



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

December 23, 2018
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Vol. 50, No. 50
December 30, 2018
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Vol. 49, No. 51



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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
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 the Parish Office

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Lk 1:41-42

He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

Dear Parishioners,

This is a two-week bulletin due to the holiday schedule so you may wish to hold on to it. Our schedule of services for Christmas includes two Masses on Christmas Eve and two Masses on Christmas morning. The celebration begins on Christmas Eve with a choir concert at 3:15 p.m. followed by our 4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass. We then have a second Vigil Mass at 6:00 p.m. which includes a dramatization of the Gospel by some of the children of our parish. Masses on Christmas Day are at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.. (We do not have a midnight Mass but there is one right next door at St. John the Evangelist in Plaquemine.)

I plan to take a few days of vacation between Christmas and New Year's so we will have Communion Services in place of the weekday Masses on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 26, 27, and 28, 2018.

New Year's Day is the octave of Christmas, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, and a holy day of obligation. We will have a 4:30 p.m. Vigil Mass on Monday, December 31, and then a 9:00 a.m. Mass on Tuesday, January 1, in celebration of the holy day. Blue is normally the color associated with our Blessed Mother but feel free to wear purple and gold attire to Mass since #11 LSU plays #8 UCF in the Fiesta Bowl at 12:00 noon on January 1. The Central Florida Knights haven't lost a game in two years and are in desperate need of a reality check which we hope LSU can provide.

Sign-up sheets are available in the rear of church for anyone wishing to participate in the monthly all-night adoration of the Blessed Sacrament sponsored by our Catholic Daughters and K.C.'s. Adoration begins at 8:00 p.m. on the evening of Friday, January 4, and concludes with 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, January 5, 2019. Why not start the new year right by spending an hour of silent prayer with our Savior in the familiar surroundings of our beloved church?

Mrs. Lorraine Prejean Landry, a licensed marriage and family therapist, will begin offering counseling at our parish in January 2019. Lorraine is a native of Lawtell and worked as a teacher and librarian before

earning her counseling degree from LSU. Some of her areas of expertise include family, marital, grief, divorce, anger management, and positive communication. Her fees are very reasonable and we are glad to have this service available locally. For an appointment, please call (225) 771-8034 and leave a message.

Lastly, we have hired a new maintenance director to succeed Wayne Delapasse who retires this December 31. Our new director is Pedro Garcia, a native of Houston, Texas, who moved to Louisiana about 3 years ago. Pedro is married and the father of two small children, and previously worked construction before applying for our position. We thank Wayne for his excellent service to our community, and welcome Pedro to our parish team.

In Christ,
Father Matt

CHRISTIAN FORMATION F.Y.I.

**THERE WILL BE NO
CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES
FOR K—10TH GRADE
FROM DECEMBER 17TH—JANUARY 9TH
DUE TO CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
CLASSES WILL RESUME ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 14TH,
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15TH AND
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16TH**



CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE
Christmas Eve—Monday, December 24 - 4 & 6 pm
Christmas Day—Tuesday, December 25—8 and 10 am
Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday & Sunday, December 29 & 30, 2018
4:30 pm, 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am
Solemnity of the Mother of God
Monday, December 31, 2018—4:30 pm
Tuesday, January 1, 2019—9:00 am

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24, 25 & 26, 2018 and Tuesday, January 1, 2019 for the Christmas & New Year's Holidays

SURPRISES IN PAINT

Many will recall the Celotex tiles and paneling adhered to the walls and ceilings of the church prior to its renovation. When removed, some interesting surprises were revealed.

The pews on the side aisles were once attached to the walls. Instead of an end panel supporting the seats and backs, the adjacent walls were used. When the walls were repainted, the painters simply painted around them, leaving their outlines on the wall surface. The pews were later detached and made free standing. Some of the wood of the pews has been identified as fur, which may be partly explained by their having been augmented with new material after being detached from the walls.

Outlines in paint also revealed that there were originally four steps up to the Sanctuary floor level. The steps were reconfigured into three with the second two being pushed back several feet to provide space for a communion rail and people to stand. The steps between the columns were eventually moved forward to enlarge the Sanctuary and are basically the configuration we are familiar with today.

There are no known interior photos of the church as it originally existed so it is unknown how parishioners might have received Holy Communion if they didn't kneel at a railing. Perhaps, for a short while, they received it as we do today.

Submitted by Brian Falcon

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sunday, January 6, 2019

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

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to everyone who helped to clean the church during the month of December. Mary Delapasse (610-6531) and her group will be cleaning in January. Please give her a call to offer your help.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Janice & Joel Hebert for chairing the committee during the month of December. Chairperson for January is Ruth Landry (749-3101). Please give her a call with any concerns.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 16, 2018

REGULAR:

216 Identified - - - - - \$10,332.83
Loose Collection - - - - - 1,065.00
 TOTAL - - - - - \$11,397.83

Immaculate Conception - - - - - \$1,422.00



A VOCATION VIEW

Are you called to follow in the footsteps of Mary as a priest or religious to carry the Good News Of God's great Love? By Baptism we are God's holy family today. Pray for the grace to live faithfully your vocation as a single, married, ordained or consecrated person. If God is calling you, call or email Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.338.8778, framerrick@gmail.com, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE IS NOW
 BURNING IN MEMORY OF
 WAYNE KNOTTS**

Rest in Peace

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Bubba Beatty & family upon the death of his sister, Donna A. Beatty. Please keep them in your prayers.

Readings for the week of December 23, 2018

Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-18 [4]/ Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/ Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight:	Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/ Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn:	Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/ Lk 2:15-20
Day:	Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
Wednesday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
Thursday:	1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/ Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday:	1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 [7]/ Mt 1:2--18
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/ Lk 2:22-35
Next Sunday:	1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Readings for the week of December 30, 2018

Sunday:	1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52
Monday:	1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96: 1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/ Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday:	Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/ Lk 2:16-21
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/ Jn 1:19-28
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 [3cd]/ Jn 1:29-34
Friday:	1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [3cd]/Jn 1:35-42
Saturday:	1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2a]/ Jn 1:43-51
Next Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017-2018

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



The Nativity of the Lord

"I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all of the people." Merry Christmas! This familiar story dances with new life and vigor today. We, too, have waited in darkness. We, too, have felt in the desert of the modern world. Our hearts lift at the candles of midnight Mass. The Eucharist - that simple little host resting in the stable of our hearts - has new meaning. Our joy lifts at the sight of long-unseen family. The wonder of the season is here. Glory to God indeed!

But for some of us, perhaps the patterns feel too familiar, almost grating. Or someone is missing from our story this year. Unlike Mary and Joseph - who found refuge in a stable - perhaps we still feel like we're searching for a place to rest. This Christmas season, let Jesus be that place. Let the Christmas story wash over you in all its human relevance. In the Holy Family, we see the fear of a first-time father trying to shelter and protect his family, a deeply vulnerable moment on a cold, uncomfortable night, and giving birth with little assistance. In the shepherds, we see an entirely unexpected encounter with wonder, a divine revelation none were expecting. We see the dazzling hope of a promise fulfilled.

In the celebration of Christmas, we celebrate the Incarnation. God becomes man because we humans need someone we can touch, see, and feel. Some of us may be especially sensitive to a lack of incarnate love in our lives. Whatever our experience, God invites us to receive HIM - His story, His presence, His love. And He invites us to give it away, to make His love a little more incarnate in the world by our actions. Look for someone to love today that they, too, might recognize Emmanuel, God with us!

