



# THE RIVER CATHOLIC

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 3/03/2024

VOL. 39, NO. 27

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**

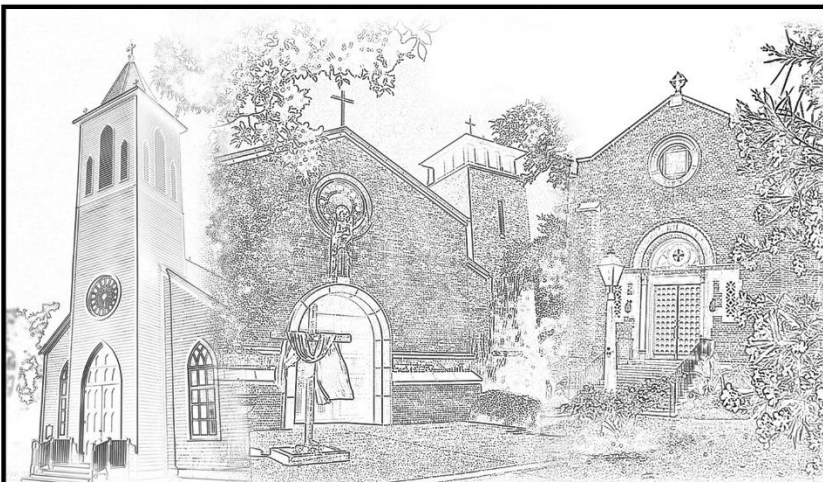
Sunday, 8am & 10am  
Presently no mass @ Carville

**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	465
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$7,975.66
AMOUNT COLLECTED	\$3,801.00
NUMBER OF DONATIONS	66
Online Collections since 2/1/24	\$5,180.00

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.



At 10 a.m. Mass, the gospel and readings will be for Cycle A, for RCIA Scrutinies. All other masses will use Cycle B, reflected below.



John famously places Jesus' cleansing of the Temple at the start of his ministry rather than after the Triumphal Entry where the Synoptic gospels locate it. In John's case this becomes an early occasion in his gospel to make the connection between the physical Temple and the "Temple" of Jesus' body. In this

passage we also get the marvelous play on words after the religious leaders demand a miraculous sign by which to prove Jesus' authority. But what they take to be a "miracle" of an instantaneous rebuilding of a grand physical structure is really the grand miracle of Jesus' sacrifice. They want a sign of power. Jesus will finally give a sign of weakness through which the grandest power in the universe will be unleashed. The paradox of the Lenten Season is on great display in this passage.

Bishop Robert Barron reflects on the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B, emphasizing the importance of the Temple in Judaism and its transformation in Christianity, where believers' bodies become temples of the Holy Spirit. Drawing on Jesus cleansing the temple and St. Paul's teachings, Barron encourages a Lenten meditation on letting Jesus cleanse our souls. He suggests using the Ten Commandments as a guide for a spiritual spring cleaning, examining our adherence to these commandments as a way to align our lives more closely with God's will. This process, Barron argues, can lead to a deeper dedication to 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!



Our [Lenten Penance Service](#) is now on Tuesday, March 5, 6:30 p.m. in Church. [Practice for Holy Week](#) ministers is March 26, 6:30 p.m.



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 3/16/24. Kindly give to this needed program.



Don't Forget!! St. Vincent de Paul's Count Your Blessings To-Geaux Lenten Supper is March 15. You may purchase tickets through [SVPDBR.org](http://SVPDBR.org). They are also requesting Easter baskets. You may call 225-383-7837, ext. 0 for information.



We offer our prayers and sympathy to Mrs. Enith Roy and family on the death of her brother, Maurice Broussard; and to the family and friends of Margaret Peltier who died in Christ.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

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 <b>St. Gab. Lenten Penance Svc.</b>
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 &amp; Children's Church</b>
Mon.	11	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Father's day off Rel Ed Grades 1-12 in PAC
Tues.	12	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	Men's Reflection Group Daily Mass Adoration
Wed.	13	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass Divine Mercy Novena
Thurs.	14	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Daily Mass RCIA in Ctr.
Fri.	15	8:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Daily Mass <b>in Church</b> Way of the Cross in church

Better to do a little well than  
a great deal badly.



## DAILY READINGS

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

**Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42**

**Monday, March 04 Daily Readings**

**2 Kings 5:1-15b; Luke 4:24-30**

**Tuesday, March 05 Daily Readings**

**Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Matthew 18:21-35**

**Wednesday, March 06 Daily Readings**

**Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Matthew 5:17-19**

**Thursday, March 07 Daily Readings**

**Jeremiah 7:23-28; Luke 11:14-23**

**Friday, March 08 Daily Readings**

**Hosea 14:2-10; Mark 12:28-34**

**Saturday, March 09 Daily Readings**

**Hosea 6:1-6; Luke 18:9-14**

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**2 Chronicles 36:14-16; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21**

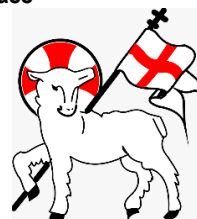
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**Pray for our Sick and Homebonds:** Wayne & Carolyn Achee, Frank, Sr. & Dorella Banta, Betty Jean Barbay, Billy and Phyllis Babin, Karen Buhler, Melissa Conrad, Lily Fairchild, Ronald Dauterive, John Guerin, Mary Beth Hanks, John & Lillian Holliday, 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.**

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## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

03/04	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
03/05	8:00 a.m.	Vincent & Audrey Comeaux; Julius & Lillie Gautreau
03/06	8:00 a.m.	Amato-Chenove Family; Leon Ambeau Family Deceased of Altar Society
03/07	8:00 a.m.	Holliday-Noel-Harelson Families
03/08	8:00 a.m.	LaPlace Family Carville-Olivier Families & Special Friends
03/09	4:00 p.m.	For the Parish
03/10	8:00 a.m.	Irene Landry & Warthen Family
	10:00 a.m.	Cambre-Babin-Merino Families & Emily Ramos
03/11	8:00 a.m.	No Mass



## Fellow Parishioners

Hope you have been enjoying the few “spring like” days we have been blessed with. Also, hope your Lenten journey is providing you with opportunities to spend some time in prayer and reflection. Fr. Charlie is a little under the weather so I am filling in for his column this week. Hope he is better real soon!



Our Parish School of Religion has been going well. Seems like only yesterday we were beginning the year and here we are with only about 8 more sessions in the 2023-2024 Catechetical year. We thank our dedicated volunteers – Trang White, Veronica Crow, Sandra Alfred, Ramona Gomez, Sonya Granier, Alex White and Melissa Laurent for their dedication to our program and children. We also thank the parents who entrust us with their children each week. We also have about 60 students from our Parish attending Catholic Schools in our area. We continue to work with the area Catholic schools assisting with things such as a place to have their retreats. Fr. Charlie assists with masses and Reconciliation when requested.

We offer Children’s Church during the 10:00 A.M. Mass for children age 4 thru 7. We thank Veronica, Casey, Julia, Chase, Amanda, Luke, Lindsey, Shelley, Kiki, Dexter, and Rebecca, for volunteering for this ministry.



thru 7. We  
Carolyn,

Beginning this weekend and for the next two weeks we will have the RCIA Scrutiny’s at the 10:00 A.M. Mass. Remember we use the readings from “A” liturgical Cycle at this mass. We are planning and preparing for our RCIA retreat on Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. St. John the Evangelist in Plaquemine and St. Gabriel work together to provide a retreat for our Catechumens and elect. We want to thank Deacon John, his wife Lisa and Melissa Laurent for their work with the RCIA Program this year. We can’t wait to celebrate with Yanira, Kaylann and Jill at the Easter Vigil. We invite you to celebrate with them at the Liturgical Service and the reception immediately following.



Our First Eucharist candidates are nearly finished with their Preparation for the reception of the Sacrament on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The candidates and their families are participating as Gift Bearers at our Liturgical celebrations during Lent. The candidates and their parents will participate in a Seder Meal on Palm Sunday at 6:00 P.M.



Our Confirmation candidates are excited to become fully initiated members of the Church on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Bishop Duca will be here to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with us at the 4:00 P.M. Vigil. We thank Jill Thaller and Monica Tircuit for volunteering with this program.



Mark your calendars ---- Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held the week of **July 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>**. Our theme this year is **SCUBA** – diving into friendship with God. This is always a wonderful week of fun, sharing and learning. Watch the bulletin for details.



# 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.**

**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?**

