



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

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.

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.

Office Hours

Monday–Friday 8:30–4:30
Office closed for lunch 12:30–1:30

December 9, 2012



2nd Sunday of Advent

Every few years, Congress wrangles for months to enact a transportation bill. The latest version, signed into law on July 6, 2012, provides \$120 billion through fiscal 2014. In addition to providing funding for thousands of projects throughout the country, the law also ensures that nearly three million workers will remain on the job constructing and repairing the nation's roads, rails, and mass transit. At the time that the previous law was expiring (fiscal 2009) the American Society of Civil Engineers estimated that the country actually needed to spend about \$1.3 trillion on items covered in the transportation bill (plus another \$900 billion for other infrastructure needs) over five years. Clearly filling in valleys and making low the mountains and hills is not an inexpensive proposition.

John the Baptist quotes the prophet Isaiah in today's Gospel. Isaiah's prophecy is based on the kind of roadwork that took place in the ancient world. Before a conquering general or king would arrive, the way was cleared before him. A rough road was made smooth (to allow for a rapid advance); a crooked, winding road opened up and made straight (to prevent an ambush). Isaiah's prophecy came near the end of the Babylonian Exile, when it was perceived that the LORD would once again take possession of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Luke uses the Isaiah prophecy not to portray John the Baptist as some kind of civil engineer, but rather to indicate that there is work and preparation involved in welcoming the LORD. We'll hear more about that next week.

The cost of repairing and upgrading the nation's infrastructure is enormous, maybe more that we can afford. The cost of following Christ is also great. But the payment for that doesn't so much come out of our wallets, as out of our hearts. With just a little over two weeks to go before Christmas, what are you doing to make it easier for the Lord to enter your heart?

A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." - Lk 3:4

Dear Parishioners,

A year has passed since the new translation of the Roman Missal was implemented on the First Sunday of Advent, 2011. The newly translated prayers were a little awkward at first but now responses such as "And with your spirit" and "It is right and just" seem quite normal. We may grumble at times when change is forced upon us but it is nice to know that we are still capable to changing needs and times.

The new prayers are a more literal translation of the Latin original, resulting in a more formal and at times even awkward style of English. This is most evident in the opening prayers and Eucharistic prayers which are prayed aloud by the priest, and less visible in our communal responses. I do not believe this was done to make our lives difficult but simply out of a desire to be as faithful as possible to the original composition.

The finished product is a style of English that is different from our casual, conversational English. This is not meant to make our Mass prayers less intelligible but simply to emphasize that our liturgical language is different from our everyday speech. Just as we would never use a plastic cup for a chalice so we would not use work-place language in place of formal prayer language. The intent is to encourage an attitude of reverence as we approach the altar where God's love is made visible in the sacrament of the Eucharist.

To be honest, I think a little more compromise and common sense could have produced a more beautiful prose without sacrificing fidelity to meaning. But that being said, I have resisted the temptation to ad-lib or make changes to the Mass just because I find some of the language awkward. In the previous sacramentary, priests were at times given permission to "use these or similar words," but that changed with the new Missal. Now we are asked to pray the prayers exactly as they are written, and to trust in the wisdom of the church and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Advent season has always been a very appropriate time to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation, especially if it has been a while since one has been to confession. The full schedule of area penance services is listed in the bulletin but please note that our two nearest neighbors have their services this week: [St. John in Plaquemine at 6:30 p.m. this Tuesday night](#) and [Holy Family in Port Allen at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday night](#). [Our own Advent Penance Service is the following week at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 18.](#)

Please be forewarned that I have changed the Mass schedule for Christmas this year. [Our Masses will be at 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, and at 7:30 and 9:00 a.m. on Christmas Day.](#) I apologize in advance to those of you who cherish a midnight Mass on Christmas and hope you will find one of our other times almost as enjoyable. I will certainly do my best to make it so.

Also, please mark your calendars for the second in our series "Adult Evenings of Faith" to honor this *Year of Faith*. Our presenter is Dr. Chris Baglow, professor of dogmatic theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, and the date is Thursday, December 20, beginning with a wine and cheese reception at 6:00 p.m. in the Activity Center. Please join us.

In Christ,
Father Matt

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas Vigil—Monday, December 24th
4:00 p.m. & 6:00—p.m.

Christmas Concert
Brass/Angel Choir/Adult Choir
3:15 before 4:00 Vigil

Christmas Day—December 25th
7:30 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.

New Years Vigil—December 31st
4:30 p.m.

New Years Day—January 1st
9:00 a.m.

The Parish Office will be closed at noon on Tuesday, December 24th until Wednesday, December 26th and on December 31st & January 1st for New Years.



YEAR OF FAITH 2012-2013

Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Presents:

EVENTINGS OF FAITH

Belief Under Assault: Rescuing Faith & Reason
from Monstrous Mentalities

Presenter: Dr. Chris Baglow
December 20, 2012

6:00-7:30pm, Activity Center

Wine and Cheese Reception
Adults Only

(Babysitting available upon request)



Next Baptismal Seminar

Wednesday, January 8, 2013 at 6:30 pm in Classroom #5.

This class is mandatory for baptism of your child. Call the Parish Office to register.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to the following children and their families. These children were recently baptized here: Lilly Claire Rills, daughter of Mark & Amanda Rills; Gracie Marie & Camden Thomas Ramey, children of Trey Ramey & Alyssa Bergold; Kullen James Tanner, son of Blake & Nikki Tanner; Michael Christopher Waguespack, son of Glenn & Angela Waguespack; Jolee Ann Pierce, daughter of Randy & Melissa Pierce; Ruby Jane Bordelon, daughter of Joshua & Lauren Bordelon; Lee David Tian Robichaux, son of Roland J. & Tasha Robichaux; and Madelyn Jeanne Gautreaux, daughter of David & Nikki Gautreaux.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Our Advent Penance Service is scheduled for Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m. However, if you cannot make that service, other churches in the area have scheduled their services as follows:

- ⇒ St. John the Evangelist—Plaquemine
Tuesday, December 11 at 6:30 p.m.
- ⇒ Immaculate Heart of Mary—Maringouin
Wednesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.
- ⇒ Holy Family—Port Allen
Thursday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m.



LIVING FAITH BOOKLETS FOR JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH, 2013 ARE IN. PICK UP YOUR COPY AT THE OFFICE.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

December 12, 2012

REGULAR:

277 Identified-	-----	\$11,438.00
Loose-	-----	611.72
TOTAL-	-----	\$12,049.72

Capital Campaign—November—\$26,236.47

A VOCATION VIEW

Are you seeking “knowledge and full insight to help you determine” your vocation in Christ as a priest? If God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre’ at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit,



The Sanctuary Candle is now burning in loving memory of Terry Gautreaux.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- ⇒ K.C. Members Christmas Social will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 in The Activity Center. Please RSVP to kofc10744@gmail.com or to Micahel Vince at 225-620-6263 by December 14th to secure your spot!
- ⇒ High school seniors are reminded to submit their applications for the Knights of Columbus Catholic Youth Leadership Award (CYLA) to the church office by the January 15th deadline. Additional forms and instructions are available on the KC Website at www.kofc10744.org.

Thank You!

FOOD PANTRY THANKS

The Food Pantry would like to thank all of you who have made donations to our pantry throughout the year. We also want to thank all of you who participated in this year’s Giving Tree. Thanks to your generosity we will be giving out 51 Christmas Food Baskets and 71 gifts to children on December 15th.

Readings for the Week of December 9, 2012

- Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
- Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Lk 1:26-38 or 1:39-47
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

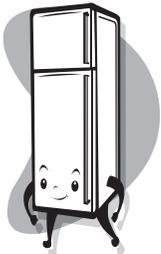
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2012-2013

Donna Badon
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Chustz, Vice-chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
David Couvillon
Jerry Deshotel
Stacy Gauthreaux
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Wendy Parrish
Katie Roettger
Toni Tolar
David Toups, Chairman
John Windham, Secretary
Gerard "Jerry" Zimmerman

BISHOP'S ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE RALLY

The Bishop's Respect Life Rally will take place on January 6, 2013, from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Main Auditorium of the Bishop Tracy Center, 1800 S. Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge. Come celebrate life with the diocese. Dr. Theresa Notare from the USCCB Secretariat for Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth, will be the keynote speaker. There will also be a Living Rosary for Life with the K.C. Honor Guard and a variety of information booths from local & regional organizations. Childcare will be available for children 7 years and younger during the keynote speech. Contact Danielle Van Haute at the Marriage and Family Life Office 225-242-0164 or dvanhaute@diobr.org for more information.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR DIOCESAN
25th & 50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION IS FEBRUARY 15, 2013.
Call the Parish Office to Register.**



***YOUTH MINISTRY IS STILL
LOOKING FOR A FULL SIZE
REFRIGERATOR FOR THEIR NEW YOUTH
ROOM. PLEASE CALL US
AT 749-3387 IF YOU HAVE ONE
AVAILABLE OR WOULD LIKE TO
DONATE FUNDS TO PURCHASE ONE.***

BALM FOR THE SOUL

A new shipment of cookbooks is in for the Christmas holidays. The cookbooks have sold over 1100 copies since October 2011! The sale of these popular books benefits the SJB Bereavement Committee. It includes over 500 unique family favorite recipes. At \$15.00 per copy, they make great gifts! Contact Harold & Beverly Babin at 749-2027 or Margaret Canella at 749-2874 to get your copy.

