



THE RIVER CATHOLIC

21st Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle C

8/24/25, Vol. 40 #52

3625 HIGHWAY 75
ST. GABRIEL, LOUISIANA 70776
Phone: 225-642-8441
Fax: 225-642-8491
stgabrielcatholic@bellsouth.net

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.-Thu., 8:30am-3pm
(closed 12-1pm for lunch)
Friday, 8:30am-12pm

PASTOR:

Reverend Albert L. Blount

DEACON:

Deacon John Veron

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Myra G. Tircuit

Barbara V. Hornstein

CONFESSION

Tuesday-Friday 7:30-7:45 a.m.
Saturday, 3:00-3:45 p.m. &
by appointment

VIGIL MASS

Saturday, 4pm.

SUNDAY MASS

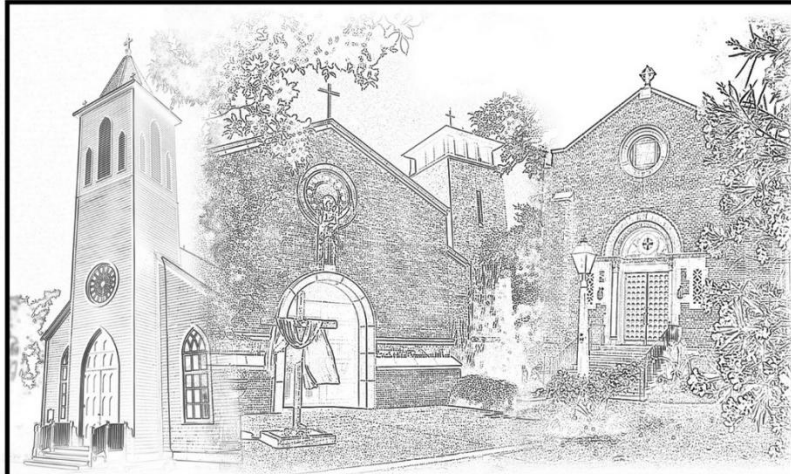
Sunday, 8am & 10am
Presently no mass @ Carville

DAILY MASS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, 8am

HOLY DAY MASSES

8am & 6pm



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



STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	581
WEEKLY BUDGET	\$8,653.85
AMOUNT COLLECTED	\$6,508.00
NUMBER OF DONATIONS	86
Online Collections from August 1	\$5,895.00

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. ¶



TRAINING FOR LECTORS, EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, AND SERVERS

For all current ministers and those interested in serving in one of these roles. Training is required.

Lector & Eucharistic Ministers HCs

Wed. Sept. 10 – 6:00-7:30pm

Thurs. Sept. 11 – 6:00-7:30pm

Servers

Sat. Sept. 13 – 10:00-11:30am

Mon. Sept 15 – 6:00-7:30pm

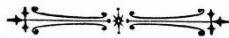
This is for servers in 4th-12th Grade.

Parents, if you have any concerns, please contact Fr. Albert.



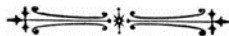
ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS

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.



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.



ONLINE GIVING

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

FORMATION PROGRAMS

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



LABOR DAY

The parish office will be closed on Monday, September 1st for Labor Day. In case of an emergency follow the instructions on the voice mail system. ¶



TWO CHANGES TO BE AWARE OF

1. We will no longer send letters for donations over \$250 unless the contributor requests. These donations will be noted on your End of Year Contributions Report.
2. The Scripture Study Group that meets on Tuesday mornings will now meet right after morning Mass starting at 8:30 a.m.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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



We are offering a Baptismal Seminar on Thursday, Aug. 28, 6:30 p.m. in the Kleinpeter Center. Please call Myra if you plan to attend so we may have the appropriate materials on hand.



We are currently collecting used eyeglasses for the Lyons Club. This will be through the end of September. Thanks for your help.



We offer our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of Ollie Mae Waggenspack who died in Christ.



Upcoming Events:

Sat.	23	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS 21st SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
Sun.	24	8:00 a.m. 10:00	MASS MASS
Tue.	26	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m.	Mass (8:00 a.m.) & Adoration (8:45 a.m.-8p.m.) Scripture Study Group
Wed.	27	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass Scripture Study Group
Thu.	28	8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Daily Mass Baptismal Seminar
Fri.	29	8:00 a.m.	Daily Mass
Sat.	30	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS 22nd SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
Sun.	31	8:00 a.m. 10:00	MASS MASS Bake sale after all masses



Mon.	01		LABOR DAY; Office Closed
Tues.	02	8:00 a.m. 8:30 a.m.	Mass (8:00 a.m.) Adoration (8:45 a.m.-8 p.m.) Scripture Study Group
Wed.	03	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Daily Mass Scripture Study Group Ladies Altar Society Meeting
Thur.	04	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass Staff Meeting till 10:30 A.M.
Fri.	05	8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m.	Daily Mass Adoration till noon
Sat.	06	4:00 p.m.	VIGIL MASS 23rd SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
Sun.	07	8:00 a.m. 10:00 3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.	MASS ; Coffee & Donuts MASS ; Coffee & Donuts Rosary in church Confirmation Parent Mtg.
Mon.	08	6:30 p.m.	Rel Ed Opening Mass
Tue.	09	7:00 a.m. 8:00 a.m.	Scripture Study Group Mass (8:00 a.m.) Adoration (8:45 a.m.-8 p.m.)
Wed.	10	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	Daily Mass Scripture Study Group

DAILY READINGS

21st SUN. ORD. TIME August 24, 2025

**Isaiah 66:18-21; Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13;
Luke 13:22-30**

Monday, August 25 Daily Readings

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5,8-10; Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 26 Daily Readings

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 23:23-26

Wednesday, August 27 Daily Readings

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday, August 28 Daily Readings

1 Thessalonians 3:7-13; Matthew 24:42-51

Friday, August 29 Daily Readings

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Mark 6:17-29

Saturday, August 30 Daily Readings

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30

22nd SUN. ORD. TIME August 31, 2025

**Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a;
Luke 14:1, 7-14**



Pray for our Sick and Homebounds:

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.**



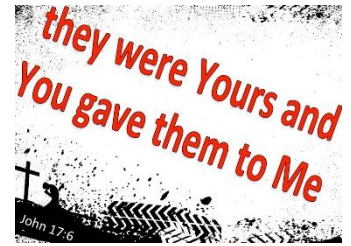
Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

08/25	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
08/26	8:00 a.m.	Tryve Brackin; Felix Aycock
08/27	8:00 a.m.	Alvin Fairchild, Sr.
08/28	8:00 a.m.	M/M Vincent Amato; M/M George Chenove, Sr.
08/29	8:00 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory
08/30	4:00 p.m.	Special Intention
08/31	8:00 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory
	10:00 a.m.	For the Parish
09/01	8:00 a.m.	No Mass



My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today I would like to take a moment to share one of my experiences of praying with my favorite scripture verses in this way. Of all the books in the Bible, my favorite chapter of any book is John 17. I like to think of John 17 as the “Gospel of the Gift.” At least six times in John 17, Jesus explicitly refers to those you have been given to him. In particular, John 17:6 says, “They belonged to you [Father] and you gave them to me” and John 17:24 says, “Father, they are your gift to me.” The more I sat with this chapter of John, the more I was drawn to the reality that Jesus was speaking about me to the Father when he said these words. Once I realized that Jesus was calling me the gift, I was able to sit back and ask the question, “What does this mean and what does it say about me?”



From these questions, the following two points began to really speak to my heart: the first is about our identity and the second is about our relationship with the Father. First, we are the Father’s gift to Jesus. The Father gave us to the Son at the foundation of the world and then Jesus came to die for us so that he may give us back to the Father. That alone is enough to sit with for the rest of our lives but it gets even better! This exchange between the Father and the Son tells us that our very identity is gift. Therefore, not only are we a gift to Jesus from the Father, but we are also a gift to everyone we encounter! Now, of course, we are not to see this in an arrogant way but we are to believe this in the core of our being. Before anything we do or say, we are a gift. We are the beloved. When we begin to see ourselves as gifts, we begin to allow our insecurities to fade away and recognize that we have something valuable to give to the world, ourselves.



From this reality flows the second point, all is given to us as a gift from the Father. My weaknesses and my gifts, those that I find it easy to love and those that drive me crazy, all are gifts from the Father. Now, to receive a gift means there is a Giver and the possibility of a relationship with that person. If we see everything as a gift from the Father, then we will always be attentive to our relationship with the Father and we will respond with awe and gratitude. This is truly the secret to childlike faith and trust. For we know the Father gives all good gifts and will work all things for our greater good.

From these two points we can develop an entire way of viewing the world. If I am a gift given to the world by the Father and everything is given to me as a gift from the Father, then everyone I encounter must also be gifts given by the Father. If this is the case, then I must treat them as the gifts that they are so that they will know their identity as well.

My invitation to you today is to spend some time in prayer before the Lord, asking him to open your eyes to the reality of the gift. Father, I am your gift. Help me to rest into this identity.

Father, everything you’ve given me is a gift. Help me to always remain attentive to this reality so that I may help others to see that they too are gifts from you.

In Christ, Fr. Albert