareness Week for Catholics in the United States. While most Catholics are called to serve God through the vocation of marriage and parenthood, it is important that we encourage all of our young Catholics to at least consider the possibility of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated religious life.

The call to the priesthood or consecrated life takes on a slightly different form in each individual. My own vocation to the priesthood began shortly after I was born when my mother offered an innocent little prayer that I might one day be a priest. Then she forgot about it and never even mentioned it until twenty years later when I told her and my father that I had decided to be a priest.

In hindsight it is somewhat surprising that I even heard God's call since I do not ever remember being invited by anyone to consider a priestly vocation. I did not attend Catholic Schools; I was not an altar server; I was not involved in the parish youth group; and I did not attend daily Mass. Despite all of this, my faith life contained surprisingly fertile soil and was just waiting for a vocation seed to be planted.

The immediate preparation to hear God's call began when I transferred to L.S.U. to begin my sophomore year of college. On most Sunday evenings I would walk the short distance from my dorm room in the Pentagon to attend Mass at Christ the King Chapel on the campus. At the end of one of those Masses, a student got up and spoke about his recent experience on an "Awakening Retreat," and then invited all of the students present to go on the next retreat.

I had never attended a retreat and do not know what motivated me to sign up to attend this one, but for some reason I did. It was a retreat for college students based on the Cursillo Retreat, and was staffed by other college students assisted by the priests and lay campus ministers. It introduced me to a deeper and more intimate relationship with the Lord, one which was nourished by vibrant prayer and the faith witness of a community of my peers.

My life was suddenly and permanently altered. I attended the weekly reunions on Thursday evenings when the Awakening community gathered for Mass and fellowship. I hung out at the Catholic Student Center between classes and participated in many of the service and social functions sponsored by the Catholic Student Center. I became immersed in an expression of Catholic culture at its finest.

I still had no desire or thought of priesthood, but I did come to know and become known by the campus priests and many other priests who visited. Priests were no longer the mysterious beings of my childhood, but neither were they ordinary, at least not in my eyes, and so a religious vocation was not even a remote possibility for me. Plus I was having fun dating the girls I met at the Student Center.

In the middle of my junior year, the Lord finally spoke, albeit in a roundabout fashion. I was riding in a car with a friend, returning to Baton Rouge after spending the weekend in Metairie, when he casually mentioned that he was thinking about being a priest. To my amazement I heard myself answer, "So am I," even though the idea had never entered my mind until that very moment. But it immediately felt right. There was no fear or anxiety (those would come later) but only peace and inner joy.

Our vocation director and former pastor, Father Matt Dupré, is hosting a dinner with Bishop Muench for young men in their senior year of high school and older who would make good priests. The dinner is on Sunday, March 10, at 5:30 p.m. at the Catholic Life Center, and Father Dupré is asking each parish for the names of suitable candidates so he can invite them to the dinner. Since I am still new here I need your help in identifying our young men to invite to the dinner. Please call the parish office if you have a name to suggest.

In Christ,
Father Matt





PRAYERS & SYMPATHY

are extended to Sheila Rills and family upon the death of her father, Lavol Kinstley, to Verbie Bdnait & Family upon the death of her sister, Velma Leger, and to Jules Lefeaux and family upon the death of his brother, Lawrence "Skipper" Lefeaux. Please keep them in your prayers.

FIFTH ANNUAL VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER



Sponsored by the Parish Council and hosted by Father Matt

Three lucky couples will enjoy this special occasion on Saturday, February 9th. Tickets are \$10 each or (3) for \$25 and go on sale following each Mass beginning Saturday, January 12th through Sunday, February 3rd.

The 3 lucky tickets will be drawn on Sunday, February 3rd following 11:00 Mass. You don't want to miss the chance to enjoy this culinary delight! NOTE: COUPLES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN WILL BE PROVIDED WITH FREE BABYSITTING.

CUB SCOUT PACK 39 FUNDRAISER



Pancake Breakfast—\$5.00
Sunday, January 13, 2013
6 am—11 am

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
Activity Center

Dine In or Carry Out

For more information

Call Kendul (776-0778) or Kim (936-5189)

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 30—Feast of the Holy Family

REGULAR:

199 Identified- - - - - \$5,534.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 613.77
TOTAL- - - - - \$6,147.77

January 1—Solemnity of Mary

REGULAR:

113 identified- - - - - \$3,009.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 369.55
TOTAL- - - - - \$3,378.55

January 6, 2013

REGULAR:

295 Identified- - - - - \$12,489.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 773.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$13,262.00

A VOCATION VIEW

This is National Vocation Awareness Week. Celebrate our common vocation of Baptism. Pray for those who are discerning a Call to live their baptismal commitment as religious Brothers, Sisters, Priests or as Deacons. If God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.



The Bereavement Committee wishes to thank the families & friends of Johnnie Mae Fontenot, Lavol Kinstley and Harlan Truxillo for their recent donations.

The family of Johnnie Mae Fontenot would like to thank the Bereavement Committee, family and friends for all their prayers and support during her illness and death. Your kindness is so appreciated!



HOLY SPIRIT WOMEN'S RETREAT

The annual Holy Spirit Women's Retreat will take place January 25-27, 2013 at the Lafayette Hilton. The theme is "Woman, Great is Your Faith". Speakers include Deacon Larry Oney, who will share his stirring testimony: Amazing Grace, Overcoming Race. Also on the program are Michelle Moran of England, President of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal and Fr. Joe Krafft of Notre Dame Seminary. This retreat is sponsored by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of New Orleans (CCRNO) and serves hundreds of women from the New Orleans area. Weekend and Saturday commuters are welcome. Register online at www.ccrno.org or call 504-828-1368.

Readings for the Week of January 13, 2013

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11/
Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14;
3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39
Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45
Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12
Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17
Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Chustz, Vice-chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
David Couvillon
Jerry Deshotel
Stacy Gauthreaux
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Wendy Parrish
Katie Roettger
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Chairman
John Windham, Secretary
Gerard "Jerry" Zimmerman

TWO GREAT SENIOR CITIZENS

BUS TRIPS:

- ⇒ Las Vegas & the Grand Canyon—April 18—27 (\$829.)
- ⇒ Biltmore Estates & Asheville, NC—May 19—24.
(\$485.)

Cost includes transportation, lodging, most meals and all tours and attractions. Call St. Aloysius Parishioner and KC member, Leslie Tassin at 225-769-5872.



Holy Family Pre-K 3 is having an Open House on Tuesday, January 29th at the Pre-K 3 Building from 6—7 pm. The registration dates are from January 28—February 1, during Catholic Schools Week. For more information please call at 343-6541 or email at prek3@hfspa.com.



DIOCESAN 25th & 50th
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 24, 2013—3:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Church—Baton Rouge

Be sure to call the parish office if you are celebrating your 25th, 50th or greater anniversary and want to attend.

PLEASE NOTE: You must have already celebrated your anniversary before February 24th to attend this year. Any after that date will be honored in 2014.



**National Vocation
Awareness Week**