



LIKE A NET  
THROWN INTO  
**THE SEA.**

— MATTHEW 13:47 —

SEVENTEENTH 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 26, 2026**

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of July 26, 2026

### 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

### Monday:

Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21/Mt 13:31-35

### Tuesday:

Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/  
Mt 13:36-43

### Wednesday:

Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17, 18/  
Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

### Thursday:

Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/  
Mt 13:47-53

### Friday:

Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14/Mt 13:54-58

### Saturday:

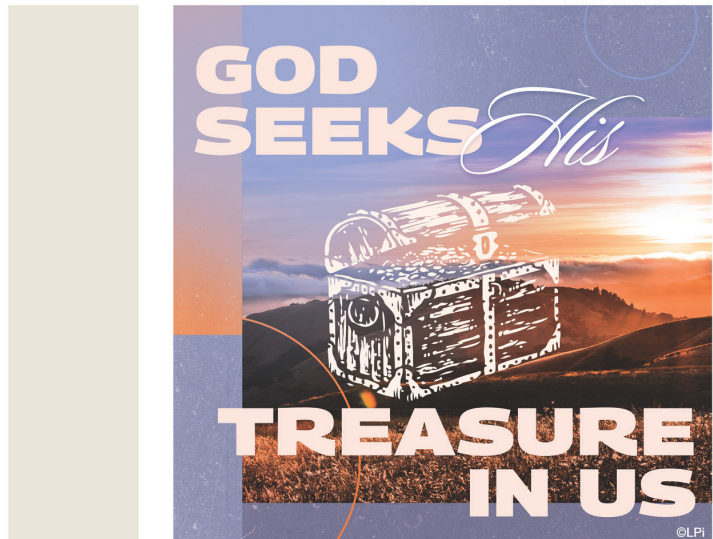
Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/  
Mt 14:1-12

### Next Sunday:

Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/  
Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Around the time that the gold rushes ended in the nineteenth-century West, a curious phenomenon arose in New England known as money diggers. These were men who roamed the countryside with shovels, divining rods, and superstitious hope, convinced that treasure lay buried beneath their feet. Surely there must be gold under our feet. But there was not. The craze of these wild goose chases caused many to lose farms, families, and sanity.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus inaugurates a new era of spiritual money digging. He announces, **"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field."** He invites us to become treasure seekers who search in the right place. What is of greatest value is not money beneath our feet, but the infinite treasure hidden deep in the humanity of Jesus himself, God's own blessed life. The glory of heaven lies veiled in his ordinary life, his teaching, his suffering, his Church.

This teaching about the Kingdom changes things. Now we see the Church's doctrinal and moral teachings are not arbitrary rules. They are a treasure map. Follow them, and we will uncover divine happiness. Ignore them, and we will wander aimlessly, spade in hand, digging in empty fields, discouraged.

Where have we wasted energy seeking treasure in the wrong places? How have we given up on seeking the treasure of truly finding God's love for us? If so, let us repent of both. Then let us dust off our shovels and get back to digging deep into the field of Christ Jesus and his Church. After all, He never ceases seeking his treasure in us.

— *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 25, 2026**

**4pm**

**For:** Our Parish Family and Families

**Sunday, July 26, 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 and Mary "MiKi" Ruffino

**Wednesday, July 29, 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 sacrifices am I willing to make and what hardships am I willing to endure in order to gain the kingdom of heaven?

## Prayer for the Week



Heavenly Father, thank You for calling each of us into Your Kingdom.

Help us to live with faithful hearts, choose what is good, and share Your love with everyone we meet.

May our words and actions reflect Your mercy as we grow closer to You each day.

Amen.

## PROCLAIMER SCHEDULE

**Sat., August 1**

Vigil 4p L. Coleman

**Sun., August 2**

8a R. Mornay

10a A. Luke, T. Luke

Announcer: M. Green

**Sat., August 8**

Vigil 4p W. Squire

**Sun., August 9**

8a Holy Name Men

10a D. Spears, L. Parker-Davis

Announcer: L. Latimore-Jones



- **WELCOME HOME SUNDAY** will be celebrated the weekend of August 15<sup>th</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.
- **SCHOOL BOOK BAGS** We are pleased to announce that through the generosity of Shell USA, Inc. in partnership with Xavier University, we have book bags to give to Blessed Sacrament-St. Joan of Arc. Book bags will be distributed after the 10 a.m. Mass on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Because supplies are limited, there will be one book bag per child. Distribution will be first come first served.
- **ATTENTION YOUTH GRADES 7-12.** The Catholic Youth Conference will be Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am-5pm at Jesuit High School and will include speakers, lunch and Mass with the Archbishop. Contact Carol Dotson 504.339.8691 so we can get your info, t-shirt size and lunch choice. Please let us know by September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **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

### AUGUST

1 OBCM Back To School Fun Day  
2 School Bag Give Away  
15-16 Welcome Home Sunday

## COLLECTION TEAMS

### AUGUST

|           |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|
| 2 Team 1  | 9 Team 2            |
| 16 Team 3 | 23 Team 1 30 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



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



QRC 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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