



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

August 13, 2017
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Vol. 49, No. 40



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
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

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

But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" - Mt 14:30-31

Dear Parishioners,

Years ago, I attended a workshop led by Father Michael Heher, a priest of the Diocese of Orange, California, and author of a book of essays on the priesthood entitled, "The Lost Art of Walking on Water." The title of the book comes from our gospel reading for this 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time where Jesus suddenly approaches his disciples who are in a boat being tossed about in the waves and Peter is allowed to join Jesus walking on the water.

Father Heher is a great admirer of St. Peter with his reckless faith and his frequent missteps. He notes that as the number of priests shrinks there is a temptation to reduce the priesthood to only those things that priests can do, such as say Mass, hear confessions, and anoint the sick. As important as those things are, Heher writes that priests "have been entrusted with the care for souls, not simply with the task of supplying the baptized with the sacraments."

It's a subtle distinction but an important one. It's all too easy for priests to turn administration, counseling, catechesis, and works of mercy over to qualified and faith-filled laity. This would presumably allow parish priests to focus on spiritual matters like prayer and the sacraments. However this might unintentionally create an environment where priests develop only superficial relationships with their parishioners and become mere functionaries.

The Church needs priests who are generous and creative in addition to being dutiful and moral. Priests after the heart of St. Peter who risked sinking in order to walk on the water like Jesus, if only for a moment. St. Paul once described himself as being "poured out like a libation." Someone else pointed out that Paul said he was "poured out not burnt out." I pray that God will watch over all priests and help us to imitate the faith of Sts. Peter and Paul.

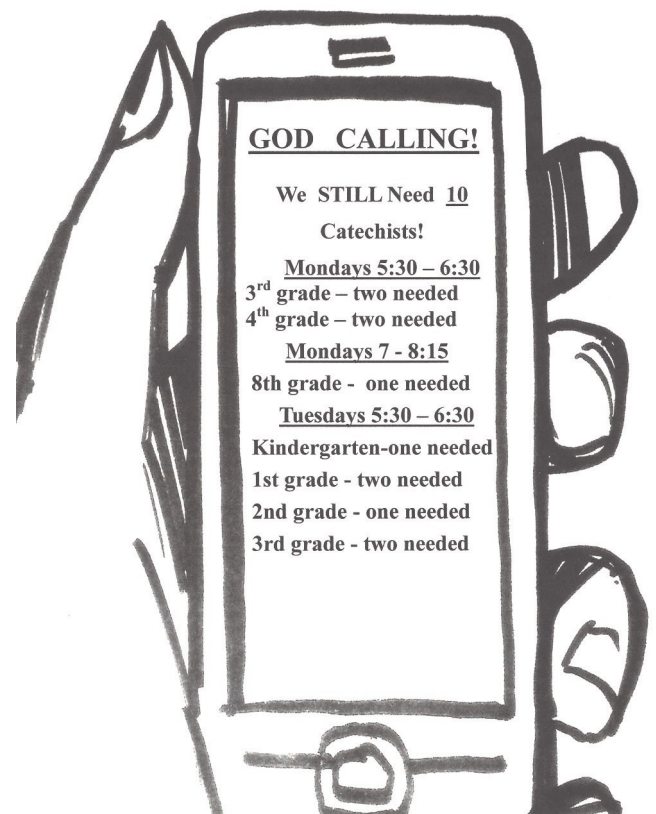
Our Christian Formation classes resume this month. Registration for all grades takes place this weekend, August 12-13, immediately following each of our Masses. Our Parent Meeting for all grades is scheduled for Monday, August 14, at 6:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. Religion classes for children in grades 1-10

are set to begin on Monday, August 21, or Tuesday, August 22.

This Tuesday, August 15, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a holyday of obligation. We will celebrate our regular 8:00 a.m. Mass that morning and then an evening Mass at 6:00 p.m. in honor of the feast day. If your schedule does not allow you to attend either of those, then please check with one of our neighboring parishes to see if there is a Mass that will fit your needs. Holydays sometimes involve sacrifice on our part but we know that such sacrifices also bring blessings to our lives.

Our R.C.I.A. process for people interested in joining the Catholic Church starts back up at the end of this month. We have an Open House planned for Wednesday, August 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the rectory, so please invite your relatives, friends, or neighbors who may have expressed an interest in learning more about the Catholic faith or who wish to join the Church. Refreshments will be served as we distribute information on the upcoming classes.

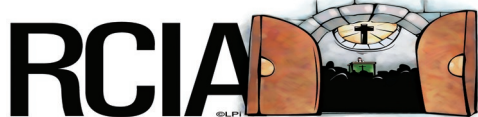
In Christ,
Father Matt



Registration
Christian Formation
K-10th
After all Masses
August 12th and 13th.
Sacramental Preparation also
First Reconciliation and First
Eucharist for children in
public and Catholic schools.
Parent Meeting August 14th
Activity Center at 6:30 P.M.

WE STILL NEED
CATECHISTS!
PLEASE PRAY
ABOUT SHARING IN
THIS MINISTRY FOR
GOD'S PRECIOUS
CHILDREN!

Contact
June or Karen
749-3387



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CHURCH?

In response to those who would like to know more about the Catholic Faith and receiving the sacraments, we are having an **Open House on Wednesday, August 23 at 6:30 pm in the Rectory.**

This meeting is especially for—

- ⇒ Someone who wants to become Catholic and has never been baptized.
- ⇒ Someone baptized into another faith and now wants to become Catholic.
- ⇒ Someone baptized Catholic wanting to receive Eucharist and Confirmation.

This meeting is a great time to come, listen, ask questions. If you feel better bringing someone with you, please do so. We are happy to welcome them, too. There are no obligations for attending. If you come and then decide this is not right for you, that's fine. We welcome you anyway.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

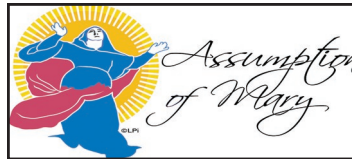
August 6, 2017

REGULAR:

159 Identified- - - - - \$10,005.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 1,074.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$11,079.00



Tuesday, August 15, 2017
MASS TIMES
8:00 am and 6:00 pm



A VOCATION VIEW

If you realized that God was knocking at your door would you answer? If God might be calling you to a life of service in the Church please call or email
Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778,
amerrick@diobr.org.

Knights of Columbus

JULY CALENDAR WINNERS

Elbon Vidrine, Ray "Chip" Crochet, Arbie Goings, Jr.,
Jennifer Landry, Bill Franklin, Patrick Bourgeois,
Tara Acosta, Katie & Seth Hudson, Amber Pierson,
Mary Berthelot, Tiffany Hebert, Tricia & Tommy Zeringue,
Emma Jean Fisher, Teri Metrejean, Sheila Pritchett,
Karen Landry, Gerard Aucoin, Yvonne Terrance,
Sheri Domingue, John Little, Ray "Chip" Crochet,
Kenneth Barbier, AJ. Crochet, Gerald Mabile, Jane Miller,
Melissa Pintado, Milton Naquin, Rachel & David Soffo,
Dennis P. Landry, Shelli Lagrange, Gerald Millard

Catholic Daughters

The next Catholic Daughters Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 2017 in the Activity Center. Dinner with the K.C.'s is at 6:30 pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

Readings for the Week of August 13, 2017

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9-14/Rom 9:1-5/
Mt 14:22-33
Monday: Dt 10:12-22/Ps 147:12-15, 19-20/
Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7,
9-10, 13-14/1 Cor 15:54b-57/
Lk 11:27-28
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10-12, 16/
1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
Wednesday: Dt 34:1-12/Ps 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17/
Mt 18:15-20
Thursday: Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17/Ps 114:1-6/
Mt 18:21---19:1
Friday: Jos 24:1-13/Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24/
Mt 19:3-12
Saturday: Jos 24:14-29/Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 11/
Mt 19:13-15
Next Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8/
Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2016-2017

Donna Badon
John Begue
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg, Secretary
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Stacy Gauthreaux
Jules Lefeaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman
John Windham



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was, he became frightened." How can we describe Peter? At once faithful and fearful, his jumbled responses remind us that he was no spiritual superman, well intentioned though he may have been. Peter wanted to believe, and in fact showed a great deal of confidence in Christ, but the temptation to doubt was strong enough to knock him off his feet, literally.

"O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" Jesus reprimanded Peter. The words seem harsh. After all, Peter was the only one who had enough faith to even try something as ludicrous as stepping out of the boat onto the water in the first place. But perhaps Jesus wanted to emphasize that our faith needs to be strong enough to weather the storm, so to speak. If we only believe in Jesus when the wind is calm and the waves are gone, is that truly having faith in him? Is that actually trusting in his supreme power over the forces of the universe? Peter began to sink as soon as a challenge appeared. Jesus called him, and he calls us, to stay on our feet even when the winds begin to blow.

So, what are the winds that threaten our faith? What kinds of gusts are blowing today? Whatever it might be--health problems, financial concerns, relational struggles--none of it is too much for Jesus to handle. But we must step out in faith and trust him! And we need to keep our eyes on him as we do so, instead of getting distracted by the force of the challenges we face. Jesus is bigger than any problem. We have nothing to fear as long as we are walking towards him.