



THE RIVER CATHOLIC

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 3/17/2024, CYCLE B

VOL. 39, NO. 29

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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:

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

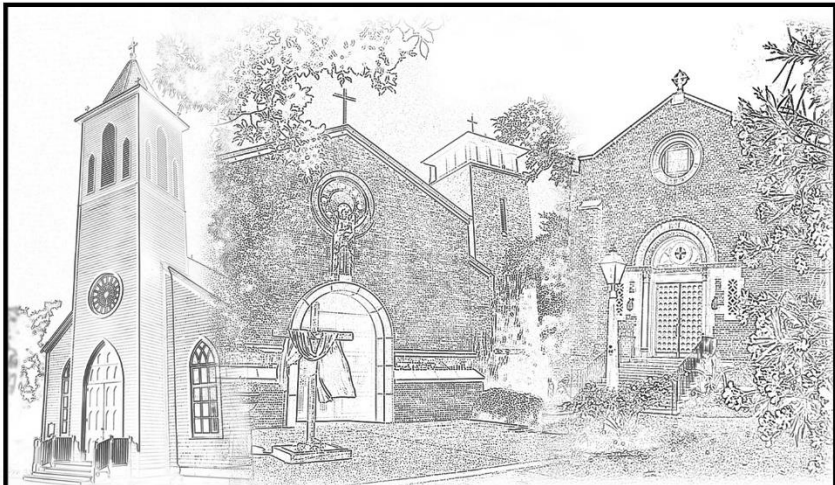
Sunday, 8am & 10am
Presently no mass @ Carville

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 \$7,279.00

NUMBER OF DONATIONS 64

Online Collections 3/1-3/11/24 \$3,465.00

There will be two envelopes 3/29, reg. & Holy Land, and 3/31, Ret, for Diocesan Priests. 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.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

This lection may end a little too early. We need verse 36 to help unify the passage. We begin, after all, with some Greeks saying they want to SEE Jesus and we end with Jesus HIDING himself. In between we get the famous image of a seed falling into the earth, which is yet another form of “hiding” (literally of going underground!) through which the paradox of the gospel comes through once again. In verse 32 Jesus says he will be lifted up and will draw all people to himself but in reality, the manner in which he will be lifted up will be so hideous—such a counter-intuitive action—that people will not feel drawn to Jesus. The seed will be in the process of diving under the soil to die. Jesus will not, on the cross, appear to be going anywhere worth following. Blessed are those who follow anyway. The result is eternal life.



Questions for Reflection:

Where have these days taken us? Have we grown in our relationship with God?

1. What have we taken from Lent? Are we changed, transformed by this season of penance and prayer?
2. Are we seeing the world differently? Lent invites us to new perspectives.
3. Are we engaging more deeply in prayer and reflection? Silence and meditation draw us closer to God.
4. Are we giving ourselves generously to others? Lent calls us to be Christ to those in need.

Lent is our spiritual springtime—a time for renewal and growth. Beyond the hill of Calvary lies the miracle of Easter. Let us continue striving, imperfectly but persistently, seeking holiness and the promise of resurrection. 🙏 🕊



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.



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.



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 offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of Leo Berggreen who died in Christ; and to Enith Roy and family on the death of her sister-in-law, Earline Broussard. May they rest in peace.



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.



Please continue to pray for our Confirmation and First Eucharist candidates. Their sacraments are quickly approaching. And would someone please tell us where this year is flying by?



Fellow Parishioners:
From the desk of Deacon John Veron:

This 5th Sunday of Lent we enter the last 2 weeks of our Lenten Journey. How has it been so far? Hopefully we have all entered more deeply into fasting, prayer and almsgiving that we were called to at the beginning of Lent in the readings from Ash Wednesday. Perhaps many of us have grown weary of the sacrifices we originally committed to and had a little bit of a stumble along the way. We are encouraged at this point in our journeys to stay on the course or get back on track. It's typical of human weakness to stumble. But our stumbling can be a cause for humility, one of the greatest of virtues. It's hard to judge/condemn others when we look at our own failings. We pray that God give us the gift of humility that will prepare us to have a fruitful conclusion to Lenten journey and celebrate joyfully in the Easter resurrection.

I encourage everyone to participate in the upcoming holy week starting next week with Palm Sunday. It is the holiest week of the year for the Church. Check our bulletin for the Triduum services including Way of the Cross at noon on Good Friday. You may want to skip the crawfish boil anyways and opt for Good Friday services this year with the bugs at 10-12 dollars a pound. Yikes! God will go to great lengths to get our attention!

Lisa and I have participated quite regularly in the Triduum (three days- Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil Saturday night) for many years and plan to do so again this year. The spiritual fruits we've gained are immeasurable. Please join Fr. Charlie and me, our choir and ministers and committed parishioners for the solemn services of Holy Week and be prepared for a greater Easter Joy come Easter Sunday.

Blessings,



Deacon John

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?

UPCOMING EVENTS



Sat.	16	9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	1 st Eucharist Class VIGIL MASS FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT St. Patrick's Day
Sun.	17	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	MASS Confirmation Class Sponsors in at 9:15 a.m. MASS, Children's Church
Mon.	18	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Father's day off Rel Ed Grades 1-12
Tues.	19	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	Men's Reflection Group Daily Mass Adoration
Wed.	20	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Daily Mass Divine Mercy Novena Pastoral Council Mtg.
Thurs.	21	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Daily Mass RCIA in Ctr.
Fri.	22	8:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	Daily Mass Way of the Cross in church
Sat.	23	9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	RCIA Retreat in PAC VIGIL MASS SIXTH SUNDAY OR PALM SUNDAY OF LENT
Sun.	24	8:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	MASS MASS, Children's Church Outdoor Procession at 10 a.m. 1 st Eucharist Seder Meal
Mon.	25	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Father's day off Rel Ed Group Activity
Tues.	26	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Men's Reflection Group Daily Mass Adoration Chrism Mass @ Cathedral Practice for Holy Week ministers



DAILY READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33

Monday, March 18 Daily Readings

Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30; John 8:1-11

Tuesday, March 19 Daily Readings

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22;

Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Wednesday, March 20 Daily Readings

Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42

Thursday, March 21 Daily Readings

Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59

Friday, March 22 Daily Readings

Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42

Saturday, March 23 Daily Readings

Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56

SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; MARK 14:1-15:47

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.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

03/18	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
03/19	8:00 a.m.	Johnathan Hopkins
03/20	8:00 a.m.	Marlin Joseph "Butch" Marchand
03/21	8:00 a.m.	Alton & Dianne Comeaux; James A. Tubre, Jr.; Betty Aucoin Tubre; Betty B. Dugas
03/22	8:00 a.m.	Raymond Landry; Oneil & Peltier Families C.J. & Linda Gueho and Families Eugene LeBlanc, Jr.
03/23	4:00 p.m.	Amato-chenove Families; Becky Carlin Smith; W. Allen White; White-Crochet Families
03/24	8:00 a.m.	For the Parish
	10:00 a.m.	Peltier-Panepinto-Haydel Families Genie, Jared, Carl & Dolores LaPlace
03/25	8:00 a.m.	No Mass





**ST. GABRIEL'S OUTREACH MINISTRY
ST. VINCENT DEPAUL
MARCH 2024**

Since July 2023, we have been collecting items for St. Vincent DePaul. Thank you for your generosity. This month they are requesting the following donations:



Men's Underwear size Medium to 2X
Men's deodorant
Men's Body Wash
Large Body Cleansing wipes

**Please place your donations in the basket
provided in the vestibule of the Church.**

We are also participating in the St. Vincent DePaul Fill-A-Prescription program. Since the beginning of Lent, we have collected \$1,066.00 for this worthy project.



THANKS so much for your kindness and generosity in helping the needy who visit St. Vincent DePaul Shelters.

*Thanks
FOR
Sharing!*