



# ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*February 11, 2018*  
*Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*Vol. 50, No. 6*



**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

*He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. - Mk 1:44-45b*

Dear Parishioners,

The grace-filled season of Lent begins this Wednesday, February 14, so give some thought on how you wish to deepen your faith during this special time. Our Masses on **Ash Wednesday** will be at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 6:00 p.m. Daily Mass during Lent remains at the normal time of 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, but moves to 6:00 p.m. on the Wednesdays of Lent. Benediction and Adoration remains at 8:30 a.m. on Friday mornings or immediately following the Friday morning Mass.

On the **Wednesdays of Lent**, confessions are at 5:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 6:00 p.m. and then the Way of the Cross at 6:30 p.m. I will also be in the confessional from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday as part of the "Light is On for You" program. I encourage everyone to try to attend at least one daily Mass each week as part of your Lenten devotions.

We are excited to offer a three-night Lenten Mission this year led by Mrs. Becky Eldredge. The Mission will be held Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, March 4, 5, and 6, beginning at 7:00 p.m. each night. Becky is an Ignatian-trained spiritual director, retreat facilitator, and writer. She is married with three children and lives in her hometown of Baton Rouge. We look forward to another blessed opportunity to strengthen our faith and deepen our love for God.

Last week I asked you to remember to pray for more vocations to the priesthood, but let us not forget to pray for more vocations to the consecrated religious life as well. I say this because our community is blessed to have a parishioner who entered a Carmelite community one week ago on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Miss Joy Jason has been discerning a vocation for some time and her prayer and study ultimately led her to the Monastery of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel located in Morristown, New Jersey.

This particular monastery was founded in 1926, and the Carmelite sisters who live here are cloistered, which means they live, work, and pray within the enclosed walls of their monastery. They intentionally limit their contact with the outside world in order to better devote themselves to praying for everyone in

the Church and the world. The community numbers about 15-18 sisters which is close to its capacity.

Our parish office will be closed on Monday and Tuesday of this week for Mardi Gras, and our morning Mass is also canceled on Tuesday, Mardi Gras Day. Have a safe and happy holiday and see you on Wednesday. Remember that Ash Wednesday, like Good Friday, is a day of both fast and abstinence, meaning that we limit ourselves to one full meal (and two light snacks), and abstain from eating meat. The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

Now that football season is finally ended we can switch our attention to the Winter Olympics, and the home opener of LSU baseball. I predict another very successful season for Coach Paul Mainieri's team. The Winter Olympics are not as interesting as the summer games, but I nevertheless enjoy watching the skill of the athletes and the healthy competition between nations.


In Christ,  
Father Matt




**FIRST EUCHARIST MEETING**  
**6:30 P.M. CHURCH**  
**ALL 2nd GRADE YOUTH**  
**AND PARENTS ATTEND**

**THURSDAY**  
**FEBRUARY 15TH**





The 8th grade students ONLY will not have class on Monday, February 19th. They will come to class on Wednesday, February 21st from 6:30—7:30 p.m. to attend the Stations of the Cross and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will meet in the Activity Center at 6:15 to check roll and then proceed to church.



## Ninth Grade Retreat

Sunday, February 25th

All 9th graders attend 11:00 A.M.  
Mass and sit in the front where  
we have reserved seating.



After Mass we will report to the  
Activity Center for lunch and then  
have retreat with Kathleen Lee  
until 5:00 P.M.



**Wednesday, February 14**  
**Ash Wednesday Masses**  
**8:00 am, Noon & 6:00 pm**

### LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR THE DIOCESE OF BATON ROUGE

Catholics aged 18 thru 59 are bound by a grave obligation to observe a solemn fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Catholics between the ages of 14 and up are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday, as well.

To fast means to consume only one full meal a day, although taking of other smaller quantities of food at the other, mealtimes is permitted. Food and drink "between meals" (excepting only water & medicine) is not permitted on fast days.

To abstain from meat means refraining from eating beef, veal, pork, or poultry. The consumption of fish, shellfish, and reptiles is permitted if desired.



### STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

January 28, 2018

177 Identified- - - - - \$6,834.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 889.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,723.00

Church in Latin America- - - - - \$717.00

February 4, 2018

268 Identified- - - - - \$16,422.31

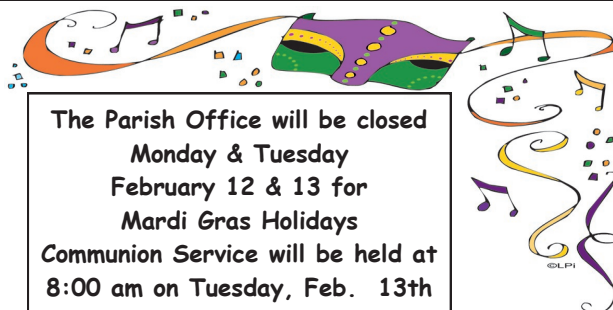
Loose Collection- - - - - 1,001.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$17,423.31



### A VOCATION VIEW

Today's Gospel says, "Jesus was moved with pity when He saw a leper." Are you moved with love and compassion when you see the outcast of today's society? Today Jesus continues to call forward men and women to minister as He did. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Fr. Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, [framerrick@gmail.com](mailto:framerrick@gmail.com).



**The Parish Office will be closed**  
**Monday & Tuesday**  
**February 12 & 13 for**  
**Mardi Gras Holidays**  
**Communion Service will be held at**  
**8:00 am on Tuesday, Feb. 13th**

### GUIDE BOOK & DIRECTORY

Does our Church database have YOUR family membership record correct?

Here is your chance to update YOUR record for our annual Guide Book & Directory (if you haven't already done so).

It is time for us to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in YOUR family over the past year.

Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all included in your membership record? Do you want your record published?

If you have not already informed the Church Office about changes to your record, please let us know now so that the info in the Guide Book & Directory is correct. The Office number is (225) 749-2189.

*Thank you for your help!*

### Readings for the Week of February 11, 2018

Sunday:	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/ 1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45
Monday:	Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76 [77a]/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19 [12a]/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17 [cf. 3a]/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/ Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19 [19b]/ Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [11ab]/ Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday:	Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/ 1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

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

Donna Badon  
John Begue  
Bob Bewick  
Maria Bertrand  
Jamie Bourg  
Chris Buckle  
Jules Lefeaux  
Mark Loreno, Vice-Chairman  
Fr. Matt Lorrain  
Mary Claire Meyer, Secretary  
Jason Murphey  
Andrea Smicker  
Toni Tolar, Chairman



**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

We may not like it, but generosity and risk often go hand-in-hand. At least, that's what Jesus shows us in today's Gospel as a leper approaches him for healing. Until the nineteenth century, lepers were shunned to the margins of society for fear of spreading the disease. To touch a leper was to risk becoming unclean yourself. In today's Gospel, Jesus defies convention. "Moved with pity, he reached out his hand, [and] touched him." The leper is healed! But this is not the only risk Jesus takes.

Before Jesus heals the man, he knows full well the desperate nature of his situation. Jesus knows that this man will be overjoyed upon being healed and that he just might tell everyone he knows. For a Messiah looking to temporarily fly under the radar, healing this particular leper might not be the best idea. Jesus heals anyway.

It can be easy to become calculated in our giving. If I go out of my way to help this person, how will it affect my reputation? How will this charitable donation affect my budget? How could I possibly make time to volunteer regularly? In today's Gospel, Jesus casts these concerns aside. He touches the untouchable. He reaches the unreachable. For his efforts, he receives a betrayal of his request for silence. "The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter." Before long "it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly." Jesus is forced to remain "outside in the deserted places." It would appear, perhaps, that he is unable to accomplish his mission.

When we take a risk to be generous, things might not follow the prescribed path. We might be disappointed. We also might be surprised! Our witness to radical generosity is attractive to a world in desperate need. Indeed, when Jesus took risks for love, "People kept coming to him from everywhere."