



THE RIVER CATHOLIC

20th Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle C

08/17/25, Vol. 40, #52

3625 HIGHWAY 75
ST. GABRIEL, LOUISIANA
70776
Phone: 225-642-8441
stgabrielcatholi@bellsouth.net

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon-Thurs 8:30 am–3 pm
(closed 12– 1pm for lunch)
Fri, 8:30am–12pm

PASTOR:

Reverend Albert L. Blount

DEACON:

Deacon John Veron

ADMINISTRATIVE

ASSISTANTS

Myra G. Tircuit
Barbara V. Hornstein

CONFESSION

Tues.– Fri. 7:30-7:45 a.m.
Saturday 3:00-3:45 p.m.

VIGIL MASS

Saturday, 4pm.

SUNDAY MASS

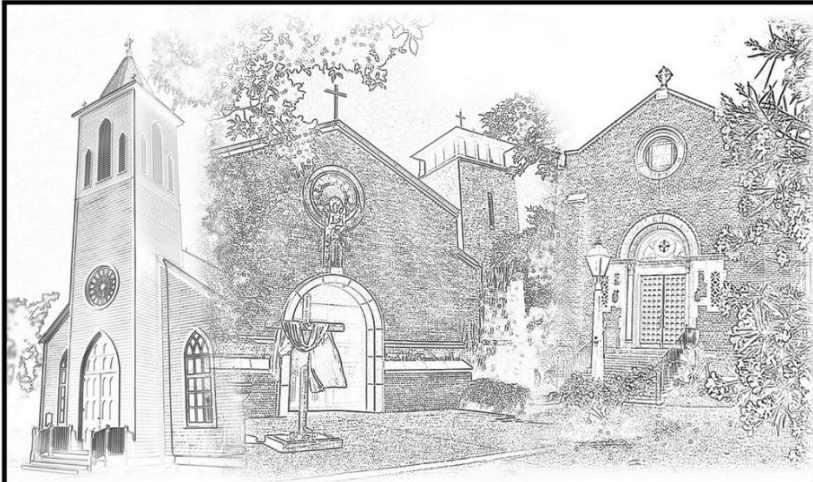
Sunday, 8am & 10am
Presently no mass @ Carville

DAILY MASS

Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday, 8am

HOLY DAY MASSES

8am & 6:00pm



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.

www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com

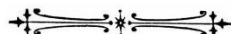


TOGETHER WE CAN!

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| WEEKLY ATTENDANCE | 602 |
| WEEKLY BUDGET | \$8,653.85 |
| AMOUNT COLLECTED | \$6,943.00 |
| NUMBER OF DONATIONS | 80 |
| Online Collections from August 1 | \$4,825.00 |

There will be two envelopes 8/17 regular and Msgr. Marionneaux for the Old Church Fund. 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.



SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUPS

Each Tuesday Morning at 7:00 A.M. and each Wednesday morning at 9:00 A.M. our "Come Lord Jesus Scripture groups meet in the Kleinpeter Center. All are welcomed to attend. For more information contact Deacon John



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Parish Activity Center. If you are interested in joining, please contact Wayne Roy, Sr. Grand-Knight or Jeff Hoffmann.



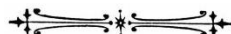
ALTAR SOCIETY BAKE SALE

The Ladies Altar Society will host their annual Labor Day Bake-Sale the weekend of Aug 30 & 31.



The money raised from this sale will benefit the Catholic Charities – Unwed Mothers program. Please plan to donate a baked goodie for sale and to purchase some delicious homemade sweets

The Ladies meet the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Parish Activity Center. For more information contact Ramona Gomez.



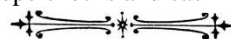
ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION

If you are interested in joining the Catholic Church or have questions about the Catholic Church, please contact Myra at the Parish office 225-642-8441.



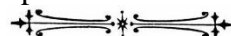
ON LINE GIVING

Our Online Giving option is available through our website. www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com. We are also still accepting envelope checks and cash



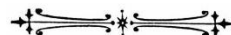
COFFEE & DONUTS

The first Sunday of the Month we offer coffee and donuts after the 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. Masses. If your family would like to help set up, serve and clean up for this event, please contact the parish office.



FORMATION PROGRAMS

Forms for Information and registration for our Parish School of Religion, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Order of Christian Initiation Programs are in the vestibule of the church.



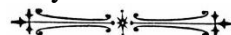
MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 29th is the feast day of St. Gabriel the Archangel. This day will be celebrated on Sunday, September 28th with mass and a family fun day. Hope to see you there!



CONFIRMATION 2026

We are excited to announce that 28 young people enrolled in our Confirmation Program. They will begin this process with a meeting with their parents on Sunday, September 7th and an afternoon of reflection on Sunday, September 21st. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they begin this part of their faith journey. Confirmation is scheduled for January 2026.



Msgr. Marionneaux Collection

In your stewardship of finance envelop packets for August you will find an envelope for the Old Church fund in memory of Msgr. Marionneaux who served as pastor of St. Gabriel. He had a great love for the old Church. These funds are used for miscellaneous expenses associated with the old church

Upcoming Events:

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Sat. 16 | 4:00 p.m. | VIGIL MASS 20th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME |
| Sun. 17 | 8:00 a.m. 10:00 | MASS MASS & Children's Church |
| Tues. 19 | 7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. | Scripture Study Group Mass (8:00 a.m.) & Adoration (8:45 a.m.-8:00 p.m.) |
| Wed. 20 | 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. | Daily Mass Scripture Study Group |
| Thur. 21 | 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. | Daily Mass Staff Meeting till 10:30 A.M. Pastoral Council Meeting |
| Fri. 22 | 8:00 a.m. | Daily Mass |
| Sat. 23 | 4:00 p.m. | VIGIL MASS 20th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME |
| Sun. 24 | 8:00 a.m. 10:00 | MASS MASS & Children's Church |
| Tues. 26 | 7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m. | Scripture Study Group Mass (8:00 a.m.) & Adoration (8:45 a.m.-8:00 p.m.) |
| Wed. 27 | 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. | Daily Mass Scripture Study Group |
| Thur. 28 | 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. | Daily Mass Staff Meeting till 10:30 A.M. Baptismal Seminar |
| Fri. 29 | 8:00 a.m. | Daily Mass |

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

We offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation
Tuesday thru Friday from 7:30 A.M. until 7:45 A.M. Saturday
from 3:00 P.M. until 3:45 P.M.

Beginning in January 2026, there will be a new plan for accepting Mass Intentions. You will only be allowed 1 mass per month. We will only be allowed to schedule 1 intention per mass. It will be a rigorous schedule and no exceptions. If there is a particular date you are going to be requesting, please plan ahead. If that particular day you wish is already filled, we need to find an alternate date. Remember, there is one mass per weekend dedicated to the Parish. We will open the sign up for January, 2026 in November, 2025. We will only accept Masses for January, February and March at that time.

DAILY READINGS

SUN. 19th SUN. ORD. TIME Aug 17, 2025

**Jeremiah 38:4-6;8-10; Hebrews 12:1-4;
Luke 12:49-53**

Monday, August 18 Daily Readings

Judges 2:11-19; Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday, August 19 Daily Readings

Judges 6:11-24; Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday, August 20 Daily Readings

Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday, August 21 Daily Readings

Judges 11:29-39; Matthew 22:1-14

Friday, August 22 Daily Readings

Ruth 1:1,3-6;14-16,22; Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday, August 23 Daily Readings

Ruth 2:1-3,8-11;4:13-17; Matthew 23:1-12

21st SUN. ORD. TIME August 24, 2025

Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13;

Luke 13:22-30



Pray for our Sick and Homebonds:

Fr. Charlie Landry, Wayne & Carolyn Achee, Dorella Banta, Austin and Betty Jean Barbay, Billy and Phyllis Babin, Brenda Blanchard, Melissa Conrad, Ronald Dauterive, Lily Fairchild, John Guerin, John & Lillian Holliday, Martha Laurent, Deborah Marchand, James Minchew, Frank & Barbara Panepinto, Bessie Pizzolato, Flory Reynolds, Enith Roy, Catherine Sharp, Mary Joyce Sheldon, Gary & Lisa Switzer, and Margie Warthen. 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

| | | |
|-------|------------|--|
| 08/18 | 8:00 a.m. | No Mass |
| 08/19 | 8:00 a.m. | Michael Ragusa; Cambre-Babin-Merino Families & Emily |
| 08/20 | 8:00 a.m. | Pat Fairchild |
| 08/21 | 8:00 a.m. | Special Intention |
| 08/22 | 8:00 a.m. | Comeaux-Gautreaux Families Jesse Lunsford |
| 08/23 | 4:00 p.m. | In Thanksgiving' |
| 08/24 | 8:00 a.m. | Rodney Gomez |
| | 10:00 a.m. | For the Parish |
| 08/25 | 8:00 a.m. | No Mass |



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last week I spoke about the role of the Saints in the Church and now I'd like to reflect on a few saints who have deeply impacted my life. To better explain why these two saints have been important in my life, I'd like to first give a quick reflection on how I see the saints. For me, reading the life of each saint can be compared to doing a Lectio Divina on a particular scripture verse. Each saint seems to bring forth a deeper understanding of what the Lord desires to speak to us in the Sacred Scriptures. The two saints I am about to dive into brought about a greater understanding for me of the following verse: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike." (Matt. 11:25)

A little over a year after converting to the Catholic Faith, I found myself on my first silent retreat. While I loved the experience of being truly quiet for the first time in my life, I had no idea what it meant to be interiorly silent, let alone to spend the entire day in prayer. While I did have a few good moments in prayer, I wound up spending most of the time taking pictures of the beauty I was encountering and reading a book about this Saint a few people had previously told me about: St. Therese of Lisieux. I was completely captivated by this woman and the way that she spoke about her relationship with the Lord: "Jesus points out to me the only way which leads to Love's furnace – that way is self-surrender – it is the confidence of the little child who sleeps without fear in its father's arms." By the end of the retreat, I had a longing to have what she had but I just didn't think it was possible. I remember saying to her, "This isn't going to work sweetheart, you're simple and little and I am just too complicated." I did not yet understand what she said could be true for me: "Our Lord's love shines out just as much through a little soul who yields completely to His Grace as it does through the greatest." After this initial encounter, I felt like St. Therese would literally stalk me everywhere I went. While she was never forceful in her desire to be a close friend of mine, I began to resent her in some ways because she had what I longed for but thought I could never have.



Two years later, after having just gotten out of a long-term relationship and moving across the country, I was in a period of major transition and was questioning where I was heading in life. It was then that I was introduced to a new saint: St. Elizabeth of the Trinity. Much like St. Therese, St. Elizabeth was known for being a little soul who saw the Lord's love as simple: "It seems to me that I have found my heaven on earth, because my heaven is you, my God, and you are in my soul. You in me, and I in you...Little by little, the soul gets used to living in [Your] sweet company, it understands that it is carrying within it a little Heaven where the God of love has fixed His home." Unlike my experience with St. Therese, St. Elizabeth was very forceful in pursuing a friendship with me. It was as if she kicked in the door of my heart and said, "What's up fam, I'm home." This time around, my desire for childlikeness had grown even greater and, for the first time, my eyes were truly opened. Not only was this littleness possible but it was the answer to everything. The scripture literally said, "Father...you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike."

This shift in perspective wound up being one of the most crucial changes in my life. I began to petition the Lord daily to allow me to become little so that I could know what it was he desired for me to do in this life. Long story short, just a few months later, I found myself on another silent retreat where the opening talk was on being a child of God. To be honest, at first, I was saying to myself, "Blah Blah blah, we've all heard this before" but then it hit me like a ton of bricks. I'm already little because I am the Father's little one. Upon realizing this, I ran to the chapel to tell Jesus, as if he didn't already know, and it was in that moment that he revealed everything to me for it was in that moment that he asked me to be his priest.



While I continue to wrestle with what it means to live out this littleness, I've come to experience a great freedom in realizing that the fire of "childlike littleness" can set me ablaze without consuming and destroying my "big" personality. In many ways and many times over, I owe so much of this to the witnesses of St. Therese of Lisieux and St. Elizabeth of the Trinity. The way in which they lived out their lives in such simplicity and trust stirred up such a hunger in me to love the Lord in the same way. I would not be here with you all today had it not been for these two French nuns that I never even had the privilege of meeting this side of heaven. It makes perfect sense that this would be the case as both of these women. At the end of their lives, they shared their desire to spend eternity praying for souls on earth. I leave you with their desires expressed in their own words. "When I die, I will send down a shower of roses from the heavens, I will spend my heaven by doing good on earth."

(St. Therese of Lisieux) "My mission in heaven will be to draw souls, helping them to go out of themselves to cling to God, with a spontaneous, love-filled action, and to keep them in that great interior silence which enables God to make his mark on them, to transform them into himself." (St. Elizabeth of the Trinity)

In Christ, Fr. Albert