

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 21, 2025



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastoral Administration

Very Rev. Kenneth C. Ugwu, SSJ.
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

Mrs. Jessye Stafford
Pastoral Council Chairperson

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 Intentions

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

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, Carol, Oliska (Muffin) and Vanessa Batiste, Vincent Cocom, Anita Alexander, Hosea Alexander, Charisse Alexander, Camille Alvarado, Michael Arnold, Wendy Bedford, Alida Blunt, Frederick Bradley, Anthony Braithwaite, Sara Brazier, Catherine Brewster, Kim Brown, Lisa Brown, Cheryl Broyard, Holly Budge, Rosa Chavarin, Julia Cocom, Marsha E. Domingue, Jennie Dudley, Keira Easley, Raheim Enriquez, Anna Esquivel, Sean Eugene, Marlon Fajardo, Arthur Ferguson, Ashley Ferguson, Madisyn Grant, Sylvia Garbutt, Victor Garbutt, Jim Higgins, Eddie Hilley, DeShawn Haylock, Barbara James, Krystal James & family, Dcn Douglass & Sherrie Johnson, Olga Johnson, L.J. Johnson, Herbie & Nedie King, Adrian Klemm, Lorraine Klemm, Sharon Lee, Maria Lopez, Jr., Terrell Love III, Amy Mahoney, Rick Mellett, Marilyn Leon-Middleton, Bernard Mitchell, Dimitri Morrison, Amy Mahoney, Antonia Noguera, Godwin Orkeh, Nia Porter, Brenda Robinson, Perla Sander, Constance Sandifold, Andy & Audrey Shaw, Dana Sims, Jonel Seon, Sandra Simmons, Loise Smith, Yolanda Smith, Grant Soberanis Jr., Fredrick Stafford, Kamilie Swift, Pat Swinson, Anyaa Trahan, Joanna Vello, Tammy & Treavon Ware, Valerie Walters, Sandra Wheeler, Alan Whitney, Oscar Williams, 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.

Holy Hour / Adoration

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

Mass Scripture Readings for the Week (Dec 22-Dec 28)

Monday	1 Samuel 1:24-28 1 Samuel 2:4-7 Luke 1:46-56
Tuesday	Malachi 3:1-4,23-24 Psalm 25 Luke 1:57-66
Wednesday	2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-16 Psalm 89 Luke 1:67-79
Thursday	Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 89 Acts 13:16-17,22-25 Matthew 1:1-25
Friday	Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59 Psalm 31 Matthew 10:17-22
Saturday	1 John 1:1-4 Psalm 31 Matthew 10:17-22
Sunday	Sirach 3:2-6,12-14 Psalm 128 Colossians 3:12-21 Matthew 2:13-15,23

Sunday Reflection

Joseph and Mary are our models for family life and for service of God. Even when the circumstances seemed unclear, Joseph trusted God. Healthy family life is built upon trust, trust in God and trust of one another.

Spend some time talking as a family about the importance of trust in your family life, including the ways in which the children trust the adults in the family as well as the ways in which the adults trust the children. Then read today's Gospel. Talk about Joseph's trust of God and reflect together on how your family trusts in God.

Pray together that your family life will be built on trust, as was the family life of Joseph and Mary. Pray and sing together an Advent song, such as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas: "Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about" (Matthew 1:18).

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. Today's Gospel passage is the second movement in this story. In the preceding verses of the first chapter of Matthew's Gospel, the Evangelist has listed the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his lineage through King David to Abraham. In the chapter to follow, Matthew tells of the visit from the Magi, the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, and Herod's massacre of the infants in Bethlehem. (The other stories which we associate with Christmas, the Annunciation, the Visitation, the angel and the shepherds, are found in the Gospel of Luke).

We must not gloss over too quickly the difficult circumstances described in today's Gospel. The way that Joseph and Mary face these circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God. Joseph and Mary are betrothed to be married. This is sometimes described as an engagement period, but it is more than that. Betrothal in first century Jewish culture was in fact the first part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. Mary is found to be with child. If adultery is proven, the punishment might be death. Joseph has rights under Mosaic law, but chooses to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract, so as to protect Mary. Then God intervenes.

Stewardship Update

Weekly Goal—\$10,000

December 14, 2025

Actual Collection \$ 10,467.00

+ \$ 467.00

Two Previous Years:

December 15, 2024 \$ 5,255.00

December 17, 2023 \$ 7,094.00

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



Online Giving

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

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.



Religious Education

OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, formerly RCIA). OCIA classes are for those seeking to become Catholic or learn about the faith. Order of Christian Initiation for Adults, formerly RCIA). Learn more about your faith by becoming a catechist for Sacramental Preparation, Confirmation, and Youth Ministry. For more information, contact Cathy Brown. Classes are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. On Tuesday, **January 6, tooic Sacrament of Baptism presenter Deacon Patterson**. All are welcome.

1st and 2nd year Confirmation classes - January 8th & 15th at 7 pm
Religious Formation - No classes will be held on Sat., Dec., 27th and on January 3, 2026. Classes resume on Saturday, January 10th- January 17th, and 24th.

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 next group church cleaning is on Saturday, January 3, 2026, at 7:30 am, led by the 50+ Club, Altar Society, and Altar Servers. Everyone is welcome to help.

The Josephite Liturgical and Historical Calendar is more than a calendar—it uniquely presents Black Catholic history and heritage. Copies are still available for a \$5.00 donation. You may obtain a limited copy from the ushers or the parish office.

Join Fr. Ugwu, SSJ for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan, October 6–17, 2026. This faith-deepening journey includes visits to sacred sites, Mass at holy places, and an opportunity to experience the Scriptures in a powerful, living way. Space is limited, see the flyer or contact the parish office for details.

The Serving Hands Ministry will hold the next Monthly Parish Food Sale on January 3rd and 4th, sponsored by the African American Cultural Awareness Ministry. All are encouraged to support. Thank you for your generosity!

Christmas Eve Wednesday, December 24, we will have our Christmas Carol at 11:30pm followed by our Christmas Midnight Mass. Thursday, December 25 Christmas Day we will have our Masses at 9:00am English and 12:00pm Spanish

Holy Name School

HNOJ is Enrolling PreK—8th Grade

Christmas Break Monday, December 22-January 2, 2026. School resumes on Monday, January 5, 2026.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Midnight Mass— Thursday, December 25, 2025 at 12:00 am—Christmas Caroling starts at 11:45 pm.

Mass—Thurs., Dec. 25, at 9:00 am (English)

Mass— Thurs., Dec. 25 at 12:00 pm (Spanish)

Mass— Thurs., Jan. 1 at 9:00 am—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Did you know?

Check Christmas presents for button batteries and other hazards

Many parents will be spending the next few days assembling (and reassembling) their children's gifts, and it's important to be on the lookout for potential hazards, including button batteries and small parts. A couple of safety tips include following age guidance and other safety information on toy packaging; getting safety gear, including helmets, for scooters and other riding toys; and keeping small balls and toys with small parts away from children younger than age 3. For more information, visit <https://www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Holiday-Safety>.

CHAIRPERSON
Thomas St. Julien