



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

May 20, 2018
Pentecost Sunday
Vol. 50, No. 18



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 said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose sins you retain are retained." -Jn 20:21-23

Dear Parishioners,

Next Saturday, May 26, our Diocese will celebrate the ordination of a new "transitional" deacon for service to God's Church. *Mr. John Minh Vu* will be ordained a deacon at a 10:00 a.m. ordination Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral. John is the younger brother of Father Joe Vu, the administrator of St. Anne Parish in Napoleonville, St. Philomena Parish in Labadieville, and Assumption Parish in Plattenville.

John Vu will serve as a deacon for one year before being ordained to the priesthood next May. He will spend the next five months interning at Immaculate Conception Parish in Denham Springs under the supervision of the Father Frank Uter. Deacon Tim Grimes, who was ordained a deacon last year, has been assigned to Ascension Parish in Donaldsonville for the coming year. He is scheduled to be ordained a priest at the same time as Deacon John Vu next May.

The Vocation Office is sponsoring a vocation discernment group which meets once each month under the direction of Father Ryan Hallford. It is for high school and college age young men who desire to learn more about serving God and the Church as priests. Fr. Ryan can be contacted at fr.ryanhallford@gmail.com.

The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday of this week while our parish staff works on the 2018-2019 church calendar. We usually travel to an off-site location for our planning day and this year we will be in Zachary enjoying the hospitality of Father Bayhi and St. John the Baptist Parish. We will review all 52 weeks of the coming year so that we can get an early start in preparing for the many celebrations and events which occur in our parish each year.

This Thursday is the last day of school in West Baton Rouge Parish so I congratulate all of our students and teachers on the completion of another successful year. Beginnings and endings are sacred moments which help us to pause and give thanks for the past and future. We do our best to forget the painful or unpleasant moments and hold on to the beautiful and grace-filled moments. I pray that everyone will have a restful and enjoyable summer vacation.

Vacation Bible School is July 9-13 this year so be sure to mark your calendars and come enjoy a week's activities with classmates and friends. We need teachers and aides as well as participants so all are invited to join us. As you know, VBS is a joint effort of Holy Family and St. John the Baptist Parishes and that always adds to the fun. Registration forms are available in the back of church or you may call the Christian Formation Office at 749-3387 for more information.

Don't forget to nominate one or more of your fellow parishioners to serve on our Parish Pastoral Council. The deadline for nominations is next Sunday, May 27, and the forms may either be mailed to the church office or placed in the collection basket. The three new members will then be chosen at the June 13 meeting of the Council. They will serve three year terms beginning with the September 2018 meeting. This is the main consultative body for our parish so please give serious consideration to possible members.

In Christ,
Father Matt



ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

Any boy or girl who has completed the 4th grade and/or adults are eligible to serve! We will be scheduling a training session soon. Please call the parish office (749-2189) if you are willing to serve.



PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION

Nomination forms are in the back of church and you may nominate yourself or any other registered parishioner to fill the three vacancies. Deadline for nominations is Sunday, May 27th. Please either send your form to the parish office or drop them in the collection basket.

MARY

Depiction of the Blessed Mother can be found throughout our church property. She is presented in her incarnation as Our Lady of Grace on the side altar, Our Lady of Lourdes in the grotto at the River Road and Our Mother of Perpetual Help at the devotional area.

The Chronicles of West Baton Rouge contain a history of our church parish, and in that history, it relates that the side altar dedicated to Our Lady of Grace was actually the first in the church. It was used until funds could be raised to purchase the main altar. Below the table and on the frontis-piece is a heavily carved, gold leaf symbol composed of the letters 'M' and 'R' superimposed on each other. They are the Latin abbreviation for, "Maria Regina", "Queen Mary" in English. Indeed, when the altar was dismantled, the word "Maria" was found written in script on its interior. From its beginning, the altar was dedicated to the Blessed Mother.

For a time this altar stood centrally located in the church and contained the tabernacle. The original color of the interior was a pale blue that would be easily associated with Mary. Until a later renovation changed the interior color our church had a decidedly Marian tone.



Rest in Peace

PRAYERS & SYMPATHY are extended to Lloyd Himel and family upon the death of his brother, John H. Himel and to the family of Donald "Duck" Hebert upon his recent death. Please keep them in your prayers.

Collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign will be taken up next weekend. Please place your special envelope in the regular collection.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

May 13, 2018

198 Identified- - - - - \$ 9,141.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 1,121.27

TOTAL- - - - - \$10,262.27

Catholic Commentator—\$771.00



The confused and fear-filled apostles were totally changed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as they became powerful and dynamic proclaimers of their faith in Jesus Christ. God calls priests and religious to serve Him and to serve others, especially by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in today's Church. If you feel God may be calling you to do this ministry, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, framerrick@gmail.com, or visit www.diobr.org/vocations.



Altar Flowers this weekend have been placed there in memory of Peggy Berthelot LeBlanc by her family.

Thank You

The Bereavement Committee wishes to thank the family of Lois Holden for their recent donations.



Readings for the Week of May 20, 2018

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/ Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 52, 53, 55, 56 or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/ 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/ Jn 20:19- Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15
Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [9a]/ Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Ps 55:7-8, 9-10a, 10b-11a, 23 [23a]/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11 [Mt 5:3]/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday: Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20 [Mt 5:3]/Mk 9:41-50
Friday: Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12 [8a]/ Mk 10:1-12
Saturday: Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8 [2a]/ Mk 10:13-16
Next Sunday: Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 [12b]/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20

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



Pentecost Sunday

Today we celebrate the "birthday of the Church!" Pentecost is described in the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. But before the great driving wind and tongues of fire empowering the Disciples, the Holy Spirit had already arrived. The Gospel for today's Mass during the day is from John 20. Jesus appears to the fearful disciples after his resurrection. He first speaks a message of calm. "Peace be with you." The apostles "rejoiced when they saw the Lord." When the enthusiastic response settles down, Jesus "breathed on them and said to them 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"

This action is Trinitarian, and it has happened before. If you turn your Bible back to the beginning, you'll read: "The Lord God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life, and so many became a living being" (Genesis 2:7). In the Garden of Eden, we see God's first, original covenant with man. The breath of life signifies that original indwelling of grace, the special state of likeness and friendship with God before the Fall. Here now, in this locked room, the Apostles receive the long-awaited promise: the very breath of God, new life, a new covenant.

In the pairing of these two readings--the Pentecost experience in Acts and the breath of Jesus in John's Gospel --we see that the coming of the Holy Spirit is not only an empowering, it is an indwelling. We have each received the breath of grace in our baptism. It is confirmed, strengthened, and deepened in each reception of the sacraments. If we persevere in virtue, the Spirit of God is alive in us, inspiring our actions of love. This Pentecost Sunday, how is the breath of God alive in you?