

THE RIVER CATHOLIC

12/7/2025, Vol. 41 #16

St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Church | Sacred Heart Mission

Fr. Albert Blount,
Pastor

Dcn. John Veron,
Deacon

Janene Hebert, Pastoral Assoc.

Julia LaPlace, Secretary

Myra Tircuit, Bookkeeper/DRE

Andrew Darce, Maintenance

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday

8:30am-3pm

Friday- Closed

SCHEDULE

CONFESSION

Tuesday-Friday,

7:30-7:50 a.m.

Saturday, 3:00-3:45 p.m.

ADORATION

Tuesday, 8:45 a.m. - 8 p.m.

First Friday,

8:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.

VIGIL MASS

Saturday, 4 p.m.

SUNDAY MASS

8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Tuesday-Friday, 8 a.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES

8 a.m. & 6 p.m.

12 p.m. at Sacred Heart



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. - Mt 3:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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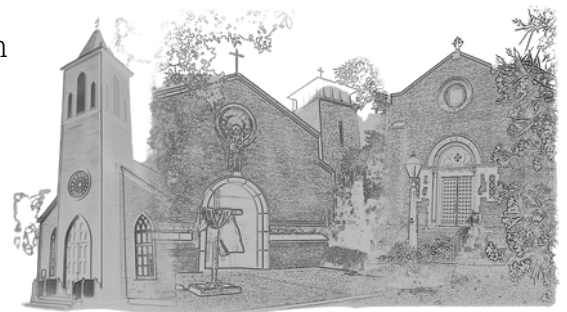
BAPTISM: Parents wishing to have their child baptized must be registered parishioners and complete baptismal preparation prior to the date of baptism. Please contact the church office during the early days of pregnancy for details of baptism preparation.

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 home bound 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 name and room number.

FUNERALS & BURIALS: The family must make arrangements with the Pastor before finalizing arrangements with a funeral home.

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.



3625 Highway 75
St. Gabriel, LA 70776

(225) 642-8441

secretary@stgabrielcatholic.org
www.stgabrielcatholic.org



Solemnity of the

Immaculate Conception

A Holy Day of Obligation

MASS TIMES 8 am & 6 pm, St. Gabriel
12 pm, Sacred Heart Chapel- Carville

Monday, December 8

"Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing!" December 8th is one of our feasts celebrating Mary - the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. From the beginnings of the Church, spiritual writers and theologians have acknowledged the innocence and holiness of Mary. St. Irenaeus called her the "new Eve." Both faced with the pure freedom to accept or reject God, Mary began with work of redemption with her yes to Christ! The Church began to celebrate the feast of Mary's conception in the early Middle Ages. In 1854, Pope Pius IX infallibly declared that Mary was free of original sin from the first moment of her conception. On this feast day, we celebrate the beauty and goodness of Our Lady!



Congratulations to the five young people who received their First Reconciliation earlier this month:

Finley Mateo Jules Kandace Tegan

Please continue to pray for them, as they begin preparing for their First Eucharist next year.

In Sympathy

We extend our prayers to the family and friends of Anne Pearce, who died in Christ.

LOCAL ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

All services begin at 6:30 pm.

Tuesday, 12/9	St. Anthony	Darrow
Wednesday, 12/10	Holy Rosary	St. Amant
Tuesday, 12/16	St. Stephen	Maurepas
Wednesday, 12/17	St. John	Prairieville
Thursday, 12/18	St. Michael	Convent

Prepare the way for the Lord

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Monday, December 8th
Holy Day
Thursday, December 11th
Staff Retreat



The Ladies' Altar Society continues to collect donations for Christmas Flowers. Please contribute as you feel called.



St. Gabriel's
Outreach Ministry
Winter 2025

Boy's Baby and Toddler Clothing
(6 mo. - 2 yr.)

Underwear Belts Handsoap
Deodorant Pillows

Please place your new and unused donations in the basket provided in the vestibule of the church.

LORD, TEACH ME TO PRAY

A FREE Three-Part Ignatian Prayer Series for Women & Men

God is calling the laity to work for the New Evangelization.

Sign Up For
The Free Series!
USCCB Approved



Learn More at LordTeachMeToPray.com



VOCATION CORNER



"A voice is calling." Is Christ calling you to let Him manifest His love in you as a priest or consecrated religious? Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 225-336-8778 or via email: ablount@diobr.or

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLD ON IN FAITH



Come, Lord Jesus!
Bring your peace to our world.
Inspire reconciliation,
heal divisions,
bind wounds, rewrite scripts.
You are the Prince of Peace,
bring that light into every space.
Amen.

Retirement Fund for Religious Special Appeal December 14th

Catholic bishops of the United States launched the collection in 1988 in response to the profound lack of retirement funding among US religious communities. Collection proceeds offer these communities supplemental support for stabilizing retirement savings and meeting day-to-day needs. Generosity to the annual appeal has helped many religious communities address their retirement deficits, yet hundreds of others continue to face a troubling gap between the needs of aging members and the funds available to support them.

Envelopes are located in the vestibule of the church.

Second Sunday of Advent | Matthew 3:1-12

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating “locusts and wild honey” (Mark 1:6). It’s not just a strange historical detail. It’s a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw — barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to fill in all the gaps, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was like eating locusts.

But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other, about their first child, then their second. And they wanted to be close to God. Something innocent and beautiful was unfolding. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

This Advent, maybe we’re each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it’s time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith — prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It’s time to eat some locusts.

But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, the joy of serving someone else, new life, good intentions of our friends.

That’s the honey. Savor it!

John didn’t avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we’ll be ready — really ready — for the coming of Christ.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

Readings of the Week

Sunday 12/7: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
Monday 12/8: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday 12/9: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday 12/10: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday 12/11: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday 12/12: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday 12/13: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday 12/14: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11



Join us for Scripture Study!

Tuesdays 8:30 - 9:30 AM & Wednesdays 9-10 AM in the Kleinpeter Center

WEEKEND OFFERINGS

Envelopes & Loose Total

\$5,214.48

Online Giving month-to-date

\$8,770.00

There will be two envelopes, 12/14.
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.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday 12/9 – W. Allen White
White-Crochet Families
Wednesday 12/10 – Comeaux-Gautreaux Fly.
Babin-Smith-Ruiz Families
Thursday 12/11- Catherine Hurston
Friday 12/12 – Dr. Sidney Thibodeaux
Thibodeaux-Henry Families
LeBlanc-Hymel-Callegan-Ramagos Families
Saturday 12/13 – For the Parish
Sunday 12/14-8A: Sheldon-Spedale Families
Cambre-Babin-Merino Families & Emily
10A: Betty Dugas; James & Betty Tubre
Genie, Jared, Carl & Dolores LaPlace

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DECEMBER 13TH & 14TH

4PM- AS: Matt Saia; Sam & Roman Hays
Lector: Catherine Broussard
EMHC: Brenda Blanchard;
Kaye LeBlanc; Brigitte Fields
8 AM- AS: Todd Pourciau; Clare Butaud
Lector: Liz Hoffman
EMHC: Deacon John Veron;
Cliff Comeaux; Mike Tubre
10 AM- AS: JJ LaPlace; Ashton Gueho;
Marguerite Mastrantonio
Lectors: Kelli Firmin; Scott Landry
EMHC: Lindsey Gueho;
Mary Pourciau; Julie Szubinski



Our online giving program is set up to make it easy for you to achieve your stewardship goals. Visit our website or scan the QR code to contribute.



ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS, PROFESSIONALS, SELF-EMPLOYED AND FAMILIES



NEW BULLETIN COMING!

Support the church by placing an ad!

Your ads allow the church to receive the weekly bulletin at no cost.

The bulletin is a main source of communication to everyone in the parish and is handed out by ushers at all the masses throughout the week - EVERY week of the year.

Kim Broyard from Liturgical Publications, our new bulletin printer, will be in our office working on securing new ads for our bulletin. We need your help! Please consider purchasing an ad, sponsoring a charity, or in memory of a loved one. Your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

BENEFITS OF ADVERTISING

- Local, targeted community advertising for one full year, at one low price.
- A FREE ad listing on parishesonline.com.
- FREE, professional ad design.

KIM BROYARD (504) 333-2816 | kbroyard@4LPi.com



PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL

For the sick of our parish and those who have asked for our prayers, especially:

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

To add to or remove from this list, please call the parish office.