



ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST

• catholic church •

*November 27, 2016
First Sunday of Advent
Vol. 48, No. 48*



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
Sammy Collura Permanent Deacon
Carolyn Dupuy Bookkeeper
Pat Durbin Parish Secretary
June Hebert Director of Religious Education
Karen Lemoine Christian Formation
Celeste Veillon Music Director
Larry Durbin Maintenance Supervisor
Richard Rabalais Maintenance

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

"Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." - Mt 24:40-42

Dear Parishioners,

As I mentioned last week, our parish is registered to participate in the #iGiveCatholic campaign on "Giving Tuesday" which is this Tuesday. The campaign runs for 24 hours from 12:01 a.m. – 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2016. "Giving Tuesday" is especially popular with younger and middle-aged adults who now conduct much of their shopping, banking, and charitable giving online.

Our goal for the day is to collect enough donations to purchase a new funeral pall with matching chasuble (\$2,800), and to provide several scholarships for our youth to attend the 2017 March for Life in Washington, DC (\$150 per person). Parishioners, friends, and former parishioners of St. John the Baptist Church will be able to use their credit cards to help us achieve our goal. Please visit <https://igivecatholic.org/> for more information, and search for our parish under the Diocese of Baton Rouge listing.

We are celebrating another Mass for our Christian Formation students in grades K-8 this Tuesday, November 29, at approximately 5:45 p.m. Parents are of course welcome to attend the Mass together with the students and teachers.

As we begin a new season of Advent, I encourage you to enjoy the coming weeks of prayer and preparation. Try not to let the busyness of shopping and decorating cause undue stress in your life. It is all too easy to overspend and overcommit, and by doing so miss out on the spiritual graces that Advent has to offer. Salvation is God's work and God's gift, and we begin this new season by renewing our hope in God's saving love. Focus on the prayers and music of this sacred season and allow the Holy Spirit to cultivate peace in your heart.

With trust in God's love, I encourage everyone to go to confession during Advent so that we can celebrate our savior's birth with joyful hearts and minds. Jesus is the Prince of Peace and we need his gift of peace in order to achieve holiness and happiness. Holy Family Church in Port Allen has its penance service this Thursday, December 1, at 6:30 p.m. We will have our penance service here at **St. John the Baptist** in late Advent on Tuesday, December 20, at 6:30 p.m. We

also have our regular Saturday afternoon confessions from 3:30 – 4:15 p.m. every week.

This Friday evening and Saturday morning, December 2 & 3, is the monthly all-night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament led by our Catholic Daughters and Knights of Columbus. The twelve hour period begins at 8:00 p.m. Friday evening and ends with 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday morning. A schedule is available in the back of church if you would like to sign-up for an hour of prayer and adoration in the presence of our Lord.

Thursday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and a holy day of obligation. We will celebrate a Vigil Mass on Wednesday, December 7, at 6:00 p.m., and then a Mass on Thursday morning at 8:00 a.m. We honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as patroness of the United States of America under the title of the Immaculate Conception. (Holy Family Parish in Port Allen will have a 6:00 p.m. Mass on Thursday evening if that time is more convenient.)

In Christ,
Father Matt



**FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT
THE YOUTH MARCH FOR LIFE
TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC.
Drop and Shop Day #2,
2016**

**ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH ACTIVITY
CENTER**

Saturday, December 10, 2016 5:00 P.M. – 9:00 PM

GRADES Pre K - 5TH

REGISTRATION FEE \$15 PER PERSON (Family Max \$40)

Food/Fun/Movie will be provided.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: NOV. 28

**REGISTRATION FORMS
AVAILABLE IN THE BACK OF
CHURCH, IN THE CHRISTIAN FOR-
MATION OFFICE OR ON THE
CHURCH WEBSITE.**

JOIN US IN
Celebration
MASS FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION
STUDENTS K-8 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH
DROP OFF IN ACTIVITY CENTER 5:15
PICK UP IN ACTIVITY CENTER AT 6:30.
**THERE WILL BE NO CLASS
ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH
DUE TO MASS ON TUESDAY.**

Organizations

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sunday, December 4

Communion Service for K.C. Members & their families—7:30 am Mass.

Coffee & donuts will be served in the Activity Center after 7:30 am Mass.

October Calendar Winners

Ronnie Rodrigue, Amanda Register, Rumiko Bourg, L.J. Cavalier, Gerald Millard, Peter Rosson, Mary Berthelot, Mabel Simoneaux, Diana Seneca & Sisters, Nikki Tanner, Rhonda Landry, Richard Preis, Mike Cazes, Regina Caffarel, Kallie Ruggiero, Gene Bertrand, Donna Breen, Shelby Landry, Kristy LeJeune, Dianna Lemaire, Anthony White, Sr., Jacob Richard, Ali Richard, Emily Rivet, Judy Neff, Stella Tanoos, Rita Guttierrez, Myrna Bouchereau, Zeaven Hunt, Donald Mabile, Joe & Mary Cowart

ALTAR SOCIETY

Thanks to Jackie Morain & her group for cleaning the church during the month of November.

WE WILL BE CONTACTING VARIOUS GROUPS TO CLEAN DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER. HOWEVER, IF YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER,, PLEASE CALL CAROLYN BOURGEOIS (776-3325).

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE

Thanks to Beverly & Harold Babin for chairing the committee during the month of November. Chaircouple for December will be Joel & Janice Hebert (749-3863/802-3863). Please give them a call with any concerns.



**2nd ANNUAL
Brusly & Lukeville Elementary
2016 JINGLE BELL JOG
Saturday, December 3rd—9:00 am
Alexander Park, Brusly**

One Mile Fun Run for the Whole Family

Registration forms and t-shirt order forms have been placed on the bookcase in the back of church. \$5 per child and \$10 per adult. Race begins at 9am. All proceeds will go to playground funds for both schools.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCES

November 13, 2016

205 Identified- - - - - \$7,450.00

Loose Collection- - - - - 434.00

TOTAL- - - - - \$7,884.00

BUILDING FUND COLLECTIONS

September—\$13,397.00

October—\$31,148.77

Loan Balance—\$318,146.89



A VOCATION VIEW

St. Paul tells us that the love we received from the Lord must increase and be shared with those around us that we need to be holy before God. Are you willing to teach the Gospel to others and to help prepare them for the coming of the Lord? If yes, call or email Father Andrew Merrick at 225.336.8778, amerrick@diobr.org.



Thanks to our Brusly Veterans for the new flag proudly displayed in our church plaza.



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
IS NOW BURNING
IN MEMORY OF
CAROLYN MILAZZO**

**CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH
WBR MUSEUM'S
ANNUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
DECEMBER 4, 2016 (2—5pm)**



The Open House kicks off with local choirs and performers singing holiday music. The museum, all decorated for the season, will be serving warm cider and gingerbread. Children will enjoy making holiday crafts, storytelling, and a visit from Papa Noel. Back by popular demand is everyone's favorite campus wide game, "Find the Elves"!

Special this year, visitors will enjoy an afternoon concert featuring Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys (3-4pm). They are a Cajun band from southern Louisiana. The band was formed in 1988 and they have since recorded over 10 albums.

Open House and Concert are free and open to the public. Call 336-2422, Ext. 15 for more information.

Readings for the Week of November 27, 2016

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122/Rom 13:11-14/
Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 23/Mt 4:18-22

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147/Mt 9:35--10:1,
5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2015-2016

Donna Badon
John Begue
Maria Bertrand
Jamie Bourg
Chris Buckle, Chairman
Deacon Sammy Collura
Stacy Gauthreaux
Jules Lefaux
Mark Loreno
Fr. Matt Lorrain
Jason Murphey
Andrea Smicker
Toni Tolar, Vice-Chairman
John Windham



1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." Jesus doesn't tell us when he will come again; but he does tell us all we need to know. First, he leaves no doubt in our minds that he will in fact return--this isn't a question we have to debate. And secondly, he tells us what we need to do to be ready: stay awake! As long as we don't doze off while we're waiting, everything will be all right.

So our task is a relatively simple one. We are called to be on the lookout. We are supposed to be ready for the Lord when he appears. This is a straightforward instruction to be sure. But it does contain an inherent challenge: it's often much easier to hit the snooze button than to get up and at 'em. It's our task, however, to make sure we don't give in to the temptation to fall back asleep.

This is what the season of Advent helps us to do. It's like the Church's alarm clock, ringing with persistence in our ears: Wake up! Throw off the covers of apathy and distraction! Jesus is coming! Get up and get your house in order before he arrives!

What exactly this means will be different for all of us--the particular behaviors we need to change, the specific virtues we need to develop--all of this is unique to each individual. But our common goal is the same--to clean house in our hearts and make ourselves ready to welcome the Lord. Yes, his return at the end of time will be a momentous event, but even if we never experience it during our lifetime, Jesus still wants to come to us here and now, to dwell in our hearts through the presence of his Spirit. This Advent, let's be ready to welcome the Lord every minute of every day.