



*May 8, 2016
Feast of the Ascension
Vol. 48, No. 19*

ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •



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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

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God. - Lk 24:50-53

Dear Parishioners,

May is the month for graduations so please pray for all of our graduates and their parents as they celebrate this milestone. Holy Family School celebrates its 8th Grade Graduation Mass this Tuesday evening. St. John High School has its graduation on Thursday night, followed by Brusly High School on Friday night of this week. Catholic High School and St. Joseph's Academy hold their graduations one week later on May 21 and 22 respectively. Congratulations all around!

Our Life and Justice Committee is sponsoring a baby item collection to benefit the pregnancy centers of the greater Baton Rouge area. The drive continues for one more week and ends after the 11:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday, May 15. This is a simple yet tangible way of showing our support for single mothers and their babies. All donations are appreciated.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops recently released a report on the priestly ordination class of 2016. There are 548 seminarians who are completing their seminary formation and on track to be ordained priests this spring and summer. The number of ordinands is down slightly from 595 in 2015, but still up from 477 in 2014, and so reflects a positive trend for our Church.

The average age of this year's new priests is 35. Two-thirds are Caucasian; 15 percent are Asian or Pacific Islander; and 14 percent are Hispanic. Three in ten were born outside of the United States, with the largest numbers coming from Mexico, Columbia, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Poland. Sixty percent had completed college before entering the seminary.

We only have one priest being ordained for our Diocese this year: Deacon Eddie Martin from St. John the Evangelist Parish in Prairieville. Mr. Ryan Hallford, who is one year behind Deacon Martin, will be ordained a deacon at the same Ordination Mass on Saturday, May 28, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Cathedral in Baton Rouge. All are invited to attend.

The "traveling chalice" and related prayers for vocations has made the rounds in our parish these past

twelve months and so is now retired for the time being. Thank you to all of the families who participated and please continue your good habits of individual and family prayer for the needs of the Church and society. Prayer unites us to God and one another, and makes possible our ongoing growth in faith and charity. Prayer also builds the foundation for future vocations in the Church, including from our own parish.

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, grandmothers, and godmothers in the parish. Your love and devotion is an inspiration to all of us and an example of Christ's unconditional love for the Church. Be assured of our prayers and gratitude on this special day!

In Christ,
Father Matt



CHILDREN'S CHURCH
We need another Catechist for
Children's Church at 11:00 am
Sunday Masses.

Please contact Karen Lemoine
at 749-3387 if you are willing to
help.

Mark Your Calendar!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 11th thru JULY 15th
9:00 am—Noon



BAPTISMAL SEMINAR
Wednesday, May 11, 2016
6:00 pm
Room #5—Christian Formation Bldg.
Mandatory for parents of the
children being baptized.

Be Merciful!

Give away something of yours (that you really like) to
someone you know who would enjoy it.



HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY!

THANK YOU



A note of thanks from Wallace & Gale...

"We want to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, calls, and food that we enjoyed during our time of need. Wallace is recovering very well and is so thankful for all your prayers. We are so blessed to be a part of such a caring community! We thank God for each and every one of you!"

~~Wallace & Gale Thibodeaux & Family

A VOCATION VIEW

After the Risen Lord ascended into heaven, his disciples continued his work on earth. Blest are the ones found working when he returns. Am I being called to priesthood or religious life? If you feel a call to a church vocation, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.

ROSARYVILLE SPIRIT LIFE CENTER

Ponchatoula, LA
Sister Rose Bowen, OP
Day of Prayer

"God Sees 'Small' as Beautiful"
Wednesday, May 18, 2016

Looking for a Day of Prayer? The Scripture constantly shows God as having a preference for the small, the insignificant, the unwanted; yet those very ones proclaimed the word of God in their times. Join us at Rosaryville for a day of prayer and reflection on the theme "God Sees 'Small' as Beautiful". The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with coffee and fellowship. The talks begin at 9:30 a.m. with discussion and quiet time for reflection. Lunch will be served at noon. The cost of the day is \$35.00. Included will be the celebration of the Eucharist and the session will conclude at around 2:30 p.m. Please call 225.294.5039 to register.

Congratulations!



Best Wishes to
Fallon Ann Blank & Justin Michael Cavalier
who were married here last week.

The following children were baptized here last weekend. We send congratulations to them & their families: Cael H. Couvillon, son of Garrett & Kaylin Couvillon; Evie Kate Normand, daughter of Mark & Leslie Normand; Audrey Beth Walker, daughter of Jared & Casey Walker.

WELCOME INTO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY!

In Loving Memory

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Gerald Mabile & Family upon the death of his wife, Lillie and to Raynel Gascon & family upon the death of her father Sidney Mabile and to Melissa Toups upon the death of her father, Jerome Duhon. Please keep them in your prayers.



MINISTRY APPRECIATION DINNER
Saturday, June 25, 2016
After 4:30 pm Mass

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

April 24, 2016
185 Identified- - - - - \$6,207.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 823.00
TOTAL- - - \$7,030.00

Catholic Home Missions—\$743.00
March Building Fund—\$12,483.00
Loan Balance—\$391,753.29

May 1, 2016
250 Identified- - - - - \$17,924.50
Loose Collection- - - - - 521.00
TOTAL- - - \$18,445.00

Catholic Commentator—\$876.00

Readings for the Week of May 8, 2016

Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-9/Heb 9:24-28;
10:19-23 or Eph 1:17-23/
Lk 24:46-53
Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-7/Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/
Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-36/
Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11/
Jn 17:20-26
Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20/
Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-8/Jn 15:9-17
Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or
Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2,
24, 35, 27-30/Rom 8:22-27/
Jn 7:37-39
Next Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34/
Rom 8:8-17 or 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/
Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26 or Jn 20:19-23

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2015-2016

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



The Ascension of the Lord

"They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Jesus had just left the disciples. In a dramatic and supernatural moment, he had bid them farewell and then "was taken up to heaven." One might think this departure would have left the disciples feeling very melancholy, but apparently it was not so. They were full of joy as they went back to the city where Jesus had told them to stay, "until you are clothed with power from on high."

This, of course, is a reference to the coming of the Holy Spirit that would happen soon enough at Pentecost. But the disciples did not know the details. They only knew that Jesus was promising them the "Advocate" and some amazing power from heaven, and sending them off with a great mission to preach "repentance, for the forgiveness of sins... to all the nations." And this filled them with joy, even while they waited.

What we often need to remind ourselves is that after the Ascension, the disciples were in a very similar position to us. They were no longer in the physical presence of Jesus. They no longer walked with him, watched him, or heard his voice. Now, carrying on the work of the Gospel was up to them. And so too, now it is up to us. The mission of preaching the good news to all the nations is our mission. And, thankfully, the powerful "clothing" from on high is ours as well.

So, like the disciples we have cause for rejoicing. Jesus reigns in heaven. His Spirit has come upon us. And we are entrusted with the most noble and rewarding task of all, to share our faith with others and bring them to experience the joys of belonging to the kingdom of God.