



THE RIVER CATHOLIC

Two week bulletin – 12/24/23-01/06/24

VOL. 38 NO. 18

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

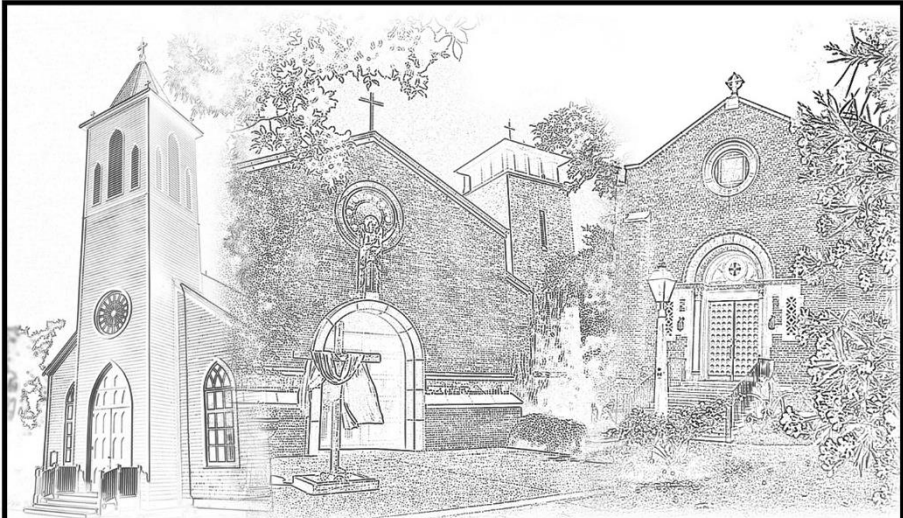
Sunday, 8am & 10am
Presently no mass @ Carville

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

69

Online contributions 11/1/23 to present \$4,285.00

There will be 2 envelopes – 12/31/23, reg. & Church 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.



This Sunday we read the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary about the birth of Jesus. This story is found only in Luke's Gospel. On this fourth Sunday of Advent, the liturgy shifts our attention from John the Baptist to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Both John and Mary serve as important figures for our reflection during the season of Advent; they both played instrumental roles in preparing the way for Jesus. Last week we reflected on John the Baptist's announcement that the Savior was among us, although not yet recognized. This week we reflect upon Mary's example of faith and obedience to God, traits which permitted her to receive the angel's message that God's Son would be born as a human person, as one of us.

We are familiar with the story of the Annunciation, and it is fitting that we recall how God announced the birth of Jesus as we make our final preparations for our celebration of the Incarnation. The angel Gabriel visited Mary, a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary greeted the angel's news with awe and wonder and asked how it could be possible that she could give birth to a child. In his reply, the angel Gabriel announced the seemingly impossible reality: the child to be born would be conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and would be God's own Son. The angel reported to Mary another miracle; her relative Elizabeth was also pregnant despite having been thought to be unable to have a child. Mary's response to the angel, which is called her fiat, is an example of complete faith and obedience to God.

The story of the Annunciation calls to our attention God's wondrous action in human history. God chose a human person to give birth to his Son so that all humanity would know God's salvation. Mary, already full of God's grace, was able to cooperate in this great plan for our salvation. Thus Jesus was born as one of us, fully human and also fully divine. This is the mystery we prepare to celebrate at Christmas, the mystery of the Incarnation. In the model of Mary, we pray that we will be people of faith who recognize God's saving plan for us and are able respond with obedience. **LOYOLAPRESS.**



Our Online Giving option can be found on our website: 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. 4th Sun. Advent
4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil in Church
Christmas Vigil @ Carville
8:00 p.m. Christmas (Mass during Night@ Church)
- Dec. 25 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass



Our next coffee and doughnut serving will be Jan. 7, 2024.



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.



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8:00 a.m. 4th 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.
- Dec. 30 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. (This mass was misprinted as 10 p.m. The correct time should be as a normal weekend mass – 10 a.m.)



We offer our prayers and sympathy to Mark Johnson and family on the death of Mark's father and Mark's uncle as well. May they rest in peace.



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."



If you would like to have masses said for a someone, please call the parish office.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat.	23	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS
			FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Sun.	24	8:00 a.m.	MASS 4 th 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
Mon.	25	9:00 a.m.	CHRISTMAS MASS



Mon.	25	8:00 a.m.	OFFICE CLOSED
		9:00 a.m.	Christmas Mass
Tues.	26	7:00 a.m.	No Men's Reflection Group
		8:00 a.m.	OFFICE CLOSED No Mass No Adoration
Wed.	27	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		12:00 p.m.	Office Closed this afternoon
		3:00 p.m.	Mass @ Carville
Thurs.	28	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		12:00 p.m.	Office Closed this afternoon
Fri.	29	8:00 a.m.	TBA Daily Mass?? Office Closed all day
Sat.	30	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS
			FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Sun.	31	8:00 a.m.	FEAST OF HOLY FAMILY
		10:00 a.m.	FEAST OF HOLY Family

This is a 2 week bulletin. The next bulletin will be for the weekend of January 7, 2024.

January 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

DAILY READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, December 24 Readings

VIGIL MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

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

MASS Night THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-4

Monday, December 25 Readings

MASS OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

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

Tuesday, December 26 Daily Reading – No Mass

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22

Wednesday, December 27 Daily Readings – Daily Mass

1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a & 2-8;

Thursday, December 28 Daily Readings

1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18

Friday, December 29 Daily Readings - TBA

1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35

Saturday, December 30 Daily Readings

1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3; Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;

Luke 2:22-40

Monday, January 01 Daily Readings

SOLEMNITY OF MARY

Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21

Tuesday, January 02 Daily Reading

1 John 22:22-28; John 1:19-28

Wednesday, January 03 Daily Readings

1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1:29-34

Thursday, January 04 Daily Readings

1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42

Friday, January 05 Daily Readings

1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51

Saturday, January 06 Daily Readings

1 John 5:5-13; Mark 1:7-11

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

Pray for our Sick and Homebonds: 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, Flory Reynolds, Enith Roy, Mary Joyce Sheldon, Gary 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat.	30	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS
			FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Sun.	31	8:00 a.m.	FEAST OF HOLY FAMILY
		10:00 a.m.	FEAST OF HOLY Family

2024

Mon.	01	8:00 a.m.	OFFICE CLOSED
		9:00 a.m.	SOLEMNITY OF MARY
Tues.	02	7:00 a.m.	Men's Reflection Group
		8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		8:30 a.m.	Adoration in Chapel
Wed.	03	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		9:00 a.m.	Ladies Altar Society
		3:00 p.m.	Mass @ Carville
Thurs.	04	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
		6:30 p.m.	RCIA in Ctr
Fri.	05	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
			Adoration until Benediction
Sat.	06	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS
			FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
Sun.	07	8:00 a.m.	EPIPHANY
		10:00 a.m.	EPIPHANY
Mon.	08	8:00 a.m.	Father Charlie day off

FAITH
TELLS ME THAT NO
MATTER WHAT LIES
AHEAD OF ME,
GOD
IS ALREADY THERE.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

12/25	9:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving
12/26	8:00 a.m.	NO MASS; Alvin Fairchild, Sr.; Clarence A. Key, Sr.
12/27	8:00 a.m.	Genie, Jared, Carl & Dolores LaPlace
12/28	8:00 a.m.	Alton & Dianne Comeaux; Special Intentions
12/29	8:00 a.m.	LaPlace Family; Catherine Hurston; Jesse Lunsford
12/30	4:00 p.m.	For the Parish
12/31	8:00 a.m.	Babin-Ruiz Family; Nezida & Louise Ruiz
	10:00 a.m.	For the Parish
1/01	8:00 a.m.	Kevin Minor; Irene Landry; The Warthen Family
1/02	8:00 a.m.	Special Intentions
1/03	8:00 a.m.	Deceased Altar Society; Amato-Chenove Families; Eugene LeBlanc, Jr.
1/04	8:00 a.m.	Alvin White; White-Acosta-Durso-LeBlanc Families
1/05	8:00 a.m.	Eugene LeBlanc, Sr. & Rachael LeBlanc; Monty & Michael Laurent; Michael Ragusa
1/06	4:00 p.m.	Joseph Acaldo Family; Eugene LeBlanc, Jr.;
		Babin-Ruiz Families; Nezida & Louise Ruiz
1/07	8:00 a.m.	Dewey Hymel Family & Betty
	10:00 a.m.	For the Parish
1/08	8:00 a.m.	No Mass



Pray for our Sick and Homebonds: 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, Flory Reynolds, Enith Roy, Mary Joyce Sheldon, Lisa & Gary 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.



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PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

We completed our first semester of the 2023 -2024 catechetical year. Classes will resume on Monday, January 22, 2024.



SACRAMENTAL PREP – FIRST EUCHARIST

There will be a meeting for the parents of students enrolled in the Sacramental Prep program for First Eucharist on Tuesday, January 9th at 6:30 P.M. in the parish activity



center.



The Perfect Family is a Work in Progress

What is the perfect family? I guess it depends upon your definition of “perfect.”

There are families that have one parent, or two parents but with some sort of difficulty they must cope with. The family situations are almost limitless, because they depend so much upon the personalities of the family members. Because of this, I believe that becoming a “perfect” family may actually be a moving target.

All God is asking is for us to do our best. To try to make a difference in what we do as family. We are to work hard to be the best family we can be. Growing up, I remember the “attractive” family, the “rich” family, and the family with the “cool parents.” I later found out that these families also had difficulties.

The simple fact is that we all have problems within our families – we all have our crosses to bear. So we need to just do the best we can, and rely on God to pick up the slack.

The gospel today says that Mary pondered on the wonders God was performing in and around her. We should do the same. This week, let’s take some time to really examine what God is doing in our lives, especially when it comes to our family. And think about all of the marvels God can do with all of us! Maybe the “perfect” family is not a final state, but rather a way of living life, loving each other, and worshipping God in the best way we can manage.

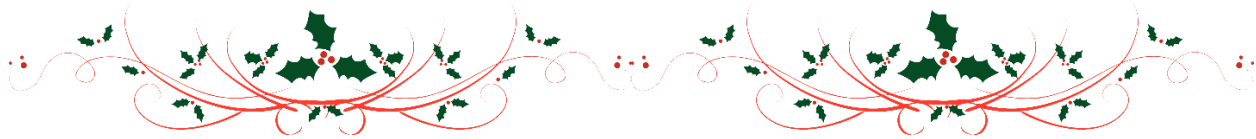
And though our families are all made up of imperfect people, perhaps with God’s help, we can be a perfect family in His eyes.

Life Applications:

What do you think it was like being the parents of the Christ-child?

Why should parents work together with each other and the Lord?

How would you describe the perfect family?



A REFLECTION ON THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

The calendar year starts with reflections on Mary’s greatest title, “Mother of God,” and how her motherhood gives us courage and hope to start anew. Life and hope are intimately related. The more we hope, the more willing we are to welcome life. Abortion is not only a sin against life, but a sin against hope. Some wonder how they can “bring a child into this world,” as though the world is so evil and dangerous a place that it is better if we aren’t born. Christ and Mary lead the way for every mother and child, for every family, as we move forward from one New Year into another.

The gospel tells us that on the first Christmas, when the shepherds arrived in Bethlehem and saw the baby in the manger, they understood what had been told to them by the angels. Why was it at that moment that they understood the message? Perhaps it is because a baby is so approachable. After all, the angels had announced that the Savior was born for all people. Nobody, no matter how poor or lowly, should be afraid to approach him. And how can God become more approachable than by becoming a little baby? God continues to reveal himself in the tiny babies yet in the womb. He invites us to see and love him in them. Yet some continue to be afraid of these babies, so afraid that they despair and are tempted to kill them. May the coming of our God as a little baby inspire a deeper respect and protection for the unborn.





Merry Christmas

from our family to yours...

And the angel said to them,
“Fear not, for behold, I bring
you good news of great joy that
will be for all the people. For
unto you is born this day in the
city of David a Savior, who is
Christ the Lord.

~ Luke 2:10-11