



# THE RIVER CATHOLIC

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT, CYCLE B, 12/17/23

VOL. 38 NO. 16

3625 HIGHWAY 75  
ST. GABRIEL, LOUISIANA  
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**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday-Thursday, 8am-3pm  
(closed 12- 1pm for lunch)  
Friday, 8am-12pm

**PASTOR:**

Reverend Charles R. Landry

**DEACON:**

John Veron

**ADMINISTRATIVE  
ASSISTANTS**

Myra G. Tircuit  
Barbara V. Hornstein

**CONFESSION**

First Saturday, 3:15pm.&  
by appointment

**VIGIL MASS**

Saturday, 4pm.

**SUNDAY MASS**

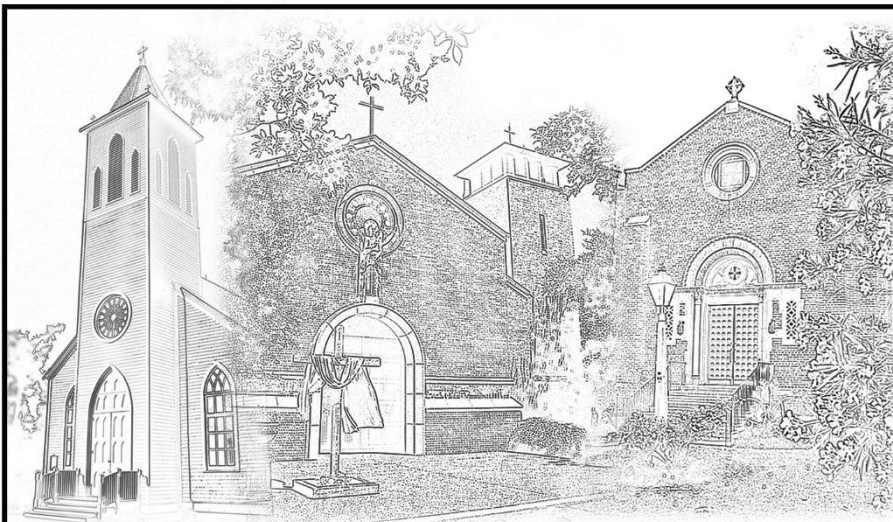
Sunday, 8am & 10am  
Presently no mass @ Carville

**DAILY MASS**

Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday, Friday, 8am

**HOLY DAY MASSES**

8am & 7pm



OLD  
ST. GABRIEL  
CHURCH  
(1769)



NEW  
ST. GABRIEL  
CHURCH  
(1953)



SACRED  
HEART  
CHAPEL  
(1935)

We, the St. Gabriel family in Christ, through the teachings of the Catholic Church, commit ourselves to the fulfillment of the kingdom of God. In our church community we make present the spirit of Jesus Christ, proclaim His gospel, and make visible His church. We believe that each of us is called to ministry to be of service to others to encourage participation to bring a spirit of family unity and responsibility to our fellow parishioners, and to show our love through our words and deeds.

**BAPTISM:** Parents wishing to have their child baptized must be registered parishioners and complete baptismal preparation prior to the date of baptism. Please contact the church office during the early days of pregnancy for details on baptismal preparation.

**MARRIAGE:** Contact the Pastor at least six months prior to the date desired to begin the mandatory Preparation program.

**CARE OF THE SICK:** Emergency calls are made as soon as the priest is available. If desired, communion may be brought to the homebound each weekend by a Eucharistic Minister. Families are asked to contact the Church Office to make arrangements. Communion Calls to the homebound are the first Friday of the month. Please contact the Church Office in regard to those who are seriously ill or hospitalized, leaving the hospital and room number.

**FUNERALS & BURIAL:** The family must make arrangements with the Pastor before finalizing arrangements with a funeral home.

## STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

### WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

### WEEKLY BUDGET

Collection \$7,788.47

Identified Contributors \$5,939.00

Online contributions 12/1/23 to present 77 \$2,380.00

There will be 2 envelopes 12/25, reg. & Special Collection for our Parish. Your weekly donations help meet our immediate needs, repairs, and improvements. We thank all who give of their time, talent and treasure to our parish community. We always appreciate your generosity.



As we meditate on God's word, it becomes evident that Jesus Christ is speaking to us in Isaiah 61:1. However, sometimes we fail to recognize the profound force these words hold.

The Bible is the book of life; it is given to us so that we can read, reflect, and live by it. We are God's cherished children, and, like Jesus, we have also been anointed. God is even more familiar with us than we are with ourselves; He is aware of everything about us, including our hidden secrets, our loves and dislikes, and our joyful and unhappy moments. God knows us even from the womb of our mother and chose us to be light in the darkness. Jesus already won the battle for us on the cross, when we submit our whole life to God and allow him to do as he pleases, he frees us from all forms of imprisonment, mends our hearts, and grants us freedom, abundant life, and joy.

Saira Ardon, Psychology Major Today

*Traditionally this Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday, a time when the fasting and restrictions of Advent would be eased, as a reminder of the joy that we anticipate of God's coming to be with us at Christmas.*



Our Online Giving option can be found on our website: [www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com](http://www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com) or scan the QR code. We always appreciate and accept envelopes, checks or cash.



### Upcoming Schedules:

Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Masses  
8:00 a.m. 4<sup>th</sup> Sun. Advent  
4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil in Church  
Christmas Vigil @ Carville  
8:00 p.m. Christmas (Mass @ Night@Church)

Dec. 25 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass  
During the Christmas holidays the office will be closed, 12/25, 12/26, the afternoon of 12/27, 12/28 all day, and 12/29 all day.



Just a reminder that Children's church is for children ages 3 thru 7 (if they have made their First Communion they should remain in the church with parents).



*We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of Brodie Bourgeois, who died in Christ; and to Anna Brent on the death of her brother; and to Mark Johnson and family on the death of Mark's father. May they rest in peace.*



Remember our St. Vincent de Paul Shelter and Pharmacy items. Items needed: Blankets, Twin & Full Sheets sets, Tee Shirts, Underwear, Feminine pads or wipes, Laundry Detergent, large bars of soap, razors, adult diapers, Vaseline, Tylenol arthritis, Neosporin, Bacitracin, Polysporin, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Boost/Ensure, Blood Glucose monitors.



At this time we are collecting **Christmas Flower donations** in memory of your deceased loved ones or for a church parish donation. Place an envelope in the offertory basket designated "Christmas Flowers."



Support a lifetime of service. Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need – usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



Sat.	16	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS
<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>			
Sun.	17	8:00 a.m.	MASS
		10:00 a.m.	MASS & Child Ch
		2:00 p.m.	Decorate Church
Mon.	18	8:00 a.m.	Father's day off
		6:30 p.m.	Rel Ed Group Activity
Tues.	19	7:00 a.m.	Men's Refl. Group
		8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		9:00 a.m.	Adoration
Wed.	20	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		3:00 p.m.	Mass @ Carville
Thurs.	21	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		6:30 p.m.	RCIA
Fri.	22	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sat.	23	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS
<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>			
Sun.	24	8:00 a.m.	MASS 4 <sup>th</sup> Advent
		4:00 p.m.	CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS in St. Gabriel
		4:00 p.m.	CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS in Carville
		8:00 p.m.	CHRISTMAS MASS @ night in St. Gabriel



*Merry Christmas*

*Christ Born*

Mon.	25	8:00 a.m.	Office Closed
		9:00 a.m.	CHRISTMAS MASS
Tues.	26	8:00 a.m.	Office Closed; No Adoration
Wed.	27	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		12:00 p.m.	Office Closed in afternoon
Thurs.	28	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		12:00 p.m.	Office Closed in afternoon
Fri.	29	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
			Office Closed all day



## DAILY READINGS

### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24;  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

*Monday, December 18 Daily Reading*

*Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25*

*Tuesday, December 19 Daily Reading*

*Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25*

*Wednesday, December 20 Daily Readings*

*Isaiah 7:10-14; Luke 1:26-38*

*Thursday, December 21 Daily Readings*

*Song of Songs 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45*

*Friday, December 22 Daily Readings*

*1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56*

*Saturday, December 23 Daily Readings*

*Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66*

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD VIGIL MASS

Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25

### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD at night

Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14

### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD at night

Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18



**Pray for our Sick and Homebounds:** Wayne & Carolyn Achee, Frank, Sr. & Dorella Banta, Betty Jean Barbay, Billy and Phyllis Babin, Karen Buhler, Melissa Conrad, Lily Fairchild, Ronald Dauterive, John Guerin, Mary Beth Hanks, Carolyn Harelson, John & Lillian Holliday, Michael Landaiche, Gary Mooney, Anthony & Bessie Pizzolato, Mary Jane Ray, Flory Reynolds, Enith Roy, Mary Joyce Sheldon, Gary and Lisa Switzer, Margie Warthen and Ellen White. Include in your prayers all of the sick & suffering in our families especially those living in nursing homes. Also, pray for peace in the world, & for all men and women in our armed forces.



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR NAME ADDED OR REMOVED FROM THIS LIST, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.**

**Mass Intentions**  
FOR THE WEEK



12/18	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
12/19	8:00 a.m.	Cambre-Babin-Merino-Ramos Family
12/20	8:00 a.m.	M/M John Mire Landry
12/21	8:00 a.m.	Genie, Jared, Carl & Dolores LaPlace
12/22	8:00 a.m.	Dr. Sidney Thibodeaux; Special Intentions; Thibodeaux-Henry Families
12/23	4:00 p.m.	Sheldon-Spedale Families; W. Allen White; White-Crochet Families
12/24	8:00 a.m.	Dewey Hymel Family & Betty; M/M Sidney Crochet
		M/M Lee Amedee Monica Picou, Buddy Amedee
	10:00 a.m.	For the Parish
12/25	8:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving

# 2023



## ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

St. Gabriel belongs to the East Central Deanery.  
The dates for the remaining Advent Reconciliation  
Service is December 20 @ St. John in Prairieville.



<b>Sunday, December 24</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>
4:00 p.m.	<b>Vigil on Saturday</b>
8:00 a.m.	<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sun. Advent</b>
<b>Sunday, December 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Masses: Nativity of Our Lord</b>
4:00 p.m.	<b>Christmas Vigil in St. Gabriel Church</b>
4:00 p.m.	<b>Christmas Vigil @ Carville</b>
8:00 p.m.	<b>Christmas Mass at Night @ St. Gabriel Church</b>
<b>Monday, December 25</b>	<b>Nativity of 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass</b>
<b>Saturday, December 30</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</b>
4:00 p.m.	
<b>Sunday, December 31</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</b>
8:00 a.m.	<b>and 10:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday, January 01</b>	<b>Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God</b>
8:00 a.m.	<b>this is not a Holy day of Obligation</b>



## La notizi

Maybe he can't stand on his feet anymore and suffering has shaped his character but this speech by Pope Francis from a few days ago is simply AMAZING!

"You can have flaws, be anxious and even be angry, but don't forget that your life is the greatest business in the world. Only you can stop it from failure. You are appreciated, admired and loved by many. Remember that being happy is not having a sky without storms, a road without accidents, a job without effort, relationships without disappointments.



"Being happy is to stop feeling a victim and become the author of your own destiny. It's going through deserts, but being able to find an oasis deep in your soul. It's to thank God every morning for the miracle of life. It's kissing your children, cuddling your parents, having poetic moments with your friends, even when they hurt us.



"To be happy is to let live the creature that lives in each of us, free, joyful and simple. It's having maturity to be able to say: "I made mistakes". Having the courage to say "I'm sorry". It's having a sensitivity to say "I need you". Is having the ability to say "I love you". May your life become a garden of opportunities for happiness... that in spring I can be a lover of joy and in winter a lover of wisdom.

"And when you make a mistake, start over. Because only then will you fall in love with life. You will find that being happy doesn't mean having a perfect life. But she uses tears to irrigate tolerance. Use your defeats to train your patience.



"Use your mistakes with the serenity of the sculptor. Use pain to tune into pleasure. Use obstacles to open the windows of intelligence. Never give up ..

Above all, never give up on the people that love you. Never give up on happiness, because life is an amazing show. "

POPE FRANCIS

**AMAZING!**

