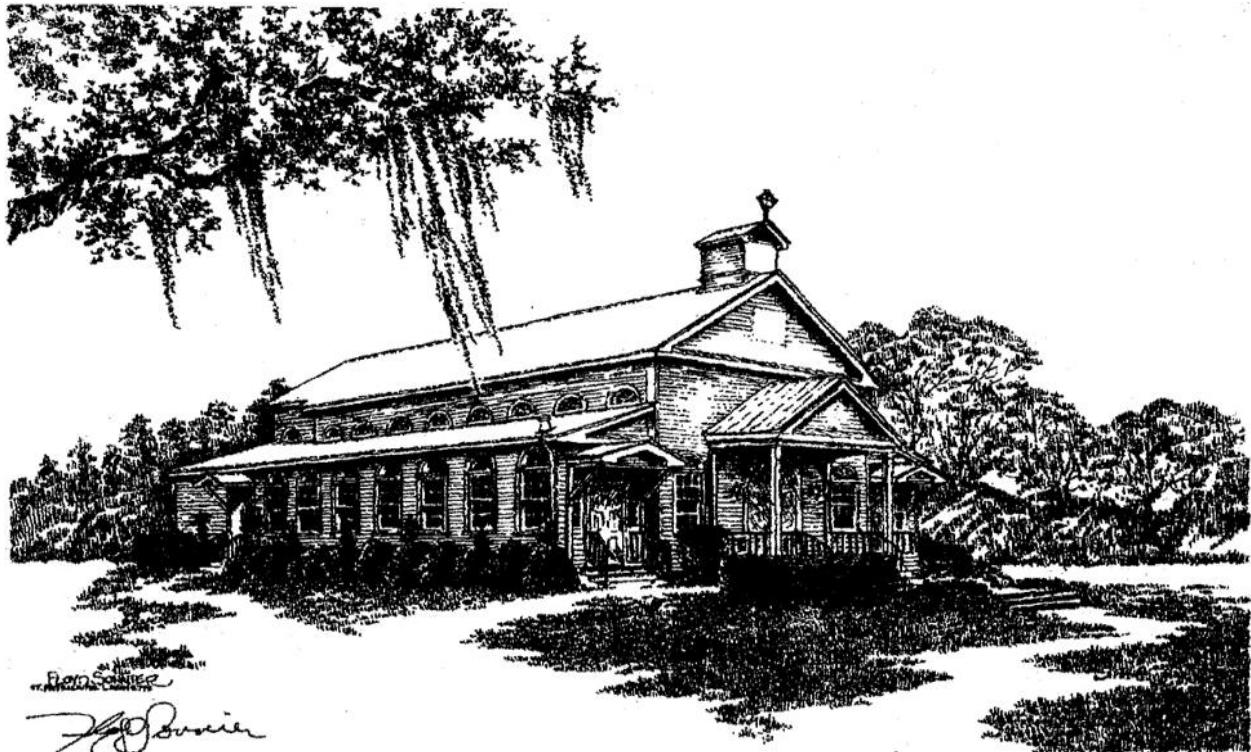


St. Patrick Catholic Church

February 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



L'Église St. Patrick

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs:
9 a.m.-12 noon and 1-3 p.m.
Fri: closed

Holy Mass

Saturday: 4 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 & 10 a.m.
Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday: 3:20-3:50 p.m.
Weekdays: 7-7:25 a.m.

Fr Joshua Guillory
Pastor

Anna LaFleur-Walker
Office Manager
Sharon Savoie
Sacristan

Natalie Connor Faye Drobnic
Shana Sampia Mickie Sibley
Musicians

406 E Pinhook Road
Lafayette, LA 70501-8727
Phone: 337-237-0988

Adoration Chapel
in parish hall
at 107 Petro St
across from church

<https://stpat.org>
office@stpat.org

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 8, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 7

4 p.m.: Dr & Mrs Leonard Rolfes; Alania Bouvier *living*; Norbert LeBlanc; Louis & Ruby Delahoussaye

Sunday, February 8

8:30 a.m.: John P Zagar; Elizabeth Garber *living*

10 a.m.: For parishioners

Monday, February 9

7:30 a.m.: Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, February 10

7:30 a.m.: Kreamer family

Wednesday, February 11

7:30 a.m.:

Thursday, February 12

7:30 a.m.: Cheryl Lynn Cormier

Friday, February 13

7:30 a.m.: John Ebert

Sign Language Classes

Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. St Patrick Church classroom. Taught by Nancy Nicholson. Sign up by scanning the QR code below or emailing Nancy at signlanguagespecialties@gmail.com. Classes are \$10 per person or \$25 per family.



Lenten Day of Reflection

Praying through the Eyes of the Saints, The School of Prayer, presented by the Diocese of Lafayette Office of Catechetics, will be held at the Immaculata Center, 1408 Carmel Drive, on Saturday, February 21, from 8:15 a.m. until 12 noon. Guest speaker is Fr John Dugas, Parochial Vicar of St Anthony of Padua and St Mathilda in Eunice. Registration fee is \$20. Seating is limited. To register or for more information, go to <https://tinyurl.com/praysaints>.

Come & See

Have you thought about the priesthood lately? Want to learn how to discern God's will for your life? Join other men ages 16+ for a weekend of prayer and fellowship with the seminarians of St Joseph Seminary College in St Benedict, La. March 27 through 29. Meals and lodging provided. For registration and retreat forms see lafayettevocations.com/retreats.

Scams targeting parishioners

From time to time it has happened that a parishioner receives a text or an email that appears to be from Fr Guillory, asking for some kind of help or financial assistance. These are scams. Father will never ask for financial assistance for the parish or for the poor (or for himself) in such a manner. Please disregard such communications, and report it to Father or to the parish office.

Save the date

Our annual St Patrick's breakfast social will be held on Saturday, March 14 at City Club. Mark your calendars!

Day of Recollection

A day retreat being held Thursday, February 19, featuring guest speaker Laura Huval, at St Edmond in Lafayette from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Mass and reconciliation to follow. Cost to attend is \$15 per person and includes lunch and door prizes. For pre-sale tickets and more information call 337-981-0874 or go to www.stedmondlafayette.org.

Cemetery Plots for Sale

Parishioner Chad Williams has two plots for sale at Memorial Park. For more information, please contact him directly at 337-849-5936.

They who hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar on eagles' wings; They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.

~Isaiah 40:31

Let us pray for:

Brandon Boudreaux, grandson of Gloria Boudreaux, who is fighting cancer.

Sarah Brabant, Kathy Delahoussaye, Joyce Stelly, Harold Schoeffler, Bryan Lege, Harry DeMette, Jarrell Sparrow, Jackie Bourgeois, and Brenda Simon for their health concerns.

Please let us know of your prayer intentions, birthdays, anniversaries, and other prayer-worthy occasions.

Email us at office@stpat.org.

Online giving at St Patrick's

If you would like to contribute to St Patrick's online, please visit our website (stpat.org) and click Give Online at the top, where you will be directed to Give 52. Fill out the information and select St Patrick Church from the drop-down menu.

Collect for the Fifth Sunday

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection.

From the Catechism, on man's freedom, nn. 1730-1733

God created man a rational being, conferring on him the dignity of a person who can initiate and control his own actions. "God willed that man should be 'left in the hand of his own counsel,' so that he might of his own accord seek his Creator and freely attain his full and blessed perfection by cleaving to him." Man is rational and therefore like God; he is created with free will and is master over his acts. Freedom is the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not to act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate actions on one's own responsibility. By free will one shapes one's own life. Human freedom is a force for growth and maturity in truth and goodness; it attains its perfection when directed toward God, our beatitude. As long as freedom has not bound itself definitively to its ultimate good, which is God, there is the possibility of choosing between good and evil, and thus of growing in perfection or of failing and sinning. This freedom characterizes properly human acts. It is the basis of praise or blame, merit or reproach. The more one does what is good, the freer one becomes. There is no true freedom except in the service of what is good and just. the choice to disobey and do evil is an abuse of freedom and leads to "the slavery of sin."

Thank you for last week's stewardship

Offerings.....	\$7,158
Building Fund.....	\$4,482

From the Pastor's Desk

The calendar keeps moving, day by day. Looking ahead, only about ten days from now is Ash Wednesday. Lent is nearly upon us.

Instead of dreading the arrival of Lent, we should start looking forward to it, thinking about what we might want to do in terms of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during that holy season.

In years past, before the liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council, there was a pre-Lenten season that started three Sundays before Ash Wednesday. During that season, priests wore violet vestments and people began to prepare themselves for the penances of Lent.

Septuagesima Sunday was three Sundays before Lent (this year, February 1). *Sexagesima* Sunday was two Sundays before Lent (this year, February 8). And *Quinquagesima* Sunday was the Sunday before Lent (this year, February 15). These names are taken from the Latin words for seventieth, sixtieth, and fiftieth, referring to these Sundays' falling that many days before Easter.

I suppose that this pre-Lenten season was also a way of countering the Carnival season, which begins on Epiphany (January 6) and ends on Mardi Gras day. The exuberance (and excess) of Carnival was somewhat tamed by the solemn feel of *Septuagesima*, as the pre-Lenten season was called.

Here in Lafayette, we are now in the midst of the Mardi Gras season, with balls and parades galore, king cake a-flowing, and purple, green, and gold

decking everywhere. But as we celebrate the Carnival season, we keep in mind that Lent is coming. Carnival and Lent are intimately connected. After all, carnival means "farewell to meat" ... *carnivale* in Latin. And in Lent, the more ancient discipline was to refrain from eating meat for forty days, and not just on Fridays.

Which brings us to thinking about what the Church asks of us with regard to fasting and abstinence during Lent. Here are the disciplines that all Catholics must adhere to as a minimum:

Abstinence, which means refraining from meat and meat products on Ash Wednesday, and *all* Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday. This binds Catholics ages 14+.

Fasting, which means having only one full meal (meatless), and if necessary two smaller bites that together do not equal a full meal. This binds Catholics ages 18 to 59. Those outside those age ranges may fast if they so choose, and if health permits, but there is no requirement to do so.

Those with health issues, pregnant, or frail are exempt from these disciplines. Check in with your priest if you have any questions or doubts.

With those basics in mind as a foundation, we can now begin to consider how we want to live out our Lent: giving up some favorite thing; attending Mass during the week; serving the poor. A spiritually successful Lent is one that is well planned and anticipated. So now's the time!

Fr Guillory