



# THE RIVER CATHOLIC

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 2/25/2024

VOL. 39, NO. 26

3625 HIGHWAY 75  
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**OFFICE HOURS:**

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

**PASTOR:**

Reverend Charles R. Landry

**DEACON:**

Reverend Mr. John Veron

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**ASSISTANTS**

Myra G. Tircuit  
Barbara V. Hornstein

**CONFESSION**

First Saturday, 3:15pm.&  
by appointment

**VIGIL MASS**

Saturday, 4pm.

**SUNDAY MASS**

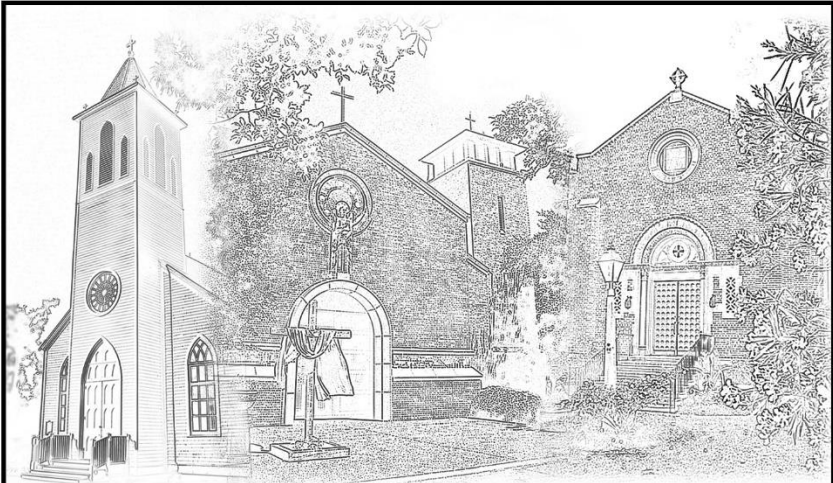
Sunday, 8am & 10am  
Presently no mass @ Carville

**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 \$7,975.66

AMOUNT COLLECTED \$3,921.73

NUMBER OF DONATIONS 72

Online Collections since 2/1/24 \$3,175.00

There will be two envelopes 3/10 reg. & Catholic Relief Services. 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.



From a human experience, what could possibly be greater than the appearance of God and a couple of his saints representing the Law and the prophets?



We have the amazing position to see ordinary bread and wine turn into the body blood soul and divinity of Jesus Christ at each Mass we are less than 3 feet away from this amazing miracle. This is a humble God. He showed himself to Peter, John and that is good enough for me.

If we were to see this though... my whole self would be just like Peter ... stammering, flabbergasted, not sure what I am seeing and I would want to be a part of that particular singularity for all time. However, that isn't our vocation is it? It wasn't Peter's vocation either? It is very scary when I realize that Peter and I actually have the same vocation. Preach the word of God to all the corners of the Earth.

So, what if I am up on the mountain in "the tent" worshipping God? That is good for a while. But not the totality right now of what God is calling me to. But notice too, Peter didn't stop with just a tent to worship God. Moses and Elijah as well. uh oh... Can't worship Moses and Elijah can we? There is a reason the other readings are read along with this. We have to be reminded in our first reading about the original covenant between Abram and God.

And just to be sure The reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians as another prodding to remember who our God actually is. Okay it will probably take no more to say okay Moses and Elijah don't get a tent... but Could Peter have been okay if he just stopped with a tent for Jesus? Who knows... that is not what the story is showing but after the resurrection Peter did build tents for God in that he established the Churches in Rome and in Asia Minor. But between the time of the transfiguration and the Resurrection of Jesus there was other work Peter was designed to do.

So, Peter, James and John were not to stay up on the mountaintop and continually witness the Transfiguration... they were to serve the Lord and learn and become ready for their apostolates. Had they stayed on the mountain, who would give us the recounting of the Transfiguration? Think of all the things that are still to be learned by all of them. Plus, I think we have all had that mountaintop type of experience. We really enjoyed that particular feeling and experience we had, but we recognize we couldn't have just stopped there. [.deacondavestowell/](https://www.deacondavestowell.com)

So, we keep those memories and the feelings and keep them as a cornerstone of our lives that teach us so very much. But we don't build a tent for those feelings and those experiences. As they are gifts from God...not God himself. Most important to remember this. So, let's continue our learning and take those mountaintop memories and consider what God is actually calling us to do with them. If we listen to Him we can never go wrong. Be good. Play nice. Think God!

If you are in need of sacramental services, reconciliation or anointing of the sick, please call Fr. Charlie to set up an appointment.



For nearly 50 years, Lenten alms given through CRS Rice Bowl have supported programs that prevent hunger and poverty around the world, including the countries featured in the Lenten stories of hope. Seventy-five percent of gifts help support CRS' work in more than 120 countries. [Twenty-five percent of gifts remain in each U.S. diocese](#) where they are given to support hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in those communities. Each diocese uses this differently. Please be generous.



Our Online Giving option is now available. We are also still accepting envelope checks and cash. Thank you. Check out our website: [www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com](http://www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com).



The Pastoral Council has placed a book share library box at the entrance to church. Please feel free to take books from the box to read. You can keep them if you are so moved or return to share with others. You can also bring some from home to add to the library.



We will resume our eyeglass collection for the needy. Please put your used eyeglasses in the basket in the back of church and once again give to this worthy cause. Thank you!



Please note [Way of the Cross is at 6 p.m. on Fridays, not 6:30 p.m.](#)



Another correction – Our [Lenten Penance Service](#) is now on [Tuesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m. in Church.](#)



If you wish to have a print out of your donations during 2023, please call the office. These summaries will only be mailed out to those who call. We also cannot email these documents. We appreciate your contributions.



[Fill—A-Prescription Program](#) We will be accepting donations for this program until 3/31/24. Kindly give to this needed program.



We offer our Prayers and symphony Renee Sobers Miller on the death of her husband, Larry; and to the family and friends of Buddy Fairchild. Both died in Christ.





## SCRUTINIES

Part of the RCIA process is the period of Purification and Enlightenment.

During this process we celebrate the Scrutinies with those who will be joining the church at the Easter Vigil.

These rites are meant to uncover, then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful of the elect' to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good.” (RCIA 141). The elect look within themselves to find anything that keeps them from Christ. Then they look to Christ to heal those weaknesses and strengthen them when they face temptation. These rites are also a good time for all of us to take a look within ourselves. It's gives us the opportunity for self-searching, repentance and to move closer to Christ.

The scrutinies will occur on the third, fourth, and fifth Sundays of Lent. We reflect on three Gospel stories that reveal the meaning of baptism. In the first Scrutiny we reflect on Christ as Living Water, in second scrutiny we reflect on Christ as the Light of the World and in the third scrutiny we reflect on Christ as the Resurrection and the Life. They give us the opportunity to turn back toward God, remembering that he is always turned toward us – with arms outstretched and a heart full of love and mercy, eager to forgive.

We will celebrate these scrutinies in St. Gabriel at the 10:00 A.M. Mass on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. At that mass we will use the readings for liturgical year “A”. We will use the readings for the “B” cycle at the 4:00 P.M. and 8:00 A.M. Masses.

Please continue to pray for Kaylnn, Yanira and Jill as they enter the final month of their preparation for full initiation into our Catholic Church.



On another note, if you wish to buy tickets for St. Vincent de Paul's COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS SUPPER, go online to [SVDPBR.ORG](http://SVDPBR.ORG) and if you wish to send a donation to St. Vincent de Paul kindly call 225-383-7837, ext. 0. Thanks a bunch.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat.	24	9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Eucharist Class in PAC <b>VIGIL MASS</b>
Sun.	25	8:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</b> <b>MASS</b> Confirmation Class in Ctr. <b>MASS</b>
Mon.	26	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Father's day off Rel Ed Grades 1-12 in PAC
Tues.	27	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	Men's Reflection Group Daily Mass Adoration
Wed.	28	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass Divine Mercy Novena
Thurs.	29	8:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Daily Mass DRE's in PAC RCIA in Ctr.

## MARCH

Fri.	01	8:00 a.m.  6:00 p.m.	Daily Mass <b>in Church</b> Adoration and Benediction Way of the Cross in church
Sat.	02	3:15 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	Reconciliation <b>VIGIL MASS</b>
Sun.	03	8:00 a.m.  10:00 a.m.  3:00 p.m.	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b> <b>MASS</b> <b>Coffee &amp; Donuts</b> <b>MASS, Children's Church</b> <b>Coffee &amp; Donuts</b> Rosary in Church
Mon.	04	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Father's day off Rel Ed Grades 1-12
Tues.	05	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Men's Reflection Group Mass Adoration St. Gabriel Lenten Penance Svc.
Wed.	06	8:00 a.m.  9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass Divine Mercy Novena Ladies Altar Society Mtg.
Thurs.	07	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Daily Mass <b>in Church</b> RCIA in Ctr.
Fri.	08	8:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Daily Mass <b>in Church</b> Way of the Cross in church
Sat.	09	4:00 p.m.	<b>VIGIL MASS</b>
Sun.	10	7:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b> Blood Drive – mobile till noon <b>MASS</b> <b>MASS</b>

Only in God there  
is fullness of joy.

## DAILY READINGS

### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**Genesis 22:1-2, 9a,10-13, 15-18; Romans 8:31b-34**  
**Mark 9:2-10**

**Monday, February 11 Daily Readings**

**Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38**

**Tuesday, February 12 Daily Readings**

**Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 2:1-12**

**Wednesday, February 13 Daily Readings**

**Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28**

**Thursday, February 14 Daily Readings**

**Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31**

**Friday, February 15 Daily Readings**

**Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-46**

**Saturday, February 16 Daily Readings**

**Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25**

**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, John & Lillian Holliday, Michael Landaiche, Bessie Pizzolato, Flory Reynolds, Enith Roy, Mary Joyce Sheldon, Gary & Lisa Switzer, Margie Warthen, Gretchen White & Ellen White. Include in your prayers all of the sick & suffering of 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

02/26	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
02/27	8:00 a.m.	Jesse Lunsford; Rene Landry; Alton – Dianne Comeaux; Warthen Family
02/28	8:00 a.m.	LeBlanc-Hymel-Fallegan-Ramagos Families Deceased of Altar Society; Souls in Purgatory
02/29	8:00 a.m.	Deceased of Souls of St. Gabriel in Purgatory Genie, Jared, Carl & Dolores LaPlace
03/01	8:00 a.m.	Amedee & Crochet Families
03/02	4:00 p.m.	Joseph Acaldo Family; Becky Carlin Smith
03/03	8:00 a.m.	Monty & Michael Laurent; Michael Ragusa
	10:00 a.m.	For the Parish
03/04	8:00 a.m.	No Mass

**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn the week of February 25 – March 2 in memory of Alvin Fairchild, Sr.**



## KEEPING LENT AND EASTER 2024

**Daily Mass** Tuesday – Friday in Church 8:00 a.m.

**Stations of the Cross** Friday 6:00 p.m.

**Reconciliation** 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and by appointment  
Saturday, March 02 3:15 p.m.  
Saturday, April 06 3:15 p.m.

### **Communal Penance Service**

TBA Wednesdays throughout the Diocese  
St. Gabriel – Tuesday, **March 05** 6:30 p.m.

### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

Passion Sunday Sunday, March 24  
Diocesan Chrism Mass Tuesday, March 26 10:30 a.m.  
Holy Week Practice Tuesday, March 26 6:30 p.m.

### **TRIDUUM**

**Holy Thursday** Thursday, March 28 7:00 p.m.  
Adoration of Blessed Sacrament until 9:00 p.m.

**Good Friday** Friday, March 29  
Way of the Cross Noon  
Vigil before the Holy Cross 3:00 p.m.

**Easter Vigil** Saturday, March 30 8:00 p.m.  
Blessing of new Fire  
Eucharist

**Easter Sunday** Sunday, March 31  
Mass @ St. Gabriel 8:00 a.m.  
Mass @ St. Gabriel 10:00 a.m.

**Divine Mercy** Sunday April 07  
Divine Mercy Service 3:00 p.m.

**Sacrament of Confirmation** Saturday –April 20, 4:00 p.m.

**Sacrament of First Eucharist**  
Mass, Sunday, May 5 10:00 a.m.

## Reflection for Divine Mercy Sunday

by [Isabella R. Moyer](#)



**How can anyone argue against Divine Mercy Sunday?**

Divine Mercy is hope wrapped up in a loving God, ever ready to embrace us and forgive even our gravest sins. Believing in God, but not in Divine Mercy, would be a depressing and burdensome faith to bear.

At the core of the Gospel story of the good thief is unconditional love and compassion. Today, you will be with me in paradise. Not, okay your sins are forgiven; now do this and this and this, and you will be saved. But today - now - you will enter into glory with me. Welcome!

Divine Mercy is often associated with the visions and private revelations of St. Faustina. Pope John Paul II had a great devotion to this Polish nun. When he declared the Second Sunday of Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday, many took it as a papal decree to promote the devotions described in Faustina's "Diary," such as venerating the Divine Mercy image and praying the Chaplet.

As Catholics, we have a soft spot for devotions and devotionals. It's part of our hands-on, sacramental nature. But, we are also a diverse bunch. What speaks to one, may not speak to another. Devotions and belief in private revelations – even if approved and recommended by the Church – are not mandatory. Offering a special Mass that includes the Divine Mercy devotions for those who wish it is a good thing.

Presenting the devotions as an obligatory form of worship for the Second Sunday of Easter is not. Even [some Divine Mercy websites](#) are careful to stress that this Sunday is not meant to be a “party for devotees.” The focus, they say, should be on bringing “hardened sinners” back into the fold.

Perhaps we, as a Church, need to spend less time worrying about bringing back the “hardened sinners,” and more time showing mercy to those struggling to stay despite personal hurts and rejection. We need to reach out to those who have one foot out the door, or who have already had the door closed on them.

As we meditate in gratitude for God's gracious mercy shown to us, we should look honestly at the mercy that we show to others. Our God is a God of mercy. Are we a Church of mercy?