The River Catholic

12/21/2025, Vol. 41 #18

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

BAPTISM: Parents wishing to have their child baptized must 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 nine months prior to the date desired to begin the mandatory Preparation program.

CARE OF THE SICK: If desired, communion may be brought to the home bound each week by an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Eucharistic, but families are asked to contact the church office to make arrangements. Please contact the church office in regard to those who are seriously ill or hospitalized, leaving the hospital name and room number. Emergency calls are made as soon as the priest is available

FUNERALS & BURIALS: Please call the emergency line to make arrangements with the Pastor. We ask that this be done 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

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve
4 PM, St. Gabriel
4 PM, Sacred Heart
9 PM, St. Gabriel

Christmas Day
9 AM, St. Gabriel

©LPi

The Parish Office will be closed beginning Tuesday, December 23rd for the Christmas Holiday.

SORRY! WE'RE CLOSED

We will reopen Monday, January 5th, 2026.

Contributions

Reminder: All contributions should be received in the parish office no later than December 28th to ensure they are processed prior to year-end.

In Sympathy

We extend our prayers to the family of Margaret Argrave Tircuit, who died in Christ.

Dear God,
You are in the
miracle business.
I still believe that
You can move
mountains and
separate seas.
Break into every
unknown and astound
us with Your goodness
and grace. Amen.

Solemnity of

Mary, Mother of God

This solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of seasons, Sundays, and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as a World Day for Peace.

MASS TIMES

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

Thursday, January 1st

A Holy Day of Obligation

The Roman Catholic Diocese of
BATON ROUGE

RESPECT LIFE MASS

Celebrated by Bishop Michael Duca

January 25, 2025 | 8:30 a.m.

St. Gabriel's Outreach Ministry Winter 2025

Boy's Baby and Toddler Clothing
(6 mo. - 2 yr.)
Men's & Ladies' Underwear
Men's & Ladies' Deodorant
Belts – Pillows – Hand soap

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

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

As of December 31, 2025, Deacon John will be retiring from active ministry and will no longer be assigned as deacon at St. Gabriel. The Diocese of Baton Rouge has been blessed to have him serve since his ordination in 2010 in a number of roles, including Director of the Office of the Diaconate for nine years. Throughout his fifteen years, Dcn. John has served at St. Aloysius, St. Margaret of Scotland, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary, St. George, and St. Gabriel. We have been blessed to have him with us for the last three and a half years.

When he was assigned to our parish, Dcn. John agreed to serve until Fr. Charlie retired. When Fr. Charlie postponed his retirement, he stayed for an additional two years and was a tremendous help to Fr. Charlie during his final years at St. Gabriel. He was instrumental in keeping the parish running when Fr. Charlie was placed on medical leave in March of this year and has been a great help to me since the beginning of my time here at St. Gabriel.

Deacon John has been a blessing to our parish in so many ways and for that we are truly thankful. He has walked with members of our parish in every stage of life from baptizing newborn babies as sons and daughters of God to burying those who are entering into eternal life. Dcn John has married our parishioners. Dcn. John has helped many prepare to receive the sacraments such as First Eucharist, Confirmation, and the Sacrament of Matrimony. He has been a tremendous help to our OCIA program, walking personally with those preparing to enter the Catholic Faith, and his ministry to the sick and homebound has brought Christ literally into the homes and hearts of many. Dcn. John has also shared his wisdom and talents by serving on various committees such as the Maintenance Committee and Pastoral Council. His love for God and his faith are clearly evident in the way he serves at Mass and in his dedication in the Scripture Study Groups that take place during the week.

As Dcn. John retires from active ministry, he still desires to serve throughout the diocese and hopes to help out at St. Gabriel whenever he can. Please pray in particular for him as he prepares to soon finish up his formation to be a Spiritual Director so that he may assist many in the Diocese of Baton Rouge to better see the Lord present in their lives. We wish him the best as he spends more time with his wife Lisa, their children and grand-children.

In Christ,
Fr. Albert

Fourth Sunday of Advent | Matthew 1:18-24

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly 10 years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard. When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you. — Father John Muir ©LPi

Readings of the Week

©LPi

Sunday 12/21: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
Monday 12/22: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
Tuesday 12/23: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Wednesday 12/24: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79
Thursday 12/25 : Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/
Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Friday 12/26: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
Saturday 12/28: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Next Sunday 12/28: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

Join us for Scripture Study!

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

WEEKEND OFFERINGS

Envelopes & Loose Total
$ 24,421.00
Online Giving month-to-date
$ 5,270.00

There will be one envelope, 12/28.
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 12/23– Tryve Brackin
Felix Aycock
Wednesday 12/24 – Amedee-Crochet Flys.
Thursday 12/25- Glynn & Lois Hernandez
W. Allen White; White-Crochet Families
Anthony Pizzolato; Kenneth Johnson
Kevin Minor; Cecile Johnson
Mary Ann Tassin
Friday 12/26 – Souls in Purgatory
Saturday 12/27 – For the Parish
Sunday 12/28– 8A: Rodney Gomez
10A: For the Parish

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

DECEMBER 27TH & 28TH

4PM- AS: Matt Saia; Sam & Roman Hays
Lector: Michaela York
EMHC: Deacon John Veron;
Melva Hymel; Myra Tircuit

8 AM- AS: Todd Pourciau; Ethan Tschirky
Lector: Catherine Broussard
EMHC: Cliff Comeaux; Liz Payne;
Judy Gremillion

10 AM- AS: JJ LaPlace; Bethany White;
Mary Lynn Crow
Lectors: Lydia Haydel; Scott Landry
EMHC: Julie Szubinski;
Mary Pourciau; Juli Bonaventure

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.

GIVE ONLINE

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
LPi BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

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.