



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

January 20, 2013



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Occasionally we hear someone speak about experiencing a miracle. Usually it involves rescue from some accident or health crisis. "It was a miracle that car didn't hit me, the way they were driving" or "It was a miracle they were able to save her leg, the way that it was smashed." We even talk about "miracle" drugs, a reference to the amazing properties of life-saving antibiotics, antivirals, and certain other compounds. Miracles have a character of the unexplained to them. While scientists can describe in great detail the action of "miracle" drugs, to the rest of us they seem just amazing. Doctors can illuminate the process by which someone is healed through surgery and therapy, but again, it seems almost unbelievable when we see the results. Engineers can detail why a collision never happened, but to those who escape harm, it seems like a miracle indeed!

The miracle at the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee is the third aspect of what comprises the manifestation of Christ known as the Epiphany mystery. (The appearance of the Magi and the baptism at the Jordan are the other two.) In his Gospel, John describes the action by Jesus at Cana as a "sign" that reveals his glory. It is the revelation of his glory that causes the disciples to believe in him. Jesus is made manifest, and so people come to believe. It is what happened to the Magi; it is what happened to the crowds gathered at the Jordan; it is what happens to the disciples who are with him at the wedding feast.

The wonder of God's glory is not reserved to spectacular miracles that take place only at rare intervals. It is a wonder that a drug can cure someone, or that a surgeon can work so skillfully, or that for whatever reason, accidents are avoided. Seeing the manifestation of God's action each day is the sign of one who believes that the Word is made flesh and dwells among us.

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." - Jn 2:3-5

Dear Parishioners,

Please join me in offering prayerful support to our forty-three second graders who will celebrate their First Reconciliation this Tuesday evening, January 22. I wish to thank their parents and religion teachers for preparing the children for this important moment, and for the many ways they reinforce the practice of forgiveness in their lives.

Our religion teaches that it is next to impossible to make any real progress in the practice of faith until we discover that our sins can be forgiven. So we try to impart this lesson at the relatively young age of seven, with the understanding that a deeper awareness of this mystery will only come with the passage of time and the benefit of experience. So do not give up if you are still wrestling with the practice of this sacrament in your own life. Its value only gradually becomes apparent after many years of trying to reconcile the presence of both grace and sin in our lives as baptized children of God.

Consider this quote from Pope John Paul I, who was pope for only 33 days before his sudden death on September 28, 1978: *"What a mistake those who do not hope make! Judas made a huge blunder the day in which he sold Christ for 30 denarii, but he made an even bigger one when he thought that his sin was too great to be forgiven. No sin is too big: any wretchedness, however great, can always be enclosed in infinite mercy."* Our sins do become larger as we grow from childhood to adulthood, but they can never outgrow God's mercy.

I will be away from the parish next weekend, January 26-27, assisting with an Engaged Encounter for couples preparing for the sacrament of marriage. No one priest was available to say all four of our Masses, so Father Tony Russo will cover the Saturday vigil Mass, Father John Carville will celebrate the 9:00 and 11:00 Masses, and a still to be determined third priest will celebrate the 7:30 Mass. The Engaged Encounter community is responsible for finding a replacement for me when I am helping with one of their weekends.

Engaged Encounter is an expanded and improved version of the old Pre-Cana workshops. Two married

couples and a priest give presentations on a variety of topics related to marriage. After each talk, the engaged couples spend a few minutes writing in their notebooks, and then go off and find a quiet spot to swap notebooks and read what each other wrote. The purpose of the weekend is to help engaged couples develop their communication and understanding so as to avoid some of the pitfalls common to married life.

We also desire that they gain a better appreciation of the sacrament of marriage, and to realize the important role that God plays in healthy marriages. The best way to gain an appreciation for the spiritual underpinning of marriage is to see it witnessed by other married couples. So less teaching and more witnessing is one of the goals of good marriage preparation, which is why I want to involve some of our married couples in the preparation process. We currently have about 15 weddings scheduled for 2013, so please remember all of our engaged couples in your prayers as they prepare for their sacrament.

In Christ,
Father Matt



**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR
MARCH FOR LIFE
PILGRIMS**

The following group of young people from our parish Youth Ministry and their chaperones will be traveling to Washington, DC to take a stand for Life on January 21—26. Please pray for our pilgrims, as well as the 400+ young people they will be travelling with from the Diocese of Baton Rouge. Our pilgrims are: *Brogan Benoit, Christian Benoit, Mary Benoit, Taylor Boudreaux, Julie Cilano, Branson Daigle, Joy Jason, Olivia Suter, Katie Roettger, Opie Vidrine, Elizabeth Wallace, and Emma Wallace.*

HIGH SCHOOL HANG OUT NIGHT

Wednesday, January 30th
6:30—8:30 pm in the Youth Room

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH NIGHT

Friday, February 1st
6:00—8:00 pm in the Activity Center

YOUTH MINISTRY T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

\$10 Short Sleeve
(Pistachio green w/blue writing)
\$15 Long Sleeve
(purple w/white & green writing)



HAIR BANDS FOR MINISTRY

\$1 FOR COLORS
\$2 FOR PATTERNS
All proceeds go to our
Parish Youth Ministry!



ORGANIZATIONS

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Sara Ann Sarradet & her group for cleaning the church during the month of January. Cleaning will be done by Patricia Lefeaux (749-3108) during the month of February. Please give her a call to offer your help.

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Ruth Landry for chairing the committee during the month of January. Chaircouple for February are Bill & Geri Schneider (749-3508). Please give them a call with any concerns.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sunday, February 3rd

Monthly Communion Service at 7:30 am Mass.
Coffee & Donuts will be served after Mass.

SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEK CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Please place your special envelope in the regular collection.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

January 13, 2013

REGULAR:

231 Identified- - - - - \$7,134.00
Loose Collection- - - - - 660.00
TOTAL- - - - - \$7,794.00

A VOCATION VIEW

There are a variety of gifts, but the same spirit.” Is the Holy Spirit leading you to share your gifts as a priest? If God is calling you, call or email Fr. Matt Dupre’ at 225.336.8778, mdupre@diobr.org, or visit, www.diob.org/vocations.



FIFTH ANNUAL VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER

Sponsored by the Parish Council
and hosted by Father Matt
Three lucky couples will enjoy this special occasion on Saturday, February 16th. Tickets are \$10 each or (3) for \$25 and go on sale following each Mass beginning Saturday, January 12th through Sunday, February 3rd. The 3 lucky tickets will be drawn on Sunday, February 3rd following 11:00 Mass. You don't want to miss the chance to enjoy this culinary delight!

NOTE: COUPLES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN WILL BE PROVIDED WITH FREE BABYSITTING.



CONGRATULATIONS

*To Joshua Clay &
Kathryn Anne Gibson David
who were married here last week!*



PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to:

Jane Brou & family upon the death of her husband, Harold Brou; to Loretta Blanchard & family upon the death of her husband, Eddie “Buddy” Blanchard; and to Ann Guillot & family upon the death of her husband, Ridley Guillot. Please keep them in your prayers.

Readings for the Week of January 20, 2013

Sunday: Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11
Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: Heb 7:25--8:6/Mk 3:7-12
Friday: `Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18
Saturday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Mk 3:20-21
Next Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/1 Cor 12:12-30
or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4;
4:14-21

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



CONGRATULATIONS to the following infants who were baptized here last weekend: James Maloye Creel, son of Eric & Andre' Bonin Creel; Eva Caroline Prejean, daughter of Chad & Maggie Devillier Prejean; and Annie Katherine Leonard, daughter of Steven & Cherie Hebert Leonard.



Holy Family Pre-K 3 is having an Open House on Tuesday, January 29th at the Pre-K 3 Building from 6—7 pm. The registration dates are from January 28—February 1, during Catholic Schools Week. For more information please call at 343-6541 or email at prek3@hfspa.com.



DIOCESAN 25th & 50th
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

Sunday, February 24, 2013—3:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church—Baton Rouge

Be sure to call the parish office if you are celebrating your 25th, 50th or greater anniversary and want to attend.

PLEASE NOTE: You must have already celebrated your anniversary before February 24th to attend this year. Any after that date will be honored in 2014.

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Monday, January 21st

"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter"

- Martin Luther King, Jr.