

Holy Name Of Jesus Catholic Church



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**We welcome all
in fellowship, sharing our gifts,
and reflecting God's love.**



The Josephites
Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart



Holy Name of Jesus School

Holy Name of Jesus Church is a Roman Catholic community rooted in a rich tradition of African American spirituality. We hear the call which Pope Paul VI spoke to all the sons and daughters of Africa: "You must give your gift of Blackness to the whole Church.

As a family of diverse African and Hispanic heritages, we are dedicated to proclaiming the saving message of Jesus Christ through spirit-filled worship, evangelization, Catholic education, and social justice outreach that respects, values, appreciates, and celebrates the cultural heritages of our diverse community

December 24, 2023



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastoral Administration

Very Rev. Kenneth C. Ugwu, SSJ.
Pastor

Rev. Chrysanthus Ugorji,
Associate Pastor

Deacon Douglass Johnson
Deacon José Penate
Deacon Hosea Alexander (*Rtd.*)

Mrs. Marilyn Cedeno, JD
Principal, Holy Name School

Mrs. Catherine Brown,
Director Religious Formation

Mrs. Nelly Molina
Administrative Assistant

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil - 4:30pm
Sunday: 9:00am – English
12:00pm – Spanish

***Holy Rosary**— 30 minutes
before Sunday masses.

Daily Morning Mass:
Tuesday—Friday - 7:30am
School Mass—Wed—8.15am

Confessions: Saturdays
4:10pm – 4:30pm
or by appointment.

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
9:00am – 6:00pm
Saturday & Sunday Closed

Sacraments

Any parishioner who wishes to arrange a **Wedding** must contact the priest at least 6 months prior to the desired wedding date. Parents desiring **Baptism** for their children are encouraged to contact the office to arrange for the required preparation class for parents and Godparents. When a **Funeral** is to be celebrated, please contact the priest before contacting the Funeral Home. Funerals are not permitted on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation.

Mass Scripture Readings for the Week (Dec 25– Dec 31)

Monday	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 89 Acts 13:16-17 Matthew 1:1-25
Tuesday	Acts 6:8-10;7:54 Psalm 31 Matthew 10:17-22
Wednesday	1 John 1:1-4 Psalm 97 John 20:2-8
Thursday	1 John 1:5-2:2 Psalm 124 Matthew 2:13-18
Friday	1 John 2:3-11 Psalm 96 Luke 2:22-35
Saturday	1 John 2:12-17 Psalm 96 Luke 2:36-40
Sunday	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 Psalm 128 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:22-40

Mass Intentions

All Mass intentions must be submitted to the Parish Office on or before Thursday.

Holy Hour / Adoration

First Friday of every Month
8-9AM & 7-8 PM
Rosary and Blessed Sacrament

Prayer Corner *Intercessory prayer is a vital part of our mission at Holy Name of Jesus.*



We update our prayer and sick list on a regular basis. If you want to be on the list, please email or call the parish office by Wednesday of each week.

Francis Awe, Oliska (Muffin) Batiste, Carol Batiste, Vincent Cocom, Anita Alexander, Hosea Alexander, Charisse Alexander, Michael Arnold, Wendy Bedford, Alida Blunt, Frederick Bradley, Anthony Braithwaite, Sara Brazier, Cathi Brewster, Betty Brown, Kim Brown, Lisa Brown, Rosa Chavarin, Julia Cocom, Jennie Dudley, Keira Easley, Raheim Enriquez, Anna Esquiviel, Arthur Ferguson, Ashley Ferguson, Madisyn Grant, Jim Higgins, Eddie Hilley, DeShawn Haylock, Gloria Irvine, Barbara James, Krystal James & family, Dcn Douglass & Sherrie Johnson, Olga Johnson, Herbie & Nedie King, Adrian Klemm, Lorraine Klemm, Sharon Lee, Maria Lopez, Frank LeSassier, Jr., Terrell Love III, Rick Mellett, Marilyn Leon-Middleton, Dimitri Morrison, Antonia Noguera, Godwin Orke, Ochuko Orkeh, Nia Porter, Brenda Robinson, Perla Sander, Antionette Sanders, Constance Sandiford, Andy & Audrey Shaw, Dana Sims, Jonel Seon, Sandra Simmons, Loise Smith, Yolanda Smith, Grant Soberanis Jr., Fredrick Stafford, Debra Stewart, Kamilie Swift, Pat Swinson, Janice Thornhill, Anyaa Trahan, Joanna Velloso, Tammy Brown-Ware and Treavon Ware, Valerie Walters, Sandra Wheeler, Alan Whitney, Oscar Williams, Jeanne Wiltz, and Regina Wiltz.

Bulletin Announcements

All Bulletin announcements Must be in the Parish Office one week before the published date.

Scam Alert!! Beware of any suspicious email or text messages.
Call the office for verification.

Sunday Reflection

Knowing your family history is important in establishing your identity. The longer form of today's Gospel lists many of the ancestors of Jesus and serves to establish Jesus' place in the history of Israel. Many important figures from the Hebrew Scriptures are named in this genealogy: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, Jesse, David, and Solomon, among many others. From among these names, however, two are highlighted: Abraham, the father of the Israelites because of God's promise to raise from his descendants a great nation, and David, the king who united the tribes of Israel and from whose descendants the Messiah would arise.

After you gather as a family, talk about the importance of your family's history. Recall where your ancestors came from. Tell some important stories from your family's history. In today's Gospel, we hear about Jesus' ancestors. Read today's Gospel, Matthew 1:1-25. Which names do you recognize from Hebrew Scripture? What do you know about these people? From this family history, we learn that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise to raise up a savior from the people of Israel. Conclude in prayer together thanking God for the gift of our Savior, Jesus, who saves us from our sins. Sing together one or more favorite Christmas hymns. Pray together the Glory Be to the Father.

Today's liturgy offers the option to read a longer or shorter form of the Gospel. If we read the longer form, we hear Matthew recount the ancestry of Jesus. This genealogy sets Jesus' birth within the context of the history of Israel, highlighting two of Jesus' ancestors—Abraham, the father of the Hebrew people, and David, the most important king of Israel. Jesus' ancestral lineage reinforces a central theme of Matthew's Gospel: Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophecies made to the people of Israel.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. During his betrothal to Mary, Joseph learned that Mary was pregnant. Betrothal in first-century Jewish culture was more than an engagement period; it was part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. If adultery was proved, the punishment might be death. Joseph had rights under Mosaic Law, but he chose to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract so as to protect Mary. The way that Joseph and Mary faced these extraordinary circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God.

The message the angel gave to Joseph in a dream reveals many important theological details about the child Mary will bear and about the child's role in God's plan. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in the Hebrew means "God saves." He will be the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy. He will be Emmanuel, "God with us." This is the mystery we celebrate at Christmas, the Incarnation. God chose to become a human being in the person of Jesus.

Stewardship Update

Weekly Goal—\$10,000

December 17, 2023

Actual Collection \$ 7,094.00

- \$ 2,906.00

Two Previous Years:

December 18, 2022 \$ 6,084.00

December 19, 2021 \$ 5,566.00

Thank you for your generous stewardship. Your church needs your financial support.



Online Giving

The link is: <https://www.holynameofjesus la.org/onlinegiving>

Online Giving

A Secure & Convenient Way to Contribute to Your Parish Online donations may be made at any time from the comfort of your own home or any place with internet access. Online donations are credited to your tax statement for the end of the year (except when made anonymously), and you can change your account preferences and donation amounts at any time.

Benefits of Online Giving include:

- No need to hassle with checks or cash
 - 24/7 web-based access
- Easily schedule recurring donations to coincide with your pay period
 - Credit card option allows you to take advantage of rewards such as air miles or cash bonuses
- No need to share bank account information because you enter it directly into the Online Giving secure site
 - Allows you to give even if you are unable to attend parish services
- Try Parish Text-To-Give by texting your dona-

Give Online 

Religious Education

. Learn more about your faith by becoming a catechist, for Sacramental Preparation, Confirmation and Youth Ministry, call Cathy Brown for more information.

CCD classes NO CLASS ON Saturday, 12/23 or 12/30. classes resume on Saturday, 1/ 6, 1/13, and 1/27 from 9:30-11:00am

Confirmation 1st and 2nd Classes resume on January 4th and 18th 7pm in the Acacia Center.

Reconciliation Service on Tuesday, Dec, 19th at 7pm

RCIA for those persons seeking to become catholic or learn about the faith.— **January 9th-Topic— Sacrament of Baptism.**

The parish telephone live conference number is (267) 807-9598; and the Access Number is 590725113#. Please note that we are live streaming on YouTube.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to join Praying of the Holy Rosary **30 minutes before** each mass in the church. May our Blessed Virgin Mary continue to intercede for us.

The parish wishes every member and ministry a Merry Christmas and prosperous new year. Meetings will be after new year in January of 2024.

Our Pastor Very Rev. Kenneth Ugwu will travel to Nigeria for a well deserved vacation rest. Keep him in our prayers for a safe trip and a wonderful time with his family. We will miss you.

Our Associate pastor Rev. Santhus Ugorji will be present for our continued pastoral activities. God bless him.



Holy Name School

HNOJ is Enrolling PreK—8th Grade

HNOJ wants to thank all the parishioners who helped purchase our new religion books. May God bless you for your generosity.

Christmas vacation begins Mon., Dec. 18—Fri. Jan. 5. School resumes on Mon., Jan. 8, 2024



RCIA
A Journey In Faith

Did you know?

What is a trial balloon?

One of the best ways safe adults can help children who are suffering from abuse is to recognize and listen to their disclosures — even if they are done in stages or in subtle ways. A child may float a “trial balloon” disclosure, meaning he may use a single sentence or phrase to see if a safe adult will respond appropriately. Be on the lookout for sudden disclosures like, “I don’t want to go to So-and-so’s house anymore,” and try responding in a way designed to let the child continue to open up: “Do you want to tell me why?” or “Let’s talk about that,” for example. For more information, read the VIR-TUS® article “Test Balloons or Trial Balloons” at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/..

CHAIRPERSON
Thomas St. Julien