



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*February 25, 2018
Second Sunday of Lent
Vol. 50, No. 7*



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
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

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. - Mk 9:2-3

Dear Parishioners,

I have been reappointed to the role of Diocesan Director of Seminarians effective February 16, 2018 through August 31, 2018. This is a part-time role that should not have any adverse effect on my assignment as your pastor. This appointment will allow Father Matt Dupré to better focus on his health and his primary responsibility as pastor of St. Patrick Parish in Baton Rouge. I have not received any word on when Father Dupré will return from his current leave of absence so please continue to pray for him.

As Director of Seminarians I will work closely with Father Andrew Merrick who serves as our Diocesan Director of Vocations and pastor of Christ the King Parish. Father Merrick's primary role is to promote vocations to the priesthood while my responsibility will focus on overseeing the seminary formation of our candidates. Both of us will collaborate on the appropriate screening of candidates during the discernment and application process.

Work should begin soon to repair some termite damage which was discovered in the church. Termites had apparently entered through the tiny gap between the brick plaza and the front of the church, and then damaged the hardwood flooring and wood framing on the windows high above the front doors. Thankfully, our contract with Orkin will cover the cost of the repairs.

You may also have noticed that we recently installed a Celtic cross on the concrete arch at the entrance of our mausoleum. This cross had originally been fabricated to go on the exterior of the church but was discovered to be too small. So we decided to repurpose it for the mausoleum. I thank Jerry Deshotel for overseeing its modification and installation.

This year's Lenten Mission begins next Sunday and will be led by Mrs. Becky Eldredge. You will have an opportunity to meet Becky at the Sunday morning Masses, and then the actual presentations will be held on 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.

The theme for this year's Mission is "*Hope for the Restless Heart.*" Sunday night's gathering will help us to recognize God's voice as he speaks to us through our restlessness. Monday night's session will focus on prayer as a response to God's initiative. Lastly, Tuesday night's presentation will focus on the virtue of hope in the life of a disciple. I encourage you to attend.

Our monthly 12 hour period of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament begins at 8:00 p.m. this Friday, March 2, and ends with 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, March 3. All are invited to sign-up for an hour of prayer and adoration during the night or early morning. You are free to sit or kneel in silent prayer, or pray the rosary, or engage in spiritual reading and meditation while in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

In Christ,
Father Matt

7TH GRADE STUDENTS



The 7th grade students ONLY will not have class on Monday, February 26th. They will come to class on Wednesday, February 28th 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.



CATECHIST NEEDED

11:00 am Children's church beginning next month!
Please call Karen or June (749-3387) if you can help.



NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES
MONDAY, MARCH 5TH OR TUESDAY, MARCH 6TH
DUE TO PARISH LENTEN MISSION.



LENTEN SCHEDULE
 Wednesdays, February 21 & 28 and
 March 7, 14, and 21
 Confessions: 5:30 pm
 Mass: 6:00 pm
 Way of the Cross: 6:30 pm
 The Light is On For You: 6:30-7:30 pm

LENTEN MISSION
"Hope is for the Restless Heart"
 Presenter: Becky Eldredge
 Sunday, Monday & Tuesday
 March 4, 5, and 6
 7:00 pm Each Night

Lent



A VOCATION VIEW

Lent, the springtime of the soul...is a time to make a new covenant with God, develop new signs of our relationship with our creator. Go into your own desert and discover what God is asking of you. If you think God is calling you to a Church vocation, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, framerrick@gmail.com or visit, www.diobr.org/vocations.



Prayers & Sympathy are extended to Debbie Mouch and family upon the death of her sister, Carlene Soileau Moore. Please keep them in your prayers.

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Carolyn Bourgeois and her team for cleaning the church during the month of February. Cleaning for March will be done by Maria Bertrand (776-0052) and her group. Please give her a call to lend a hand.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Geri & Bill Schneider for chairing the committee during the month of February. Chaircouple for March are Ella Dean & Scrap Thibodeaux (937-1998). Please give them a call with any concerns.



*Thanks to everyone for supporting the Parish Council's Valentine's Day Drawing this year! Winners were:
 First Place—Linda Mottt
 Second Place—Jamie Chustz
 Third Place—Hazel "Bakie" Manola
 Proceeds from this event were \$1,065.00 which will help to purchase playground equipment for our Mothers' Day Out Program.*

Knights of Columbus

JANUARY CALENDAR WINNERS

Jane Brou, Mel St. Germain, Merlene Robinson, Linda Oneal, Deryl Ourso, Charlotte Jeffers, Jeffrey Rivet, Stanley Roberts, Shane Sarradet, L.J. & Annette Zeringue, John A. Breaux, C.J. Breaux, Nicole Howell, Gray Gravois, Sarah Babin, David P. Landry, David Ducote, Karla Landry, Julius Aucoin, Kevaniesm Snearl, Sue Dilsauer, Brady Mouch, Caleb Scheffler, Charlene Morales, John Levert, Gordon Gregoire, Blake Saucier, John Breaux, Arthur Landry, Miriam Simms, Barry Hebert

Sunday, March 4, 2018—7:30 am Mass

- ⇒ Communion Service for K.C. Members and their families.
- ⇒ Coffee & Donuts will be served in the Activity Center

26th Annual
MEATBALL & SPAGHETTI DINNER
 Benefit
 St. John the Baptist K.C. Council 10744
 Sunday, March 4, 2018
 Dine in or Take out
 Church Activity Center
 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM
 Compliments of Business First Bank
 No 0016 \$7.00 per plate

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

February 11, 2018

208 Identified- -----\$8,482.00
 Loose Collection- ----- 889.00
 TOTAL- ----- \$9,371.00

Building Fund

December 2017—\$17,206.00
 January 2018—\$11,198.00
 Loan Balance (1/31/18) - \$46,584.52

Church in Central & Easter Europe—\$1,827.00
 [Taken up Ash Wednesday]

February 18, 2018

237 Identified- -----\$11,125.85
 Loose Collection- ----- 904.00
 TOTAL- ----- \$12,029.85

Black & Indian Missions—\$680.00

Readings for the Week of February 25, 2018

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/ Mk 9:2-10
 Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [cf] 103:10a/Lk 6:36-38
 Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23[23b]/Mt 23:1-12
 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/ Mt 20:17-28
 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/ Lk 16:19-31
 Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
 Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
 Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
 Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/ Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

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



Second Sunday of Lent

How are your Lenten resolutions? By the time week two rolls around, plenty of well-meaning people have skipped, neglected, or outright forgotten their Lenten resolutions at least once. It can be easy to start excusing our Lenten commitments altogether.

Last week we saw Jesus driven into the desert. This Sunday, we see Jesus leading his disciples to an equally barren place: he "led them up a high mountain apart by themselves." But what happens there? "And he was transfigured before them and his clothes became dazzling white." Today's Gospel reminds us of the goal. We don't enter into the desert for the sake of suffering, but for the sake of transformation.

Mountain imagery is prevalent throughout Scripture. The sacrifice of Isaac, Moses receiving the 10 Commandments, Elijah's revelation of God as a tiny whispering sound: all these occur on the mountaintop. Mountains are strenuous to hike. To assist the traveler in the ascent, trails often involve switchbacks. These lead the traveler back and forth across the mountainside, sometimes appearing as if hardly any ground is gained. Perhaps Peter, James, and John hiked a similar path as Jesus led them up the side of Mount Tabor. A climb is difficult. A climb in a barren place leaves you thirsty, exhausted, and quite possibly frustrated or discouraged. Yet this is precisely how Jesus leads his closest disciples. Why? Because he has something to reveal to them. Practically speaking, Jesus needed to bring Peter, James and John away from the crowds for this revelation of glory to remain hidden. There are spiritual truths we will encounter only if we pass through difficulty. So let's persevere this Lent! Today's Gospel invites us to trust that, if we persevere in following Jesus, he'll lead us to something beautiful and glorious as well.