



MAKE STRAIGHT
HIS PATHS.

— MATTHEW 3:3 —

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

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"The Uptown Church with the down home message"

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of December 7, 2025

Sunday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday:

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday:

Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday:

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday:

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/
Mt 11:11-15

Friday:

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday:

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,
18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday:

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10
(see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating “**locusts and wild honey**” (**Mark 1:6**). It’s not just a strange historical detail. It’s a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw — barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to fill in all the gaps, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was like eating locusts.

But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other, about their first child, then their second. And they wanted to be close to God. Something innocent and beautiful was unfolding. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

This Advent, maybe we’re each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it’s time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith — prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It’s time to eat some locusts.

But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, the joy of serving someone else, new life, good intentions of our friends. That’s the honey. Savor it!

John didn’t avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we’ll be ready — really ready — for the coming of Christ.

— Father John Muir

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

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, December 6, 2025

4pm

In Memory of: Our Parish Family and Families

Sunday, December 7, 2025

8 am

For: Our Parish Family and Families

10 am Gospel Mass

For: Our Parish Family and Families

Wednesday, December 10, 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, 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, Calvin Preyan, 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

How can my family live together more harmoniously? What can I do to help make this happen?

PROCLAIMER SCHEDULE

Please check bulletin board in sacristy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** is a day of Holy Obligation. Mass will be celebrated on December 8th at 6pm.
- **EVENING OF ADVENT** has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 17th at 5:30pm. More information to follow.
- **TWELTH NIGHT BALL** - The 35th Annual Twelfth-Night Ball will be held Saturday, January 10, 2026 from 8:00 PM – 12:00 A.M. in the Church Hall. Please see any committee member if you have any questions or to receive a contestant's form.



Advent Prayer

Lord Jesus,
as we light the second Advent candle,
we pray for Your peace—
peace in our hearts, peace in our homes,
and peace in our world.
Calm our anxieties and quiet our spirits
so that we may hear Your voice
and follow Your ways.
Make us instruments of Your peace
as we prepare for Your coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.
Amen.

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
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Dawn Spears | 504.296.6320
Troy Thomas | 504.914.4901
Johnnie Tillman | 504.432.6189

PARISH CALENDAR

DECEMBER

8 Immaculate Conception -
Holy Day of Obligation, Mass 6p
17 Evening of Advent, 5:30p

COLLECTION TEAMS

NOVEMBER

7	Team 1	14	Team 2
21	Team 3	28	Team 1

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



<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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