



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*August 26, 2018*  
*21st Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Vol. 50, No. 33*



**402 S. KIRKLAND (RIVER ROAD) • P.O. BOX 248 BRUSLY, LA 70719**

**OFFICE: 225-749-2189 • FAX: 225-749-1921**

**WEBSITE: [sjb-brusly.com](http://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  
Wayne Delapasse..... Maintenance  
Katie Roettger..... Mothers’s Day Out

### 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

"The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe." And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by my Father." As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him

-Jn 6:63c-64a, 65-66

Dear Parishioners,

Father Armando Reyes is scheduled to visit our parish next weekend, September 1-2, to make an appeal on behalf of the *Diocese of Gumaca* located in Quezon Province in the Philippines. The Diocese is led by Bishop Victor Ocampo and has a Catholic population of about 856,000 as compared with just 225,000 here in our Diocese of Baton Rouge. They are in special need of a residence for their retired priests and also funding for a New Evangelization Project.

Father Reyes' visit is coordinated by our Diocesan Propagation of the Faith Office and provides an opportunity for us to support the pastoral ministry and missionary activity of the Church. We will have a second collection at each of our Masses next weekend to benefit the *Diocese of Gumaca* and all of their priests and parishioners. As always, please make your checks out to St. John the Baptist Church so we can count and deposit the collection, and then forward the proceeds to our Propagation of the Faith Office, who will then forward the money to the *Diocese of Gumaca*.

Unfortunately, I will not be here to personally welcome Father Reyes since I have important business in Dallas, Texas related to the LSU – Miami football game. I am traveling with three priest friends and will be away from August 31 through September 4. We will therefore have Communion Services in place of the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, August 31, Saturday, September 1, and Tuesday, September 4, while I am away.

This Friday evening and Saturday morning, August 31 and September 1, is the monthly all-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament led by our Catholic Daughters. The twelve hour period begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday evening and ends with an 8:00 a.m. Communion Service on Saturday morning. A schedule is available in the back of church if you would like to sign-up for an hour of prayer and adoration in the presence of our Lord.

In my homily last weekend, I mentioned a well-known story from the life of St. Francis when he

entered the small, crumbling church of San Damiano and heard the voice of Christ telling him to "go and rebuild my house which is falling into ruin." At first he took the words literally as a command to repair the physical walls of this little church, but soon realized that God was asking him to repair the larger Church which was wasting away spiritually.

The current crisis in our Church is likewise calling for new examples of holiness to heal the terrible wound caused by priests and bishops who failed in their sacred duty to protect children. We need to voluntarily invite law enforcement to review our files to see if they contain any evidence of cover-up or crimes that have gone unreported. We need to make a fresh start marked by honesty, full-disclosure, and repentance.

As I mentioned last Sunday, people don't expect the Church to be perfect but they do expect to see the reflection of Christ in her. May God's grace help us to restore His beautiful image.

In Christ,  
Father Matt

NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH  
AND WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH  
DUE TO LABOR DAY HOLIDAYS



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE  
CLOSED ON MONDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 3rd FOR THE  
LABOR DAY HOLIDAY.



**TRAINING SESSION FOR  
ALTAR SERVERS  
Monday, September 10,  
2018  
5:00— 6:00 pm in Church**

Several people have volunteered to be Altar Servers. If you are one of them, please attend this training session. After you have been trained, your name will be placed on the schedule for ministers.



**FEAST ON THE LEVEE  
October 28, 20118**

Our Feast Chairperson, Ms. Natalie Palermo is busy getting everything ready for the feast.. **THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO SAID YES WHEN SHE CALLED!** People who have cooked, manned booths, did raffles, etc. have said they would be back this year. What can you do to help? We still need more food! Red Beans & Rice, Sauce Piquantes, seafood fettucine, seafood gumbo are just a few that would be good to include in our present list! Give us a call if you want to help!

Regular raffle tickets have been mailed. They cost \$5 each or \$50/book. Prizes for the raffle are: 1st Place—\$1,000; 2nd Place—\$500; 3rd and 4th Place—\$250 Grocery Ticket to Benedetto's or Hubben's; and 5th Place—\$100. Please return them as soon as possible. Super Raffle tickets will be mailed out soon.



**PRAYERS & SYMPATHY**

*are extended to Gill Banta and Laurie Peltier upon the death of their father,  
Harry Banta, Sr.  
Please keep them in your prayers.*

**BAPTISMAL SEMINAR**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018  
6:00 PM—CLASSROOM #5**

*This class is mandatory for parents who wish to baptize their child.*

**STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES**

August 15, 2018  
Feast of the Assumption—\$1,533.00

August 19, 2018  
200 Identified- - - - - \$9,908.83  
Loose Collection- - - - - 944.00  
TOTAL- - - - - \$10,852.83



**A VOCATION VIEW**

Jesus teaches us to live optimistically. If it weren't for the peak experiences of love, the small and sometimes big miracles in our lives, we could disappear. Thank God our doubts of faith ultimately strengthen our love. And just as true, our doubts that God could call us to His priesthood or religious life also demand an act of faith. If you feel a call to this, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, [framer-rick@gmail.com](mailto:framer-rick@gmail.com), or visit, [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations).

**Organizations**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Sunday, September 2**

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

**ALTAR SOCIETY**

*Thanks to Lucille Bouquet and her group for cleaning the church during the month of August.  
Lisa Beraud (749-3170) will be cleaning during the month of September. Give her a call to offer your help.*

**BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE**

Thanks to Bill & Geri Schneider for chairing the committee during the month of August. Chaircouple for September will be Scrap & Ella Dean Thibodeaux (937-1998). Give them a call with any concerns.

**Readings for the Week of August 26, 2018**

- Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/ Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32 Jn 6:60-69
- Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5 [3]/Mt 23:13-22
- Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26
- Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/ Mk 6:17-29
- Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/ Mt 24:42-51
- Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/ Mt 25:1-13
- Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 [12]/Mt 25:14-30
- Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17 Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018**

John Begue  
Bob Bewick  
Jamie Bourg  
Chris Buckle  
Christie Chapman  
Jules Lefeaux  
Mark Loreno  
Fr. Matt Lorrain  
Mary Claire Meyer  
Jason Murphey  
Joey Normand  
Derek Scott  
Andrea Smicker



**21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"This saying is hard; who can accept it?" The words of Jesus' disciples in today's Gospel must sound familiar. At some point in our lives, you and I have said it about some article of our faith. Christianity makes firm demands on our ethical behavior and gives no easy answers for suffering. Many disciples were confused and dismayed by Jesus' words in the Bread of Life Discourse. Not all of them, however, had the same reaction.

When the disciples question Jesus' teaching, he confirms its truth. "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life." For some, Jesus' reassurance was not enough. These disciples do not question Jesus further or wrestle with their lack of understanding. The mighty deeds Jesus has done fade to the background. "Many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him." For them, their doubt proves too much. Jesus turns to the Twelve, knowing that confusion lives in their hearts as well. Peter answers. "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." Notice this is not a confession of perfect understanding. It is a confession of faith in Jesus. The precise words may still confuse them, but they believe the One who said them.

In our own lives, we face doubt, confusion, and disillusionment in our Christian faith. The same choice available to the disciples is available to us. Do you have faith in Jesus, even when you lack perfect understanding? Will you stay or will you go? What do you do with your doubt?