



THE WHOLE BATCH WAS **LEAVENED.**

— MATTHEW 13:33 —

SIXTEENTH 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, JULY 19, 2026

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of July 19, 2026

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

Monday:

Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21
and 23/Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday:

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8/
Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday:

Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4,
5-6, 8-9/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday:

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9,
10-11/Mt 13:10-17

Friday:

Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/
Mt 13:18-23

Saturday:

2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5,
6/Mt 20:20-28

Next Sunday:

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-
128, 129-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or
13:44-46



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A man recently told me he was losing patience with the Church. **“It’s supposed to be God’s Kingdom on earth,”** he said, **“but it’s full of contradictions and hypocrisy. Why can’t the Church just be better?”** That last word landed with a judgmental thud. It hurt. Because at times the Church can look painfully ordinary, even disappointing.

But Jesus’ parables in today’s Gospel meet that frustration head-on. He says, **“The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field,”** yet the weeds grow up with the wheat, and the master allows both to grow together until harvest. To his listeners, this sounded strange, even offensive. They expected God’s reign to be pure, powerful, and glorious, anything but mixed up, hidden, or small.

Jesus is showing us something essential. The Kingdom always begins small and grows amid imperfection. Grace and weakness exist side by side until the harvest. That is why the Church often looks messy. Yet within that mess, God’s quiet work continues. The weeds do not stop the wheat from growing.

When we see the Church’s flaws or our own, it helps to remember that this is exactly the field in which Christ chose to plant. The miracle is not that everything looks perfect, but that his Word keeps taking root anyway.

Lord, give me patience with Your field, the Church. Help me see Your hidden life growing even among the weeds. Amen.

— 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

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 18, 2026

4pm

For: Our Parish Family and Families

Sunday, July 19, 2026

8 am

For: Our Parish Family and Families

10 am Gospel Mass

For: Our Parish Family and Families

For: Terrell, Swain & Hampton Families

For Recovery and Healing of: Gwendolyn Catchings-Castello

For the Repose of the Soul of: Isaiah Preyan

Wednesday, July 22, 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

How can I nurture the kingdom of God in my community, drawing more and more others to dwell inside it?

Prayer for the Week



Heavenly Father, let Your Kingdom grow within us like yeast in the dough. Transform our hearts with Your love, strengthen our faith, and help us be a quiet witness of hope and kindness to those around us. May Your grace work through us each day to bring others closer to You. Amen.

PROCLAIMER SCHEDULE

Sat., July 25

Vigil 4p L. Coleman

Sun., July 26

8a T. Rattler

10a M. McMorris, L. Latimore-Jones
Announcer: S. Lucien

Sat., August 1

Vigil 4p L. Coleman

Sun., August 2

8a R. Mornay

10a A. Luke, T. Luke

Announcer: M. Green



- **WELCOME HOME SUNDAY** will be celebrated the weekend of August 15th and August 16th in response to Archbishop Checchio's invitation to welcome all who may be seeking a spiritual home. This special weekend is an opportunity to invite those who have not returned to Mass since the pandemic, those who have drifted away because of hurt, scandal, or division, those who have felt unseen or unwelcome, those who quietly stopped attending, those who are searching for faith, and even those who have never experienced the Catholic Church. We encourage everyone to personally invite a family member, friend, neighbor, or coworker to join us as we joyfully welcome all to our worshipping community.
- **VOTING REGISTRATION ASSISTANCE** The Men's Ministry will lead our voter registration and civic engagement efforts to help ensure that everyone who is eligible has the opportunity to register to vote and exercise that right on Election Day. Assistance will include voter registration, transportation to the polls, and general support for parishioners and members of the community. Additional information will be provided in the coming weeks.
- **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.
- **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
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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
19 Team 1
12 Team 3
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



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