January 7, 2024

The Epiphany of the Lord St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Volume 56, No. 1



402 South Kirkland Drive (River Road) P. O. Box 248, Brusly, Louisiana 70719

OFFICE: 225-749-2189 WEBSITE: sjb-brusly.com CHRISTIAN FORMATION: 225-749-3387

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil	
Sunday	
	a.m., with Adoration until 11:30 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Arun John, IMS	Pastor
Dana Babin	Bookkeeper
Candice Breaux	Youth Group Minister
June Hebert	Director of Religious Education
Sara Hernandez	Janitorial
Jayne Jason	Child Protection
Layne Mire	Parish Secretary
Lil Stutes	Mother's Day Out
Celeste Veillon	Music Director

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Office closed for lunch 12:00–1:00 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.

RITE 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

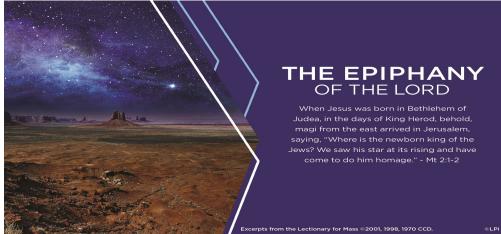
Please call Carolyn Dupuy, 225-276-6269.



Readings for the week of January 7, 2024

Sunday:	
Monday: Tuesday: Wednesday: Thursday: Friday:	
Saturday: Next Sunday	
2	

Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/ Mt 2:1-12 Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 (3)/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17 7: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/ 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42



January 7, 2024 The Epiphany of the Lord

A stranger in a foreign land, I was exhausted and homesick as my summer Spanish immersion ended in Guatemala. The rusty minivan arriving outside my small residence filled me with joyful hope. I was flying home to the U.S. and would be, at long last, completely happy. Or so I thought. After about half an hour of being home, I thought to myself, "This place is boring. I want to go somewhere." So, I hopped in my car and left to see my friends. As I drove, I wistfully wondered, "Where am I *truly* at home?"

The feast of Epiphany has a lot to do with our notion of home. Where is our origin? Where are we going? When is our wandering done? Saint Matthew tells us of the Magi, **"They were overjoyed at seeing the star."** This star will bring them *home*, to a place where their questing will end, and they will be satisfied. Their real home is neither in the East nor in the earthly Jerusalem. Somehow, their home is wherever this boy and his parents are.

If you're a teenager or older, you probably know by now that every physical home we have is temporary. So, we look up at the countless stars in our proverbial skies: things which bedazzle and beckon us to follow toward peace. The Gospel invites us to behold that — at long last — God has sent us a star to follow home, one that whispers, "Follow me! I will take you home!" Perhaps that star is your spouse. A friend. An opportunity. A cause. An intuition about a new direction. A prayer group. What is it for you? How will you know? It will lead you to Mary and Joseph and their son, and you will be home.

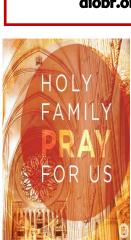
— Father John Muir

©LPi



The Women's Ministry of St. John the Baptist will meet at 6:00pm on Thursday, January 18th in Christian Formation Room One.

Women's Giving Circle– Give, Pray, Bless The Women's Giving Circle of our Diocese is launching its third year of prayerful giving. The Women's Giving Circle is open to women of all ages and promotes faith sharing and collective giving to families in need. You can join them for Mass and lunch on Wednesday, February 7th at 10:30am at St. Gerard Majella. For more information, please call Julie Millard, 225-776-4646 or visit: diobr.org/womens-giving-circle



Pray for Vocations

Is Christ calling you out of your comfort zone to serve him as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Please talk to your priest or reach out to Father Josh Johnson at 225-336-8778 or email him: jjohnson@diobr.org or visit: www.diobr.org/vocations

Announcements

Our next <u>Baptism Seminar</u> is at 6:00pm on Wednesday, January 10th. Please call the Church Office to register.

There will be no <u>Religion Classes</u> for grades K-8 from January 15th-17th.

Thanks to all of our present advertisers for renewing their ad and continuing their support of our Church! If you are interested in placing an ad for the new publication year, this is your opportunity. Please contact Kim Broyard of LPI, 1-800-888-4574, ext. 6322.

A strong and vibrant Bulletin is good for our community and a strong business community is good for our Church.



The Sacrament of Confirmation is scheduled for Thursday, January 18th at 7:00pm. A reception will follow in the Activity Center for all Confirmation Candidates and their families.



Many thanks to our hard working volunteers of the Zippers! Their Sales begin at 7:30am on January 11th & 25th. Donations may be dropped off by their door. No furniture please!

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of Ronnie Babin.





THANK YOU to all the Volunteers of the Food Pantry! Their next distribution is at 8:30am at the Activity Center on Monday, January 8th. We appreciate the donations from all of you!

Eucharistic Revival The following Sessions will take place in the Activity Center from 6:30pm-7:30pm:

January 25th: Bread for the Journey <u>February 22nd:</u> The Eucharist: Source & Summit <u>March 21st:</u> The Eucharist as Sacrifice <u>April 25th:</u> Eucharistic Miracles <u>May 23rd:</u> Adoration/Holy Hour (Church)



St John the Baptist Parish Council Members 2024 Christian Benoit Bob Bewick, Vice Chairman Grayson Brewer Christie Chapman, Secretary Justin Clouatre Horace Crochet, Chairman Paige Fitzgerald Janice Hebert Fr. Arun John, IMS Mary Claire Meyer Joey Normand Edana Robnett Derek Scott

> St. John the Baptist Parish Finance Committee Members Dana Babin Carolyn Dupuy Father Arun John Drew Maciasz Laurie Moreau Arron Pierre Danny Rabalais David Toups

Maintenance Committee Richard Dugas Joey Normand Danny Rabalais Nat Smith Gary Tullier

A Trip to the Vatican and Rome is being planned by Donna Kirkland for September of 2024. You can join this group by contacting Donna at 225-803-6013, or via email: donnakirkland@gmail.com



VITA Volunteers are needed between January 16th-April 15th at Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Baton Rouge. These volunteers assist low-wage working families prepare their tax returns. No experience is needed; training will be provided. Please call 225-336-8700 to sign up or email: drials@ccdiobr.org