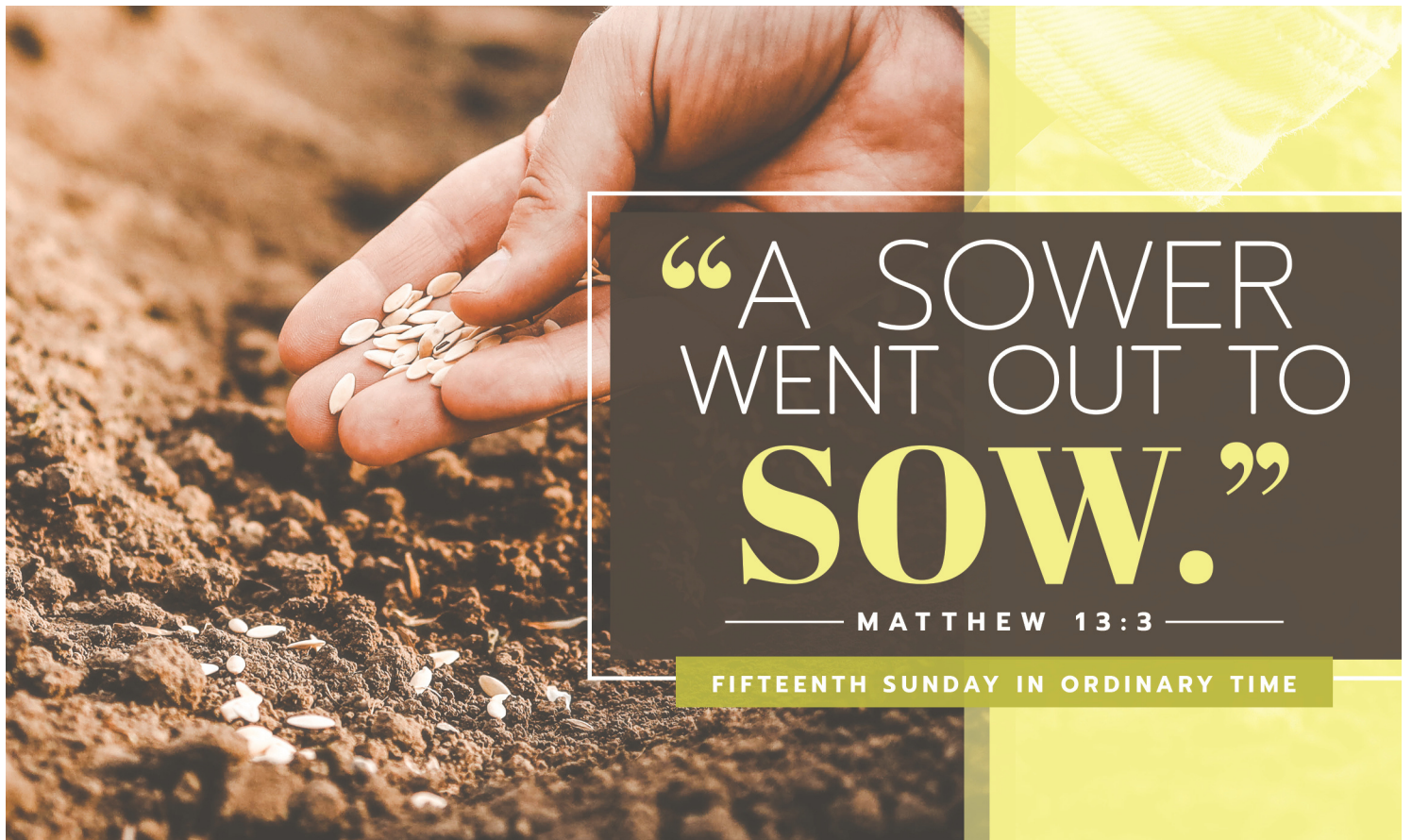




The Worshipping Community of

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

Email: bssjaparish@arch-no.org

Website: www.bssjaparish.com

"The Uptown Church with the down home message"

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 12, 2026

Sunday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14/
Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9

Monday:

Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/
Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday:

Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/
Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday:

Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday:

Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30

Friday:

Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd, 16/
Mt 12:1-8

Saturday:

Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday:

Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16/
Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. **"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it."** By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed **"understand the Word."** Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

— 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

Holy Hour - Wednesdays at 6pm

Bible Study: 508.924.5792 - Thursdays at 6pm

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

Saturday, July 11, 2026

4pm

For: Our Parish Family and Families

Sunday, July 12, 2026

8 am

For: Our Parish Family and Families

10 am Gospel Mass

For: Our Parish Family and Families

For Recovery and Healing of: Gwendolyn Catchings-Castello

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

For: The People of the Parish

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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, Gwendolyn Cathcings-Castello, Ginny Clark, Bernadine Coco, Dr. Charles Coleman, 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, Joseph James, Hubert Jarrow, Jr., Ruth Jerome, Jaylen Johnson, Tommy Johnson, Anna Jones, Evelyn Johnson, Kaylen Johnson, Ruth Kennedy, Felicia Meyers, 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, Marsha Washington, Betty Williams, Jace Williams, Nedra Wicker and Mandi Young

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

What will I do this week to cultivate God's word? Which passages from scripture have I applied to my life recently or regularly?

PROCLAIMER SCHEDULE

Sat., July 11

Vigil 4p L. Coleman

Sun., July 12

8am Holy Name Men

10am

L. Landry

L. Parker-Davis

Announcer: M. Green

Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father,
prepare our hearts to receive Your Word like good soil. Help us to grow in faith, bear fruit through love and service, and remain rooted in Your truth each day. May Your Word transform our lives and draw us closer to You.
Amen.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **OFFICE OF BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRIES INAUGURAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL FUN DAY** for middle and high school students, grades 6-12 will be held on Saturday, August 1st from 11am to 3pm at Blessed Trinity. This special event will provide our young people with an opportunity to begin the new school year with faith, fellowship, encouragement, and fun through games, activities, music, food, and a back-to-school blessing. Registration through our parish youth leader is required. Please see Carol Dotson for more information.
- **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN** for Hallelujah Workshop sponsored by the Institute for Black Catholic Studies. Workshop dates are Thursday, July 23 through Sunday, July 26, 2026. Please see flyer in the vestibule of the church for additional information.
- **A MEMORIAL MASS** On behalf of Fr. Kingsley Ogbuji and Fr. Tony Ricard all are invited to attend a memorial mass in honor of Bishop John Ricard on Monday, July 13, 2026 at 6:00 pm at Corpus Christi Epiphany Catholic Church.
- **MEN'S MINISTRY** wishes to thank everyone for their support of its July 4th Smoked Pork Fundraiser. Congratulations on your endeavor!
- **ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR SCHOOL** is now accepting applications for students in Pre-Kindergarten through Fourth Grade. For more information or to schedule a visit, please contact the school office at 504-288-2745. More information available on the table in the church's foyer.
- **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
 John Salomone | 504.307.4645
 Shannon Sims | 504.228.3656
 Dawn Spears | 504.296.6320
 Troy Thomas | 504.914.4901

PARISH CALENDAR

JULY

4 Men's Ministry Fundraiser Pickup
 9 Young Adult Ministry Trivia Night
 13 Bishop Ricard's Memorial Mass
 23-26 IBCS Hallelujah Workshop
 27 Parish Council Meeting

COLLECTION TEAMS

JULY

5 Team 2
 12 Team 3
 19 Team 1
 26 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



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