

Parish of Ascension Recreation & Culture

Abend Community Park & Playground – Mt. Bethel Road, Hwy. 18 in Donaldsonville

This facility is located off Highway 18 (the River Road), approximately 3 miles east of Donaldsonville where you turn south on Mt. Bethel Street. At the end of Mt. Bethel Street you will find the Abend Park. The park contains a playground, a picnic pavilion with bar-b-que pits and a four-goal, outdoor basketball court. There is plenty of area for picnics on the grounds along with ample parking for everyone. Permanent restroom facilities are planned for the future and at this time portable sanitation units are available.



Ascension Gym - 9039 S St Landry Ave in Gonzales, LA



PARC Boat Launches – Laurel Ridge Launch

This launch is located on Laurel Ridge Road only one hundred yards from Stringer Bridge Road. The facility has a walk/fishing pier with a concrete launching site on Babin Bayou.

Butch Gore Memorial Park – 14550 Harry Savoy Rd. in St. Amant

Butch Gore Memorial Park is one of the only complexes dedicated to youth girls' softball in the entire state. National recognition was given to Gore Park with the USSSA softball association awarding a world-qualifying tournament to Gore Park when it was only 2 years old. Several national affiliations have inquired about the use of this facility to host tournaments throughout the summer months. There are four lighted competition fields and two practice fields located on the back part of the 20-acre complex. On the front part of the complex there are 4 practice soccer fields along with a large playground with swings and playground equipment. The cloverleaf complex has a state of the art concession stand with restroom facilities. Located between the fields are 3 large batting cages that can be used by 6 separate teams at the same time. A large covered pavilion measuring 50'x75' is located just behind the concession area. The Pavilion can house 20 picnic tables and seating for over 100 people to get out of

the hot summer sun. Butch Gore Park is the home for the Ascension Youth Softball Association. The association holds approximately 500 games and 4 weekend tournaments each softball season.



Darrow Community Center Playground & Park – 37112 Martin Luther King St. in Darrow

In the River community of Darrow Louisiana is located the Darrow Community Center with a large playground and ballpark. The baseball park is large enough to host adult softball as well as youth baseball. The playground has play equipment and a basketball court. Along the backside of the baseball field is a limestone foundation walk track that enjoins the outer limits of the park. The Darrow Community Center can hold approximately 100 to 150 patrons. There is an office and restrooms within the facility along with a very modern and well-equipped kitchen for food services when needed.



Frank Sotile Pavilion - 2162 Thibaut Dr. in Donaldsonville, LA



Geismar Community Center – 12060 Hwy. 73 in Geismar

The newest addition to the collection of parks and community centers maintained by the Parish of Ascension, Geismar Community Center sits on approximately acres with lots of room for expansion should future needs require it. The building houses several smaller rooms dedicated to programs for the youth of the parish with regard to summer reading and math camps, computer sciences, and art and craft instruction. One main room provides sufficient space for meetings, showers, birthday parties, and smaller receptions (not more than 75 people).



Youth Legacy / Duplessis Park – 38103 Hwy. 621 in Gonzales

There are 10.25 beautiful acres that will be developed over the next three to five years to satisfy anyone looking for a family oriented facility. Beautiful large oak trees, along with tall producing pecan trees grace this facility. Currently there are multiple tennis courts, several BBQ pavilions for family cookouts, a walking and jogging trail, and a disk golf course with future plans for volleyball and badminton courts, horseshoe pits, and a grand playground for the youth. The entire project will be built to conform to ADA requirements. Other amenities will be added as funds become available.



Hillaryville Park – 5216 Marchand School Rd. in Darrow

This community Park is located behind the historic old Marchand School on Hwy 22 between Burnside and Darrow, Louisiana. There is a bar-b-que pavilion and restrooms along with a fenced-in baseball field available at this facility. The park is at this date (10-01-08) closed until further notice.

Jackie Robinson Memorial Park – 35638 Coco Rd. in Geismar

This community park is located just north of Hwy 73, ¼ of a mile from Hwy 30 on Coco Lane. There is a concession stand with restrooms, a lighted ball field that is manicured, a playground area with a large swing set, a bar-b-que pavilion. There is an area in the park that is covered with shady oak trees which may be used for picnics. There are also two basketball courts along the front of the park. A tradition has begun at Jackie Robinson Park with the weekend prior to the Southern-Grambling Bayou Classic Football game. There is a huge cookout, where the fan of the previous year's loser does the cooking for the winner.



Lemanville Park & Playground – 3131 Hwy. 18 E. in Donaldsonville

Just inside the parish line on Hwy 18, less than a ½ of a mile north of the Sunshine Bridge is our newest recreational complex. There are two smaller bar-b-que pavilions and a very large picnic pavilion for community or family gatherings. This park is definitely for community use with its basketball court, volleyball court and small baseball field at the rear of the complex. There is a large playground and swings close to the bar-b-que pavilions for the younger participants. New restrooms are the latest addition to a fine facility. The Lemanville community provides for and maintains the amenities of this park.



Modeste Park & Playground – 3544 Butler Rd. in Donaldsonville

Modeste Park is located along the west side of the Mississippi River in the community of Modeste. Set amongst the majestic oaks the drive ends with a very large playground for kids, 2 swing sets, 2 basketball courts, 2 small bar-b-que pavilions, a very large pavilion for community gatherings, and a lighted baseball field that is used by the youth and the adults of the Modest community.



Oak Grove Community Center & Playground – Hwy. 42 @ Hwy. 73 in Prairieville

The one facility located in the northern part of Ascension Parish. There is a basketball court along with a playground for the younger set. The Community Center will seat approximately 75 persons for small gatherings. The building is available for rental for gatherings such as birthdays, bridal showers, anniversary parties, etc.



Prairieville Park & Playground – 38430 Hwy. 929 in Prairieville

The Prairieville Park is located on Hwy 929 approximately ¼ mile east of the Prairieville post office on Airline Hwy. The park has a playground, a concession stand with restrooms, a basketball court and 2 BBQ pavilions and pits. The community uses this park to facilitate the adult softball programs.



Paula Park & Playground – 16470 Paillette St. in Prairieville

Paula Park and Playground has undergone the most changes of all the recreational complexes in Ascension Parish. Paula Park was the original site for youth sports when PARC began its development. The second move for Paula Park was for young ladies softball. Then in 1997 Paula Park became the official home of the Ascension Parish T-Ball Association. There are 6 small lighted ball fields for the 5 & 6 year olds to begin their ball participation program. Paula Park is where all baseball & softball development begins in Ascension Parish east. There are two concession stands, two restrooms and a

large playground for the little ones. A concrete area with 2 bar-b-que pavilions and bar-b-que pits are also available on the grounds.



St. Amant Recreation Park – 45404 Stringer Bridge Rd. in St. Amant

St. Amant Park is a great addition to the Ascension Parish Recreation department. St. Amant Park was originally called St. Amant Properties when a group of residents wanted a place for its community youth to be able to recreate. The old St. Amant Recreation Center has been refurbished and is available for rentals. The rec center will hold approximately 350 people for weddings and similar gatherings. There is a full service kitchen on site as well as a lounge for small meetings. There are 3 lighted ball fields on the grounds. There are two batting cages that can accommodate 4 teams at the same time. The 13-18 year olds now have a place they can call home for baseball. There are restroom facilities within a quick walk of all of the ball parks. You can cross a bridge to the back portion of the property, where you could go camping in a primitive setting. A walking/jogging trail encompasses the perimeter of the entire park for a great mile workout.



Southwood Park & Playground – 14318 Parkview Dr. in Prairieville

Southwood Park is located to the back of the Southwood Village subdivision. There is a lighted ball field used by the Ascension Fast Pitch Association. There is a basketball court, along with a BBQ pavilion with bar-b-que pit available close to a concession stand at the ball field. Next to the pavilion is a playground. A new restroom facility is scheduled for construction in the summer of 2009.



J. Leo Stevens Park & Playground – 43230 Cannon Rd. in Gonzales

Just a short trip down Cannon Rd from either Roddy Road or Hwy 431 is the Stevens Park facility. This parcel of land was donated by the Stevens family in memory of Mr. J. Leo Stevens, a totally community minded leader of Ascension Parish. This facility has 6 lighted ball fields that house the 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12 year old ball players. There are 3 new batting cages located in the warm up area of the complex that can accommodate 6 teams at the same time. A new concession/restroom facility was constructed in 1999 for the benefit of all the participants. There is a refurbished tennis court, a basketball court and a fenced in playground for the youngsters to climb while brother plays his game and Mom can watch the game knowing the playground is safe. The back side of the park has an additional 5 acres that is being developed for our physically challenged citizens. We hope to have a nature trail and a fishing pond completed by 2009. The fishing pond will be traversed by 2 bridges, with cutouts so the people can hang their fishing lines in the water to experience the thrill of landing a big one. Both the nature trail and the bridges will be fully ADA handicapped accessible.

