

BUT I SAY TO  
**YOU.**

— MATTHEW 5:34 —

SIXTH 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.

Rectory | Fax: 504.866.7330 | 504.866.1319

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Website: [www.bssjaparish.com](http://www.bssjaparish.com)

*"The Uptown Church with the down home message"*

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026**

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of February 15, 2026

### Sunday:

Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/  
1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a,  
27-28, 33-34a, 37

### Monday:

Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/  
Mk 8:11-13

### Tuesday:

Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/  
Mk 8:14-21

### Wednesday:

Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and  
17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

### Thursday:

Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/  
Lk 9:22-25

### Friday:

Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/  
Mt 9:14-15

### Saturday:

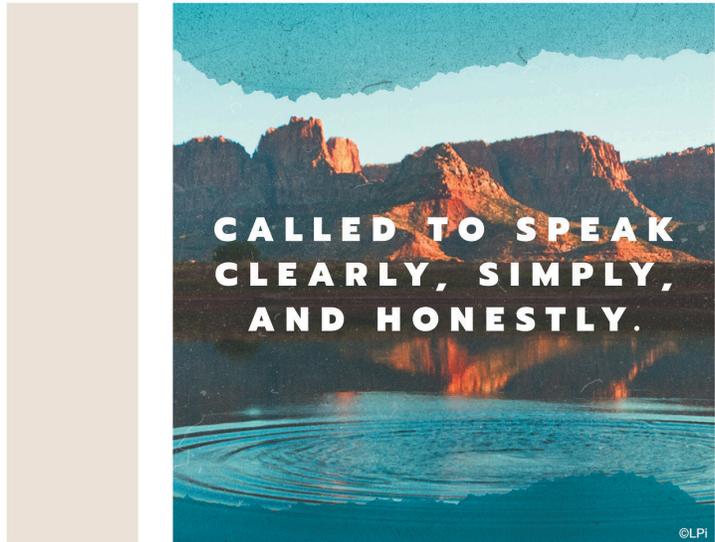
Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

### Next Sunday:

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/  
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: "NO." It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, **"Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the Evil One" (Matthew 5:37).** He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

**Lenten Challenge:** Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere "yes" to something important, or a humble "no" to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

— *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, February 14, 2026**

**4pm**

**In Memory of:** Our Parish Family and Families

**Sunday, February 15, 2026**

**8 am**

**For:** Our Parish Family and Families

**10 am Gospel Mass**

**For:** Our Parish Family and Families and the Repose of the Soul of Isaiah Preyan, Theresa Soniat, George Sims, Jr. and Marie Tillman

**Wednesday, February 18, 2026**

**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., 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, 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, 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

## BLACK HISTORY INSPIRATION

### Faith That Survived: Rooted In Resilience

In New Orleans, Black Catholic Faith did not begin in comfort, it was born in struggle. Enslaved Africans and free people of color carried the faith through oppression, segregation and exclusion. Yet they built churches, formed religious communities, educated children and sang the Gospel with power and dignity. Our faith survived because our ancestors trusted God when society rejected them. They believed that no one could take away their identity as children of God. Today we stand on their shoulders. Their resilience reminds us that faith is not fragile, it is deeply rooted. *"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."* Psalm 118:22

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**In what aspect of my life do I need to accept God's wisdom and the Spirit's guidance and change my behavior ?**

### PROCLAIMER SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 21

4pm J. Robinson

Sunday, February 22

8am J. Salomone

10am M. Green

L. Landry

Announcer: S. Lucien

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- MINISTRY ASSEMBLY AND WORKSHOP: Sharing your Talents in the Vineyard**  
 Calling all parishioners who feel called to serve! Join Us for a Ministry Assembly and Workshop designed for those interested in sharing their God-given talents within our Parish Ministries. This assembly will provide an opportunity to learn about ministries, share ideas and discuss how each of us can contribute to the life and mission of the Church and our Parish. The gathering will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am – Noon in the Church Hall.
- ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES** will be celebrated at 8am, Noon and 6pm.
- STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be celebrated every Friday in Lent at 6pm followed by Mass.
- MEN'S MINISTRY CHURCH CLEANING** is scheduled for Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 10am. All are welcomed to come and assist in preparing the sanctuary.
- MEN'S MINISTRY MEET AND GREET** is scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup> following the 10am Mass in the Convent.
- LENTEN FISH FRY FRIDAYS** will be held Friday, February 27 and March 13 and 27 from 11:00am - 3:00pm. Your support is appreciated.
- BLACK HISTORY MONTH MASS** will be celebrated at the Cathedral on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>
- TRI PARISH LENTEN REVIVAL** has been scheduled for March 9-11. This year's theme is **"All in His Hands"** with our message by Revivalist Fr. Rick Andrus, SVD. Save the Date.
- WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNUAL BREAKFAST** Mark your calendars and make plans to come and celebrate on March 14, 2026. This year's theme is "Women of God: Stand Firm in Your Faith and Walk in Your Path" and the color is blue. Tickets are on sale now: Individual: \$25 and Table of 10: \$250. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. with the Prayer Breakfast beginning at 10am.
- CHURCH BEAUTIFICATION** Our Parish is seeking assistance from parish ministries quarterly to clean of our sanctuary weekly in preparation for Masses. Ministries will be scheduled on a rotating basis throughout the year. Ministries and parishioners willing to assist are asked to please sign up in the vestibule or contact Emile Pierre (504.236.7336) or John Salomone (504.307.4645).

**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
- Shannon Sims | 504.228.3656
- Dawn Spears | 504.296.6320
- Troy Thomas | 504.914.4901
- Johnnie Tillman | 504.432.6189

## PARISH CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

- 2 Parish Council, 6:30pm
- 18 Ash Wednesday Masses
- 21 Men's Ministry Church Cleaning
- 22 Men's Ministry Meet & Greet
- 27 Fish Fry

### MARCH

- 7 Ministry Assembly & Workshop
- 9-11 Tri Parish Lenten Revival
- 13 Fish Fry
- 14 Women's Ministry Breakfast
- 27 Fish Fry

## COLLECTION TEAMS

### FEBRUARY

- 1 Team 1      8 Team 2
- 15 Team 3      22 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



## 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

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