

PARISH School of RELIGION

Catechetical Year 2026 – 2027



United States
Conference of
Catholic Bishops

Catechetical Sunday
September 20, 2026

Photo: ICOW by Kelly Lammert

ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
3625 HIGHWAY 75
ST. GABRIEL, LA 70776

ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
3625 Highway 75
St. Gabriel, LA 70776
225-642-8441

www.stgabrielcatholic.org
myra@stgabrielcatholic.org



August 20, 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the new year! We are looking forward to working with your family on this part of your faith journey.

The theme of this Catechetical year is “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...to bring good news to the poor” (Lk 4:18). This theme reminds us of Jesus’ mission and identity. Anointed by the Holy Spirit, he is sent to bring hope, healing, and freedom – especially to the poor, the brokenhearted, and the forgotten. This passage shows us that the Messiah comes not with power or status, but with compassion, restoring dignity and proclaiming God’s mercy. It is the model for the Church, us, which is called to continue Christ’s work by sharing the Good News and caring for those most in need. Each week we will teach and share this with our students.

Our program includes opportunities for family faith formation. We have incorporated large group activities for our students as well as family activities. See the calendar for details.

We recognize your role as the primary educator of your children and invite you to join us as we take our faith seriously in echoing the teachings of Christ, which is essentially what Catechesis is all about. We thank you for the opportunity to work with your child and your family to deepen their relationship with God. We are here to assist you in any way possible. If you have any questions, comments, suggestions, please feel free to contact us.

Yours in Christ,

Mrs. Myra G. Tircuit, D.R.E.



PERSONNEL AND VOLUNTEERS PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION 2026 – 2027

First Grade	Melissa Laurent
Second Grade	Melissa Laurent
Third Grade	Sonya Granier
Fourth Grade	
Fifth Grade	Sandra Alfred
Sixth Grade	Sandra Alfred
Seventh Grade	Ramona Gomez
Other	Veronica Crow Trang White

PASTOR	Rev. Albert Blount	pastor@stgabrielcatholic.org
D.R.E.	Myra Tircuit	myra@stgabrielcatholic.org

Parish Office 225-642-8441

*Because of the small number of students – some grade levels with one student have been combined to give our students a sense of community learning.



2026 – 2027 Calendar



Mondays

2027 Important Dates

	Who attends	Notes
January 4, 2027	Christmas Break – No Class	<i>(Catechist Workshop)</i>
January 11, 2027	Students	Session #13, Circle of Grace
January 18, 2027	Martin Luther King, Jr. – No Class	
January 25, 2027	Students	Session #14, Large group
February 1, 2027	Students	Session #15
February 8, 2027	Mardi Gras – No Session	
February 15, 2027	Students	Session #16
February 22, 2027	Students & Parents	Session #17, Family night
March 1, 2027	Students	Session #18
March 8, 2027	Students	Session #19
March 15, 2027	Students	Session #20
March 20, 2027	6 th – 8 th Grade	Arise (Diocesan Event; Noon – 10:00 pm)
March 22, 2027	Students	Session #21
March 29, 2027	Easter Break – No Class	
April 5, 2027	Students	Session #22
April 12, 2027	Students	Session #23
April 19, 2027	Students	Session #24
April 26, 2027	Students & Parents	Session #25, Final Session, Family Celebration

- Please mark these dates on your calendar.
- If your child is unable to attend multiple sessions, please contact Myra in the church office: myra@stgabrielcatholic.org

ATTENDANCE

Each child plays an important role in our program; therefore, attendance is an important part of our program.

If a student misses a class, they may be required to make up the missed work/activity. If a student misses three or more classes (excused or unexcused) and/or does not make up the work, the student may have to repeat the course.

Students and parents are reminded that when students miss class, the format of our program makes it difficult for students to experience the full intent of the schedule activities.

Students may not be excused from Religious Education Classes for extra-curricular activities – e.g. to work on school projects, plays, concerts, regular schedule sporting events. If your child has a scheduling conflict, please contact the DRE.

If a child needs to miss a class for illness or a family emergency, or a special event, please notify Myra PRIOR to the beginning of class. Myra may be reached at 642-8441 before 3:00 P.M. or email me at myra@stgabrielcatholic.org

Tardy students should report to the D.R.E. before entering classes. If students are tardy twice – it will be counted as an absence. Students may not be permitted to enter classrooms 5 minutes or later after scheduled beginning of activity.

If participation and attendance in the program at St. Gabriel is inconvenient for your family, please contact Myra so that arrangements can be made for your child to continue receiving the necessary classes for their faith formation.

There is a total of twenty-five sessions scheduled for the 2026 – 2027 catechetical year.

NORMS FOR 2026-2027

1. Respect for yourself, and each other is always expected.
2. Everyone is expected to be on time and task. Students should have necessary materials.
3. Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself. Horse-playing, bullying including cyber-bullying, teasing, fighting, or inappropriate language will not be tolerated.
4. Destruction of property and/or equipment etc. will not be permitted.
5. Eating, drinking or gum is not permitted in classrooms.
6. Use of alcohol, tobacco products and drugs is not permitted.
7. Firearms or other weapons are not permitted on campus.
8. Students **should not** bring Cell phones, beepers, or other electronic devices to class unless directed by their catechist. Religious Education personnel should have their phones etc. on silent mode.
9. Students are not permitted to have visitors on campus or in the classrooms.
ALL visitors should report to the office.
10. Reckless and careless operation of vehicles will not be permitted.
11. Appropriate dress is expected. Appropriate length and covering to so that the 4 B's... back, belly, butt and breast.... are not exposed. No P.J.'s.
12. The DRE must be notified in writing if a student is leaving with a person other than their usual form of transportation. No one will be permitted to leave the church grounds walking.

GUIDELINES FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST EUCHARIST

ELIGIBILITY



1. Applicant must be a baptized Catholic whose family is registered in St. Gabriel Parish.
2. Applicant must be a **practicing** member of St. Gabriel Catholic Church. "Practicing" means regularly attends Mass on Sundays and Holydays.
3. Applicant must be in second grade or older
4. Applicant must have participated in and successfully completed a Religious Education Program (Catholic School or Parish School of Religion) for one year **prior** to application. Application must be participating in a Religious Education Program at the time of application and while participating in the Sacramental Programs.
5. A child will not be allowed in the program once classes have begun, unless transferring from another parish.

PREPARATION

FIRST RECONCILIATION

1. Introductory meeting for parents in the first week in September.
2. Three instructional classes for candidates on a Saturday, once a month from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.
3. Parents to attend requested classes/reflections/meetings etc.
4. Morning of reflection/ practice prior to the reception of the Sacrament for Candidates and parents.

FIRST EUCHARIST

1. Introductory meeting for parents the first week in January
2. Three instructional classes for candidates on a Saturday, once a month from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.
3. Parents to attend requested classes/reflections/meetings etc.
4. Rite of Enrollment, which will be held on a Sunday during the 10:00 A.M. Liturgy, at which time candidates will be presented to the parish.
5. Candidates must be Gift Bearers at their assigned mass during Lent.
6. Attend the Seder Meal on Palm Sunday.
7. Morning of reflection/ practice prior to the reception of the Sacrament for Candidates and parents.
8. Celebration will be the first Sunday in May @ 10:00 A.M. Mass

[Absences could result in the deferment of the Candidate for Sacramental Preparation.](#)

GUIDELINES FOR CONFIRMATION



ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant must be a baptized Catholic who is and whose family is registered in St. Gabriel Parish.
2. Applicant must be a practicing member of St. Gabriel Catholic Church. "Practicing" means regularly attends Mass on Sundays, Holydays, and regularly participates in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
3. Applicant must be in the seventh grade or older and participating at in the seventh-grade level a religious formation program. Applicants in ninth grade or older may/will be referred to the Adult Program.
4. Applicant must have participated in and successfully completed a religious education program (parish school of religion or Catholic School) ten years prior to application. Applicants must be participating in a religious education program at the time of application and while participating in the program.
5. Attendance/participation in St. Gabriel's Parish School of Religion and/or a Catholic School Program is required the year prior to and of confirmation.

PREPARATION

1. All potential candidates must submit a letter of request outlining eligibility to the pastor and Confirmation
2. Parents and Candidates must attend an informational meeting

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.
3. A personal interview with the pastor and/or DRE.
4. Fifteen Service hours which are broken down as follows:

Community – 5, Church - 5, Home – 5
5. Attend the two retreats offered.
6. Instructional classes.
7. Candidates are encouraged to participate in a ministry – Usher, and Greeter

Absences could result in deferment of the Candidate for Sacramental Preparation.

TRANSPORTATION



Parents are responsible for the transportation of children for all scheduled activities. For safety reasons students should arrive no earlier than 10 minutes prior to the scheduled time of the activity and should be picked up immediately following the activity.

When entering the property, please enter on the road to the far right of the property (road that runs in front of New Activity Center) and exit on the road to the left of the property (road that runs closest to cemetery and Old Church). FOR SAFETY REASONS, PLEASE DO NOT CUT THE PROPERTY OR THE PARKING LOT TO REACH THE ROAD. PLEASE STAY ON THE PAVED AREAS AT ALL TIMES.

Please drop off Students at the designed area. On clear days please drop students off at the first entrance of walkway into PAC. On rainy days, please drop students off under the covered area.



When picking up students, the first car may stop immediately in front of first entrance to PAC others should line up directly behind first car. On rainy days, please pick students up under the covered area. If it is your turn to pick up your children and they are not present, you should pull up as directed to wait as your child is escorted to your car. Students are not allowed to walk down the road to their vehicle.

Students will enter a vehicle with the permission of the adults on duty. Students will not be allowed to walk unsupervised to a vehicle.

Teachers, other personnel, and students should park in the spaces closest to the median of the parking lot.

Immediately upon dismissal from class - Student who drives to class should go to their cars and safely exit the property.

A requirement from the Diocese –

Designated individuals should be responsible for overseeing drop-off /pick-up of participants. A child should only be released to an individual designated in writing by the parent/legal guardian.

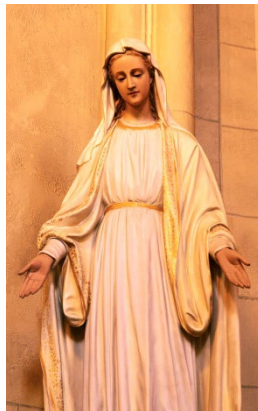
To meet this requirement – Myra and teachers will oversee the carpool line. Parents, please read carefully and complete the transportation information sheet in the back of this booklet to the parish office no later than **September 12, 2026**

Staff will not leave until all students are picked up.

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DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:	Mrs. Myra Tircuit
PARISH OFFICE	225-642-8441
E-MAIL:	pastor@stgabrielcatholic.org myra@stgabrielcatholic.org
WEBSITE:	www.stgabrielcatholic.org
FACEBOOK	facebook.com/stgabrielchurch
BULLETIN:	<u>The River Catholic</u> can be picked up weekly at Church or viewed on website.



“TOGETHER WE CAN”

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO THE PARISH OFFICE ON OR
BEFORE **SEPTEMBER 10, 2026.**



- I/we have read and we understand the information booklet for the 2026– 2027 Religious Education Program. ☐ YES, ☐ NO
- I/We have received, read and understand the Keeping our Children Safe material provided to us which contains information on parish and Diocesan policies and guidelines. ☐ YES ☐ NO
- I understand that sometimes photos may be taken of my child. Photos are used for- but not limited to – placed in cards to our home-bound parishioners – seminarians – bulletin boards and parish bulletin, parish website, or parish face book page. I/we give our permission for our child's picture to be used. ☐ YES ☐ NO
- I/we have chosen the option to Home School for our Children. I/we have read and understand the guidelines for this option. ☐ YES ☐ NO
- I /we have chosen the option to attend Religious Education in another parish. I/we understand we must have written consent from both parishes before attending classes. I/we understand we must follow all guidelines set forth in the programs in which we attend. If child is in a Sacramental year they must attend classes at St. Gabriel. ☐ YES ☐ NO
- I/we have notified the D.R.E. of any allergies or medical problems my child/ren may have that may need immediate attention. ☐ YES ☐ NO
- I/we understand that we are responsible for the transportation of our child(ren) to and from scheduled activities. ☐ YES ☐ NO
- I/we understand that my child should arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before scheduled event and should be picked up immediately after the event ends. ☐ YES ☐ NO
- I /we understand that my child/ren will be released only to the individual(s) designated in writing by the parent/legal guardian. Phone calls, word of mouth, or messages sent with students or other teachers may not be accepted. ☐ YES ☐ NO

My child will be dropped off at class each Monday by:

My child will be picked up from class each Monday by:

SIGNATURES

STUDENT(S) _____

PARENTS/ _____

LEGAL GUARDIAN _____