

September 14, 2025

*The Exaltation of the Holy Cross*  
*St. John the Baptist Catholic Church*

Volume 57, No. 36



**ST. JOHN *The* BAPTIST**

• catholic church •



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

### PLEASE CONTACT US:

**OFFICE:** 225-749-2189

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Thursday 8:30am-1:30pm

**WEBSITE:** [sjb-brusly.com](http://sjb-brusly.com)

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION:** 225-749-3387

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil at 4:30 p.m.

Sunday at 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday at 8:00 a.m.

Friday at 8:00 a.m., with Adoration until 11:30 a.m.

First Saturday of the month **only** at 8:00 a.m.

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:30-4:15 p.m.

Monday, Wednesday thru Friday at 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

[ajohn@diobr.org](mailto:ajohn@diobr.org)  
[candicebreaux@hotmail.com](mailto:candicebreaux@hotmail.com)  
[bcain@sjbbrusly.com](mailto:bcain@sjbbrusly.com)  
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[lmire@sjbbrusly.com](mailto:lmire@sjbbrusly.com)  
[mdostjohn@gmail.com](mailto:mdostjohn@gmail.com)  
[sthib@bellsouth.net](mailto:sthib@bellsouth.net)

### BAPTISM

Celebrated monthly after the 11:00am Mass. Parents should call the office to enroll in our baptismal preparation program, preferably early in pregnancy. Parents are encouraged to register in this 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 your 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.

# The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

©LPi



Dear Parishioners,

On the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross we honor the Holy Cross by which Christ redeemed the world. The public veneration of the Cross of Christ originated in the fourth Century according to early accounts. The miraculous discovery of the Holy Cross was on September 14, 326 by St. Helena, mother of the Emperor Constantine, while she was on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. This established the origin of the tradition of celebrating the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on this date. The Emperor Constantine later built the Church of the Holy Sepulcher on the site of her discovery of the Holy Cross. On this same pilgrimage, she ordered two other Churches to be built: One in Bethlehem near the Grotto of the Nativity and the other on the Mount of the Ascension near Jerusalem. In the Western Church, the Feast came to prominence in the seventh century, after 629, when the Byzantine Emperor Heraclitus restored the Holy Cross to Jerusalem, after defeating the Persians who stole it.

As we celebrate the Feast of the Triumph of the Holy Cross or Exaltation of the Holy Cross, we might ask why does the Church have a special Feast commemorating the Triumph of the Holy Cross? There are two movements in the mystery of salvation. The first is the downward movement, when Jesus emptied Himself in His Incarnation. The second is the upward movement when the crucified one rises from the dead and ascends to the Father. For John, the crucifixion, the downward movement, is in itself part of the upward movement. “Just as Moses lifted up the bronze serpent in the desert,” also, “The Son of Man must be lifted up so that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life in Him.” Humiliation and Exaltation!

The mystery of Jesus is both in His coming down and His being lifted up. Central to this mystery is the fact that it was the Father, God, who loved the world so much that, “He gave His only Son ...God sent His Son into the World not to condemn the world, but so that through Him the world might be saved.” These words invite us to take a closer look at the Holy Cross of Christ. The Holy Cross stands in silent proclamation of how much God loves us, and what He did to express that love. Therefore, it would be a mistake to think that the Holy Cross of Christ was a misfortune that befell Him or an unfortunate accident in His life! Not at all. This is how the Father chose to show us, how much He loved us, and loved the world. So, when we look at the Holy Cross, we are reminded of the price at which we were redeemed, and to what extent God’s love could go. At this point we are speechless, not because we have nothing to say, but because we have no words to express the wonder and Gratitude that we experience at this Divine Initiative and His Love for us. St. Augustine expressed it well when he wrote, “God loves each one of us as if there is only one of us to love.”

There is however one aspect of this mystery that we do not sufficiently dwell upon: suffering. Suffering is such an inescapable and fundamental aspect of being human. Sufferings bring us down and it is degrading, and to some extent humiliating. It seems like a tragic waste, especially when our sufferings end in death. We might ask if there is any meaning to our suffering? Yes, there is. When I am lifted up, at my own crucifixion of suffering, then I am exalted in and with Christ. The cross becomes a triumph, not a humiliating destruction of our human dignity. Christ, through His own suffering and death on the cross has shown that it is salvific, uplifting, and a source of glory! Therefore, as the Entrance Antiphon says, “We should glory in the Holy Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ for He is our salvation, our life and our resurrection; through Him we are saved and made free.”

God bless you,

Fr. John

## SJB Annual Feast on the Levee Bike/Fun Run/5K



Race Day is Sunday, October 19th.

Registration is at 1:00pm. Cost is \$25.

20 Mile Bike Ride on the River Road is at 2:00pm.

One Mile Fun Run & 5K is on top of the  
Levee at 3:30pm.

You can register with the QR code above, or by  
obtaining a registration form on the Church website  
or from the back of Church. Please sign up and join us  
for the Race!



**Stewardship of Ministry Drive**  
September 20-21  
God is calling you!  
Sign-up forms will be in the  
back of Church.

### LITURGICAL MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

We need more Liturgical Ministers at the  
following Masses:

Altar Servers are needed at 4:30pm

Eucharistic Ministers are needed at 4:30pm & 9:00am

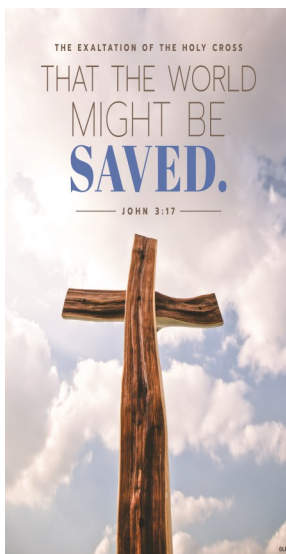
Lectors are needed at 4:30pm

Ushers are needed at all Masses

### Pray for Vocations

Will you take up the Cross  
and follow Jesus? Can you  
serve others? If you can  
answer this call to a vocation  
as a priest, deacon, sister or  
brother, please speak to your  
priest. You can also 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)



## Feast on the Levee

Our Feast on the Levee is scheduled for Sunday,  
October 19th. Masses will be at 7:30am &  
10:00am that day.

We will have delicious Cajun food, a Silent  
Auction, Parade of Prizes, Sweet Shop, Bingo,  
Kid's Games, Raffles and live entertainment.

Whole turkeys can be ordered for \$50.  
Cash, Debit or Credit Cards will be accepted.  
Event is from 11:00am until 6:00pm.  
Come out and have fun!

### Raffle Tickets

The Raffle Tickets have been mailed out. Please  
return your ticket stub and monetary donation  
to the drop box at the Church Office or to the  
lock box located in the back of Church.

### SIGN-UP SUNDAYS

Our Committee Members will be available to  
sign-up all volunteers at the following Masses:  
Saturday, September 27th & October 4th  
Sunday, September 28th & October 5th

### Service Hours

Please call the Church Office to volunteer to get  
your service hours.

Please consider how you can make the Feast on  
the Levee a success!

### St. John the Baptist Church Card Party

Monday, October 27th

10:00am-3:00pm

Church Activity Center

Please join in the games!

Lunch will be served.

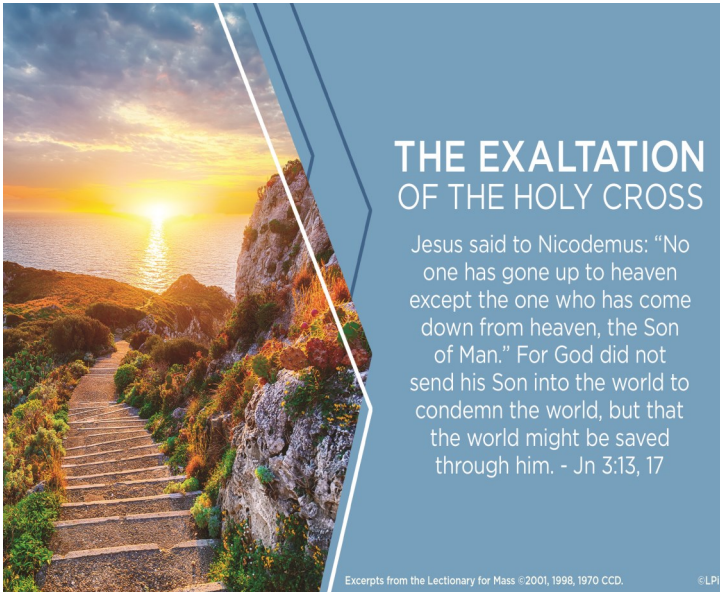
Pre-registration is required.

Please contact Stacy Gauthreaux,  
225-439-2282, or Betty Cain, 225-776-1160,  
with any questions.



*The Sanctuary Candle  
burns in memory of  
James Frens.*





## THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man." For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:13, 17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

### Readings for the week of September 14, 2025

- Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/  
Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
- Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Jn 19:25-27 or  
Lk 2:33-35
- Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/  
Lk 7:11-17
- Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35
- Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10/Lk 7:36-50
- Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/  
Lk 8:1-3
- Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15
- Next Sunday: Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8 (see 1a, 7b)/  
1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13



**Children's Choir**  
Rehearsal will be on Sunday,  
September 28th, from  
10:00am-10:45am.

**Our next Baptism Seminar is Wednesday,  
September 17th at 6:00pm in Christian Formation  
Room One. Please call the Church Office  
to register.**

**A Trip to Croatia, Poland & Medjugorje  
with Father John  
September 22-October 3, 2025  
12 day Pilgrimage through**

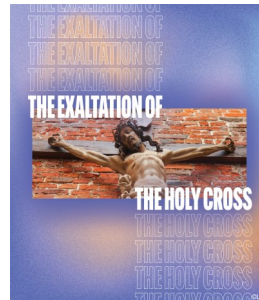
**Nativity Pilgrimage: [info@nativitypilgrimage.com](mailto:info@nativitypilgrimage.com)  
You can register and obtain more information, by  
contacting Debbie Dupuy, 225-247-0052.**

**Annual Ava & Jacob Memorial Scholarship Jambalaya  
Benefit for Holy Family School  
Sunday, September 21st from 10:30am-1:00pm at  
Holy Family Hall  
Dinners are \$12.00 each. Please call Andrea  
Normand, 225-328-4843, to get your tickets.**

***Congratulations and  
Marriage Blessings are  
extended to  
Hannah Marie Brister  
and  
Connor Charles Clouatre  
who were married on  
August 29th!***



**Marriage Preparation Sponsor Couples  
Please consider serving in this Ministry to assist our  
engaged couples who are preparing for the sacrament  
of Matrimony. A training course is offered by the  
Diocese for the Prepare and Enrich Program. Please  
contact Pam LeDoux, 337-513-1334, to be a part  
of this Ministry.**



**Prayers and Sympathy are  
extended to the families of  
Robert "Bobby" Palermo,  
Victor Milazzo, and  
Barbara Johnson Gallegos  
upon their deaths.**

**Please join the Ladies of our  
Church to pray the Rosary at  
3:00pm every Tuesday in  
Church. All are welcome!**



### Stewardship of Finance August 31st:

223 Identified Givers:	\$14,416.00
Loose Collection:	<u>+1,112.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$15,528.00

August Building Fund Collection: \$9,645.00  
Thanks for your generosity!

There will be a collection for Religious Education  
next weekend. Please consider a donation for our  
children's faith journeys.

### St. Francis Hall

St. Francis Hall will be open after all weekend Masses  
through the end of September. The Ancestors & Friends of  
St. Francis Hall will be there to take your pledges and  
donations to support them in their campaign to move and  
restore St. Francis Hall to the Bourgeois property. You can  
contact Debbie and L.J. Dupuy, 225-247-0052, about your  
support of this project. Please DO NOT put your pledge or  
donation in the Church Collection basket.