



402 South Kirkland Drive (River Road)

P. O. Box 248, Brusly, Louisiana 70719

**OFFICE:** 225-749-2189

**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.  
Monday, 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.  
Monday, Wednesday thru Friday ..... 7:40 a.m. or by appointment

**PARISH STAFF**

Rev. Arun John, IMS ..... Pastor  
Candice Breaux ..... Youth Group Minister  
Betty Cain ..... Bookkeeper  
Christel Dupont ..... Receptionist  
June Hebert ..... Director of Religious Education  
Sara Hernandez ..... Janitorial  
Jayne Jason ..... Child Protection  
Layne Mire ..... Parish Secretary  
Lil Stutes ..... Mother’s Day Out  
Sharon Thibodeaux ..... Music Leader

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday–Thursday 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

**BAPTISM**

Celebrated monthly after the 11:00 am Mass and also celebrated after the 11:00am Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of Our 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.

**ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS**

Inquiries: Please call Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.

**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 as soon as possible. Communion calls to homebound weekly by request. Please notify the office if someone is homebound.

**CHRISTIAN BURIAL**

Family should contact the Pastor to begin funeral arrangements.  
For Cemetery information, please call Jerry Deshotel 225-281-0333.

**PRAYER LINE**

Please call Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.

Dear Parishioners,

The great Feast of Christmas brings the good news that God is not merely out there in space, but in the person of Jesus Christ, who has come close to us and has become part of our family. When He lived on this earth, He went around doing good for people, forgiving sins, healing the sick, teaching people, feeding them, and even raising the dead to life. Christ continues that immense journey of mercy and love even today through the sacraments that has given us. Although Christ is present to us through these sacraments, there are some who think that they do not need the Church, and there are others who reject the doctrine of the sacraments. The Feast of the Lord's Baptism declares that God's way has been to take the human way, to act among us in the Church through visible signs and audible words. For us, the human nature of Jesus has been extended through the human elements of the sacraments. Christmas teaches us to look down at the crib to see God, and the sacraments make us realize that we don't have to look out from our world to space in search of God; rather, we are to look right here within our world, at the Church and the sacraments Christ has given us.

The Feast of the Baptism of our Lord is not solely a celebration of Jesus' Baptism, but it is also a celebration of our own baptism and the vocation we share as baptized persons. Some of us have chosen our vocation to live as married people, some have decided to stay single, and some have chosen the vocation to priesthood or religious life. Whatever way of life we have chosen, the question that we need to ask is, how are we living out our vocation as a priest, nun, single or married person? No matter what choice we have made, we have to bring Jesus into the decisions we make and the life we live. When we are able to bring God in all that we do and to the people we meet, then we share in the realization of God's Kingdom on earth.

In the Gospel, we hear that after Jesus came up from the water, after his immersion and baptism, the heavens opened and He saw the Spirit of God come down like a dove and rest upon Him, and a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the beloved; He is the Chosen One."

Mohammad Ali became the greatest heavyweight boxing champion, principally because of his natural agility and strength. Obviously, he trained extensively for every fight with vigorous workouts and diets. However, when he was asked from where he had received his enormous power, he said that it came from a set of inspirational tapes that he had listened to. The tapes were recorded speeches of a Muslim leader, the honorable Elijah Mohammad. They deal with self-knowledge, freedom and potential. Mohammad Ali would listen to these tapes day in and day out. He claimed that these inspirational tapes gave him the power to fight in the ring.

Today's Gospel speaks of a different power, the power that comes from the spirit of God. It says, "The Spirit of God came down like a dove and rested on Him." The spirit of God is the power that transforms us interiorly. It stimulates a human's thirst for the truth. This power makes every Christian active, enthusiastic and alive. Ever since our Lord ascended into heaven, the same spirit has continued to descend upon His faithful followers. If the martyrs suffered torture, missionaries were able to work in distant lands, married couples were preserved in their fidelity, monks were able to spend their lives in the deserts, and thousands of people come out to help the helpless; then, it is the power of the spirit of God that enables them. We receive the same spirit at our baptism. When we are healed and enlightened, when we are enabled to endure difficulties and disappointments, when we are strengthened to survive losses and disasters, let us remember it is the power of the spirit of God that has helped us to endure. Therefore, if a set of tape-recorded inspirational speeches served Mohammad Ali as a secret source of power, to us the source of power is God. Hence, let us constantly be in touch with this spirit of God so that we can always live a life guided by it.

On another note, I want to let you know that I will be leaving for India on January 24th and will return on February 25th. My mother turned 90 last November, and I would like to spend some time with her at least once a year. In my absence, Rev. Rubin Reynolds, a retired priest, will stay with us four days a week. He will celebrate the Eucharist for us from Friday to Monday. On Wednesdays and Thursdays we will have a communion service. Please keep me in your prayers during my trip to India and back.

God bless you all!  
Fr. John



## Christian Formation

Religion Mass at 9:00am on Sunday, January 19th for K-8 students and their families. There will be NO Religion classes for grades K-8 from January 20th-22nd.

Confirmation is scheduled for 7:00pm on Thursday, January 23rd.

### Children's Church

9:00am & 11:00am Masses  
**January 26**  
**February 2 & 16**  
**March 2 & 16**

We need Volunteers to lead Children's Church. Opportunities are available during 9am and 11am Masses. Volunteers are scheduled 5 or 6 times a year. If interested, please contact Jayne Jason at 225-749-3387 or via email: [jjason@sjbbrusly.com](mailto:jjason@sjbbrusly.com)

*The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of The Comeaux, LeBlanc & Ocmand Families.*

Prayers and Sympathy are extended to the families of Ollie Hebert Speights, Cynthia Sullivan, and L.M. Comeaux upon their deaths.



#### Stewardship of Finance

December 25th:

163 Identified Givers:	\$6,687.00
Loose Collection:	<u>+\$3,929.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$10,616.00

Emergency Assistance Fund: \$2,972.00

December 29th:

136 Identified Givers:	\$6,254.00
Loose Collection:	<u>+\$560.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$6,814.00

Solemnity of Mary Offering: \$1,726.00

January 5th:

138 Identified Givers:	\$10,215.00
Loose Collection:	<u>+\$2,100.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$12,315.00

December Building & Maintenance Fund: \$12,467.00

Thank you for your generosity!

# ANNIVERSARY MASS

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

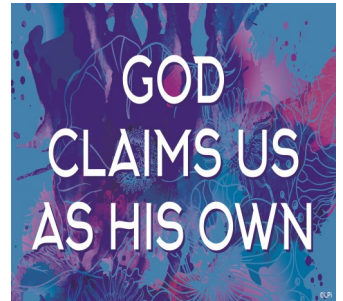
The Diocese of Baton Rouge will have the Wedding Anniversary Mass on Sunday, February 9th at 2:00pm at St. Jude the Apostle in Baton Rouge. This Mass will celebrate those anniversaries of 25, 50, and 65 years and over. A reception will follow in their Church Hall. The registration deadline is January 15th and forms can be completed in the Church Office.



Father John will travel to India from January 24-February 25. There will be Communion Services on the Wednesdays and Thursdays at 8:00am while he is away.

## Vocations

Is God calling you to a vocation as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Please talk to your priest about your interest in this vocation or reach out to Father Josh Johnson at the Vocations Office at 225-336-8778 or email him: [jjohnson@diobr.org](mailto:jjohnson@diobr.org) or visit: [www.diobr.org/vocations](http://www.diobr.org/vocations)



## 2024 Tax Contribution Statement

You may request an itemized 2024 Tax Statement of your contributions by emailing Betty Cain: [bcain@sjbbrusly.com](mailto:bcain@sjbbrusly.com)

## Zippers Thrift Shop Sale

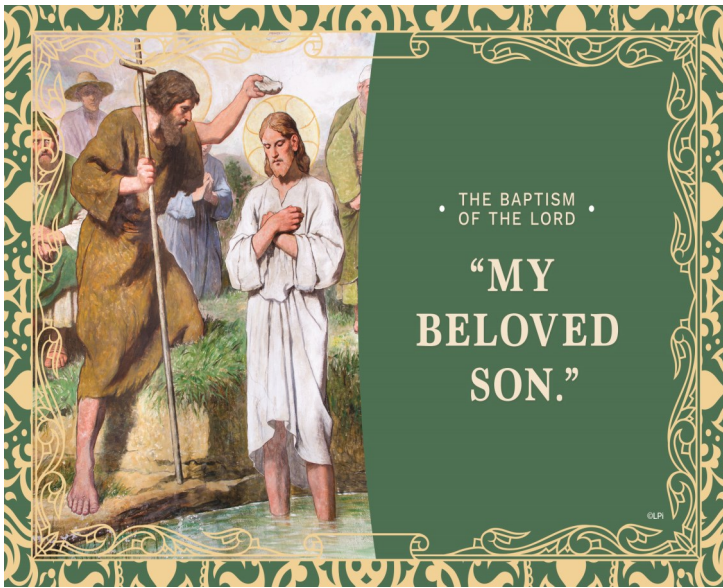
Dates at 7:30am

January 23  
 February 6 & 20  
 March 6 & 20  
 April 10 & 24

You can reach them at 225-506-8622.

Thank you for your donations throughout the year!



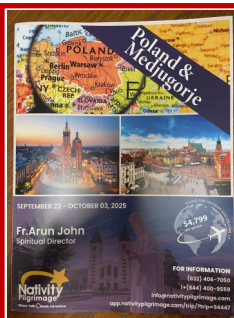


**Readings for the week of January 12, 2025**

- Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22
- Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/ Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/ Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/ Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17
- Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/ 1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

**Knights of Columbus Catholic Youth Leadership Award**

Applications are available to local Catholic senior high school students that must be sponsored by a local K.C. member. One boy and one girl will be selected. To apply, go to the K.C. State website: [louisianakc.org/for-members/program/CYLA](http://louisianakc.org/for-members/program/CYLA) Or use the QR code on the bulletin board found in the back of Church. Applications must be submitted by January 25, 2025.



**A Trip to Croatia, Poland & Medjugorje with Father John**

September 22-October 3, 2025  
 12 day Pilgrimage through Nativity Pilgrimage:  
[info@nativitypilgrimage.com](mailto:info@nativitypilgrimage.com)  
 or by calling, 832-406-7050  
 Cost for this trip is \$4,799 per

person. Details can be found in the brochures in back of Church. You will need a passport. A deposit of \$300 is required when you register.

**It will be a great adventure!**

Women's Weekend Retreat, "Bloom where He plants you," is planned for March 21-23 at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Retreat Center in Mississippi. You can register for this Retreat by obtaining a form from the back of Church, the Church Office or via email: [Danielle\\_Peavy@yahoo.com](mailto:Danielle_Peavy@yahoo.com) For more information, please call Anglyn Brown, 225-937-2895 or Danielle Peavy, 225-572-3334.



Please be aware of any messages that you may get via text or email from Father John can be a SCAM. The scammers request donations, credit cards and gift cards. SCAM messages have been sent out to many parishioners during the holidays.

**Trip to Washington D.C.**  
 4 Day guided group trip on May 30th with Donna Kirkland  
 Please contact Donna Kirkland, 225-803-6013 or via email, [donnakirkland@gmail.com](mailto:donnakirkland@gmail.com) to sign up.

**Prison Ministry Day of Fellowship & Formation**  
 Saturday, February 22nd from 8:00am-1:30pm  
 Kleinpeter Activity Center, 7808 St. George Drive, Baton Rouge  
 If you are interested in volunteering for the Prison Ministry, please register: [diobr.org/pm-event](http://diobr.org/pm-event) or contact Jorge Lavastida: [jlavastida@diobr.org](mailto:jlavastida@diobr.org)

Chaplains and leaders from our State Prisons, along with Father Tom Ranzino, will present opportunities for this ministry.



**MEN'S WBR ACTS RETREAT**  
 St. John the Baptist & Holy Family  
 Jan 30, 2025 – Feb 2, 2025

Application Period Now Open!  
 Deadline to apply: Dec 30, 2024

Scan QR Code below for more info and application



WBR ACTS