St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church

1027 LA Highway 308, Thibodaux

This rural parish, located about six miles east of Thibodaux, originated as a mission chapel of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Thibodaux in 1865. The first church stood on Louisiana Highway 1, across Bayou Lafourche from todays church.

In 1914 the parishioners decided to erect a larger church across the bayou. The relocation was not universally popular, as it required those on the west bank to use the pull ferry to reach the church. The simple clapboard structure still stands, serving as a church hall.

Because the community served by St. Charles Borromeo Church is growing steadily, a well-proportioned brick church was dedicated in 1989. Imposing live oaks, dating to the days when the land was the Beauvais plantation, shelter the church.

The stained glass windows, designed and executed by Ruth Goliwas, of New Orleans, were installed at the time of construction. Each features a single subject, portrayed in textured, opalescent, and traditional glass. With the exception of Pope Pius X, all the featured subjects spent much or all of their lives in the New World. Because these windows are positioned at the viewers eye level, the portraits seem especially realistic. Pope Pius X, for example, seems to be walking out of the window and into the sanctuary.

 **Windows: Nave**

 Altar

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton St. Kateri Tekawitha

Pope Pius X St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Blessed Katherine Drexel St. John Neuman

St. Charles Borromeo St. Martin De Porres

 **Windows: Chapel**

St. Isaac Jogues

Blessed Junípero Serra

Our Lady of Guadalupe

St. Rose Philippine Duchesne

*Visited September 1999*

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