

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

November 11, 2012



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

We all know the maxim, "Actions speak louder than words." It is part of our cultural heritage. It is one of those truisms that we accept. We all know that there are plenty of words that lead to action. Words themselves have their own power. If they didn't, people wouldn't be writing essays, blogs, diatribes, commentaries, or advertisements. Very often, we use words to get people to take action. How many times have we seen a splashy ad with the words "Buy now!" prominently displayed in an overlay. Advertisers look to include a call to action to seal the deal. So in some ways words are just as important as the actions themselves. Actions by the British government and inflammatory words by pamphleteers push the Continental Congress to write the Declaration of Independence, words that became a call to action on the part of the populace.

This weekend's Gospel is a combination of words and actions. In the first half Jesus is teaching about the dangers of religious hypocrisy. He warns his followers to make sure that their daily actions conform to their religious beliefs. In the second half of the Gospel, Jesus praises the widow who makes a donation to the Temple treasury. Her simple act of kindness spoke volumes about her own devotion and religious convictions. To quote another proverb, she "gave until it hurt."

The life of a Christian is always a balance between words and actions. The words of faith-the doctrine, the preaching, the Bible study, the prayers-give the foundation to who we are as Christians. Without those words, our identity gets muddled. It's one reason we proclaim one of the creeds each Sunday. However, our actions in the world give firm expression to our faith. Without them no one would ever see what Christianity really is: the love of Christ made visible in the world by his followers today.

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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.

<u>Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults</u> 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

November 11, 2012 Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Vol. 44, No. 50

A poor widow also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury." - Mk 12:42-43

Dear Parishioners,

God provided some beautiful weather last Saturday for the *Blessing of the Graves* in our parish cemetery. We are so fortunate to have a cemetery right behind our church where we can visit the graves of deceased family members and parishioners. It adds a sense of peacefulness and respect to all of the other activities that take place around our parish campus. Thank you to everyone who came out for the blessing and to everyone who worked to clean the graves or bring flowers for the Feast of All Saints.

I have been very impressed with the level of organization and involvement in regard to the various ministries here at St John the Baptist. Father Matt Dupre' and the pastors who preceded him, together with all of the lay leaders, have done an amazing job developing a sense of ownership and involvement in the life of our parish community. I feel blessed that my energy can be focused on maintaining the good structures and practices already in place rather than creating new ones.

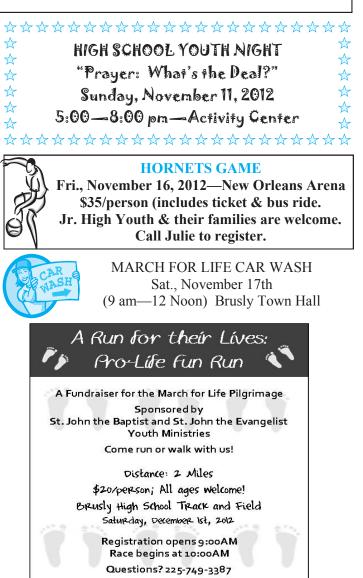
In fact, I can only think of two new ministries that I would like to get started whenever feasible. The first is a *Cemetery Committee* which would function as a consultative body to me and Mr. Roy Mouch regarding the care and operation of our cemetery. Potential committee members should be active parishioners who have a special devotion to our cemetery and would be able to represent your fellow parishioners in decisions concerning the upkeep of our cemetery.

A second ministry I would like to see formed is that of *Sponsor Couples* or married couples who would assist me with marriage preparation We know that Catholics are not immune to divorce or difficulty in their marriages so it is important that we do our best to provide engaged couples with the tools needed to survive the rough times and build a happy and successful life together. I would like for each engaged couple to have two meetings with a sponsor couple to discuss the importance of communication, forgiveness, compromise, careers, family, and other issues so they have a better understanding of the sacrament. Married couples who are involved in this ministry often say how much they enjoy it and how much their own marriages are enriched by their ministry to engaged couples.

Our Parish Pastoral Council is planning a *Ministry Fair* for sometime in March or April where everyone will have an opportunity to sign up to serve in any of our parish ministries. We don't necessarily have to wait until then to form a *Cemetery Committee* or train *Sponsor Couples* for marriage preparation, but at least that gives us a deadline for putting some structures in place. Speaking of ministry, I want to thank Julie Cilano and all of her adult volunteers for helping to revitalize youth ministry in our parish. I know you have had similar activities in the past, but it is nice to see new energy and attention given to this important age group in our church.

Finally, Father Charles Chukwuani, chaplain at the Baton Rouge General and temporary resident in our parish rectory, moved this week to new quarters in the rectory of St. Gerard Parish. I thank Father Charles for being so generous in helping to cover some of our Masses when I was away, and I thank all of you for making him feel welcome while he was staying with us..

In Christ, Father Matt





BAPTISMAL SEMINAR Wednesday, November 14, 2012 6:30 pm-Classroom #5 It is mandatory for parents to attend a seminar for baptism. Baptisms are scheduled for Saturday, November 24 at 4:30 pm Mass and Sunday, November 25 at 11:00 am Mass.



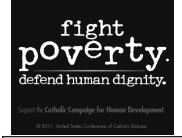
Both widows in today's readings gave all they had to the work of the Lord, one using all her remaining food to feed *Elijah and the other offering her two copper coins to the* temple treasury. Faithful stewards give all that is asked and trust the Lord to be faithful to His promises.

Stewardship



UNDAY The word "stewardship" is often invoked in religious circles to encourage members to be supportive of their congregation. That usually includes the contribution of financial support along with a commitment of time to assist in the work or ministry of the community. At its root, stewardship implies the responsible overseeing and protection of

something worth caring for. In a congregation, true stewardship is a reciprocal relationship. It is very much like the covenantal relationship between God and His people as described in the Hebrew Bible. A faithful steward recognizes that what one has is not one's own possession. It is a gift, meant to be treasured, preserved, and used for the benefit of others. In turn, the community responds with care and support in time of need, because it too is a steward of the resources it has been given.



Campaign for Human Development Collection next week. Place your special envelope in the regular collection.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES November 4, 2012

REGULAR:

308 Identified-----\$13.401.00 Loose Collection---- 670.00 TOTAL----\$14,071.00

All Saints Collection-----\$ 1,586.00 Building Fund for October- - - - - \$25,525.56

A VOCATION VIEW

As the Scriptures remind us today, Jesus is always looking for a few honest, dedicated and humble people who will give the best they have in response to His call to service. If you feel God might be calling you to serve hour brothers and sisters as a priest, sister, brother or deacon, then be sure to call or email Father Matt Dupre' at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



MEMORIAL BOOK

The Memorial Book has been placed in the church by St. Joseph's Altar. Be sure to enter the names of your deceased loved ones. These names will be remembered at all Masses during

the month of November and the book will remain in church throughout the month.

MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass Intentions Book for 2013 is now open. Stop by the Parish Office to list your intentions.

LECTORS' WORKBOOKS

Cycle C Workbooks are in. We will begin using these readings the first week of Advent. Please pick up your copy in the annex room where liturgical ministers sign in.

Fr. Bob has written another book, ADVENT MEDITATIONS -\$8.00/copy. It is available at the Parish Office.



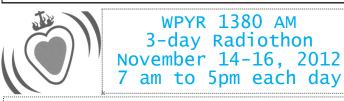
"ADVENT MEDITATIONS" By FR. BOB KONOPA Get your copy now! \$8.00/copy

Readings for the Week of November 11, 2012

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Sunday:	1 Kgs 17:10-16/Heb 9:24-28/
	Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44
Monday:	Ti 1:1-9/Lk 17:1-6
Tuesday:	Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Lk 17:7-10
Wednesday:	Ti 3:1-7/Lk 17:11-19
Thursday:	Phlm 7-20/Lk 17:20-25
Friday:	2 Jn 4-9/Lk 17:26-37
Saturday:	3 Jn 5-8/Lk 18:1-8
Next Sunday:	Dn 12:1-3/Heb 10:11-14, 18/
	Mk 13:24-32

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 Toni Tolar David Toups, Chairman John Windham, Secretary Gerard "Jerry" Zimmerman



Keep the presence of Catholic Radio in our community. Many well-known Catholics will be sharing their love during these 3 days. You can help by calling 225-302-5199 to cheer on the guest speakers and ask your questions, praying for Catholic Community Radio and/or donating to keep Catholic Community Radio "on the air".

FREE ADOPTION MATTERS SESSION

Are you or someone you know considering adoption and not sure where to start? Attend Catholic Charities' FREE Adoption Matters session and hear their experienced adoption staff explain the journey toward successful adoption and building happy families. It's set for Thursday, November 15 (noon until 1:00 pm) at 1900 S. Acadian thruway, Baton Rouge. Call 225-336-8708 to register.

2013—25th & 50th Wedding Anniversary <u>Celebration</u> Sunday, February 24, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.



Sacred Heart of Jesus Church 2250 Main St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Bishop Robert W. Muench, Celebrant of the Mass Families of honored couples are also invited to attend the liturgy and the Reception afterward in the Sacred Heart School Gym. If you have celebrated or will celebrate your 25th, 50th, 65th or greater anniversary during 2012, please call the Parish Office to register. Deadline to register is February 24, 2013.