



STRIVE TO ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE.

— LUKE 13:24 —

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Worshipping Community of

Blessed Sacrament - St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church

Administered by the Josephites, Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament and Sisters of the Holy Family

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church | 8321 Burthe Street | New Orleans, Louisiana 70118
1909 - 2009

Rev. Charles Andrus, S.S.J., Pastor

Rev. Linus Abah James, S.S.J., Parochial Vicar

Mr. Terence Sims, Finance Council Chair

Mr. Kenneth Hayes, Parish Council Chair

Dr. David Delio, D.R.E.

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"The Uptown Church with the down home message"

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2025

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of August 24, 2025

Sunday:

Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/
Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

Monday:

1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a
and 9b/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday:

1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday:

1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/
Mt 23:27-32

Thursday:

1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 24:42-51

Friday:

1 Thes 4:1-8 (429)/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10,
11-12/Mk 6:17-29

Saturday:

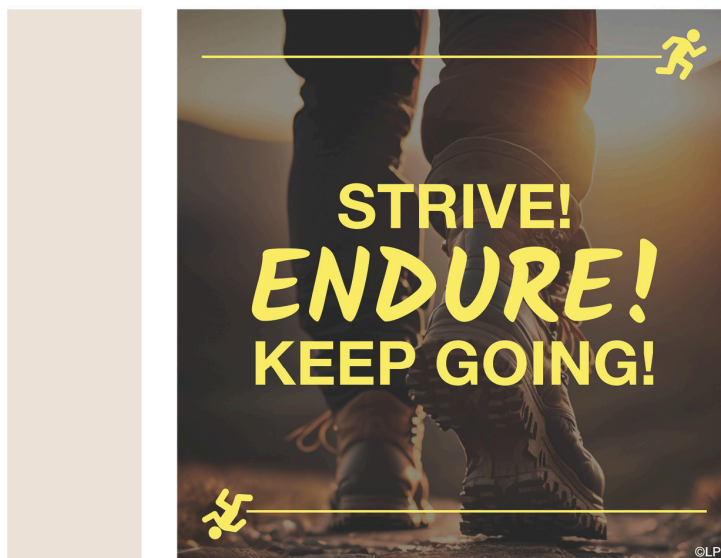
1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday:

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5
(1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

I've been hiking Camelback Mountain in Phoenix, Arizona most of my life. It is a vigorous forty-five minutes to the top. Near the peak, the end suddenly appears much further away, and steeper. At that moment, a descending hiker often offers encouragement: "Keep going! The peak is right there. It's not as far as it looks. You can do it!" It usually works. After another five minute push, you summit and enjoy a glorious panorama of the Sonoran Desert in the Valley of the Sun.

When Jesus is asked about how many people are saved, he says: **"Strive to enter through the narrow gate" (Luke 13:24).** How many? Strive! Focus on your journey. What does heavenly census taking have to do with you or me? How would it help a hiker on a mountain to ask the others coming down, "How many people are going to make it to the top?" A normal response would be something like: "How is that a relevant question? Carry on!"

Jesus links one virtue directly to salvation: perseverance (cf. Matt 24:13; hypomone in Greek). Strive! Endure! Keep going! The one absolutely necessary virtue is perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God's grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going!

— Father John Muir

Weekday Mass

Wednesdays - 8 a.m.

Sunday Masses

Saturday (Vigil) 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m.

Sunday (Gospel Mass) 10:00 a.m.

Livestreaming available on our Facebook and YouTube

Baptisms: 4th Sunday of the month except during Lenten Season

Weddings: Contact the rectory six months prior to desired wedding date

Confessions: One-half hour before Sunday Mass

Prayer Line: 508.924.5792 - Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays at Noon

Bible Study: 508.924.5792 - Thursdays at 6pm

Saturday, August 23, 2025

4pm

For: The People of the Parish

Sunday, August 24, 2025

8 am

For: The People of the Parish

10 am Gospel Mass

For: The People of the Parish and Naja Davis

In Memory of: Richard Austin

Wednesday, August 27, 2025

For: The People of the Parish

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

The Repose of the soul of the Holy Father and for:

Our Parish Family Sick and Shut In: Leonard Anderson, Evangeline Thompson Antoine, Diane Austin, Nathaniel Banks, Joseph Bates, Jr., Barbara Blanchard, Loyce Bradshaw, Charles Braneon, Lorraine Burke, Barbara Butler, Virginia Butler, Augustine Cain, Dominique Carter, Jessie Caston, Sr., Jessie Caston, III, Ginny Clark, Bernadine Coco, Joyce Coleman, Keith Coleman, Santiago Cooper, Myrna Daniels, Lamar Davis, Beverly Dapremont, Souleymane Diop, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Dix, Bonnie Easton, Cameron Fritz, Gilda Griffin, Godfrey Harris, Linda Harris, Wanda Haydel, Tammi Lynn Howard, Hubert Jarrow, Jr., Ruth Jerome, Jaylen Johnson, Tommy Johnson, Anna Jones, Evelyn Johnson, Kaylen Johnson, Ruth Kennedy, Felicia Meyers, Edgries Moon, Keith Newton, Donna Phillips, Omar Phillips, Thomas Phillips, Joyce Randolph, Deja Rawles, Ralph Rhea, Sr., Scott Rivera, Kim Roby, Matilda Romero, Janice Sawyer, Lula Mae Schexnayder, Carrie M. Shedd, Scott Schryver, Jane Silva, Cindy Sims, Enjoli Sims, Kaila Sims, Kira Sims, Alma M. Smith, Bill Starr, Marquerite Stepter, Glenda Stewart, Annie Stoot, Eugene Stoot, Diane Sims Tillman, Perry Tillman, III, Sherman Todd, Betty Williams, Jace Williams, Nedra Wicker and Mandi Young

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

What must I do to grow in the discipline of being a good disciple of the Lord?
What can strengthen my "drooping hands and weak knees" (Hebrews 12:12)?

PROCLAIMER SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 30, 2025

4pm J. Robinson

Sunday, August 31, 2025

8am T. Rattler

10am T. Thomas

Announcer: D. Spears

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **CCE CLASSES** will begin soon. These classes are a vital part of our parish's mission to nurture the faith of our children and youth. To ensure the success of our program, we are currently seeking dedicated catechists and volunteers to share the faith and guide our young parishioners on their spiritual journey. No prior teaching experience is required – just a love for our faith, a willingness to serve and a heart for our children. Registration begins this Sunday, August 24th.
- **FAITH, FAMILY AND FELLOWSHIP: FUELED IN TOGETHERNESS** will be celebrated the weekend on October 17th beginning with the Men's Ministry Breakfast and guest speaker Retired Lt. Gen. Russel Honore on Saturday, October 18th. The celebration continues on Sunday, October 19th with Jersey Sunday followed by a Family BBQ Cookout after the 10am Mass. Tickets for both events will go on sale soon. The BBQ Cookout, hosted by the Parish Council, is \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth 8 and under. The Council will also host a football pool that weekend for the Saints v. Bears game with each square costing \$5 for a chance to win \$75 a quarter. Your support of the pool will assist in defraying the cost of the cookout. See any Parish Council member to play.
- **BOOSTERS** are requesting your support for their upcoming events: Saints Basket Raffle on September 28th. See any member of the Boosters to purchase a ticket.
- **OFFICE OF BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRIES** is now accepting vendor applications for the Bishop Fernand J. Cheri, III Gospel Music Festival on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at 6:00 PM at St. Martin de Porres Center, 2241 Mendez Street, New Orleans, LA.
- **NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE** is scheduled for September 4-7th. The Office of Black Catholic Ministries is organizing a Men's Praise Team. All interested, please contact Shawn Robertson at 504.858.4294. Flyers are available in the vestibule.

PEW RALLY Support the continuing restoration effort by adopting a pew. Here is your chance to assist in the restoration of our church and commemorate someone special in your life. Your donation of \$1,500 will cover the cost of refinishing a pew. A memorial plaque will be placed on each adopted pew recognizing your gift. The adoption gift can be made in 1, 2 or 3 payments and can be split by two donors. Begin your adoption gift by scanning the QR code or following the email address listed in the bulletin. Thank you for considering a gift to restore our church to its original luster.



Pew Rally QR Code

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please submit all bulletin entries and announcements to the parish office by close of business (4:00 pm) on Wednesdays of each week.

PARISH COUNCIL

Chair - Kenneth Hayes | 504.547.1619
 Patrick Anthony | 504.715.4961
 Joshua Bartholomew | 504.906.8312
 Arnel Cosey | 504.915.7024
 Trenice Davis | 281.844.4425
 Carol Dotson | 504.339.8691
 Richard Kelly | 678.994.8681
 Bridget Lassere | 504.650.9913
 Maurice McMorris | 504.388.9546
 Emile Pierre | 504.236.7336
 Twyla Rattler | 504.460.8265
 John Salomone | 504.307.4645
 Jerry Settle | 901.679.4060
 Shannon Sims | 504.228.3656
 Dawn Spears | 504.296.6320
 Troy Thomas | 504.914.4901
 Johnnie Tillman | 504.432.6189

PARISH CALENDAR

AUGUST

4 Parish Council Meeting 6:30p
 12 Men's Ministry Meeting 6:30p
 24 CCE Registration Begins

COLLECTION TEAMS

AUGUST

3 Team 1 10 Team 2
 17 Team 3 24 Team 1 31 Team 2

If you are experiencing an emotional crisis, are thinking about suicide, or are concerned about a friend, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Immediately:



1-800-273-8255

This is a 24-hour hotline

PARISH SUPPORT

<https://bssjaparish.weshareonline.org/>
 Text "GIVEBSSJA" to 800-950-9952

QR Code Giving Code

May God's generosity remain in you!



Blessed Sacrament Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Church
 BSSJA Parish New Orleans @BSSJAnola
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