

# CRIMESTOPPERS ANNOUNCES A NEW INCREASED REWARD

Crimestoppers has joined with the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church (2361 Hwy 18) in Edgard, Louisiana to increase the Crimestoppers reward now up to **\$3500** to identify and arrest the individuals responsible for the vandalism caused by the throwing of rocks into the stained glass windows of the church on **July 24, 2010**. The damage caused by this act of vandalism is in excess of \$50,000.

Anyone with information on this crime is asked to call Crimestoppers at 1-877-903 – STOP (7867) or (504) 822-1111. You do not have to give your name or testify to earn the cash reward. The reward is paid upon the arrest and indictment of a suspect.

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July 27, 2010, Vandals Damage Stain Glass Windows of Church

## **NEWS RELEASE**

On Saturday, July 24, 2010, at 9:56 am, St. John Parish Deputies responded to the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church on Highway LA 18 in Edgard, LA for reported criminal damage to the church. Deputies arrived to find three of the stained glass windows of the church broken from rocks having been thrown through the windows. Also, the marble alter was damaged during the incident. Representatives of the church said the vandalism occurred between 7:00 pm Friday and 9:00 am Saturday.

The stained glass windows were imported from Germany and installed by a German stained glass setter in the 1920's. An accurate estimated dollar value of the damage was not available, but a church representative speculated the loss between \$300,000 and \$1,000,000.

Deputies said the rocks thrown through the stained glass appeared to be the same type of rocks used at the near by recently renovated Mississippi River ferry landing. Detectives have no suspects at this time. Any one with information regarding this incident or having seen people in the area of the church or the ferry landing during the hours when the vandalism would have occurred is encouraged to call St. John Detective Scott Guillory at 985-359-8769 or Crimestoppers at 504-822-1111.