

**NEW ORLEANS**

**300**  
1718 - 2018

**TRICENTENNIAL**

From *Bienville* to *Bourbon Street* to *bounce*. 300 moments that make New Orleans unique.



**WHAT HAPPENED**

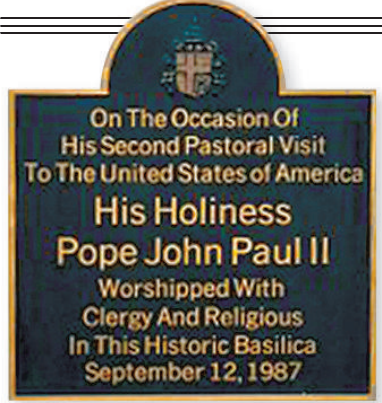
Pope John Paul II arrived in New Orleans on Sept. 11, 1987.



Pope John Paul II speaks at the Louisiana Superdome on Sept. 12, 1987.



Pope John Paul II celebrates Mass outside at the University of New Orleans.



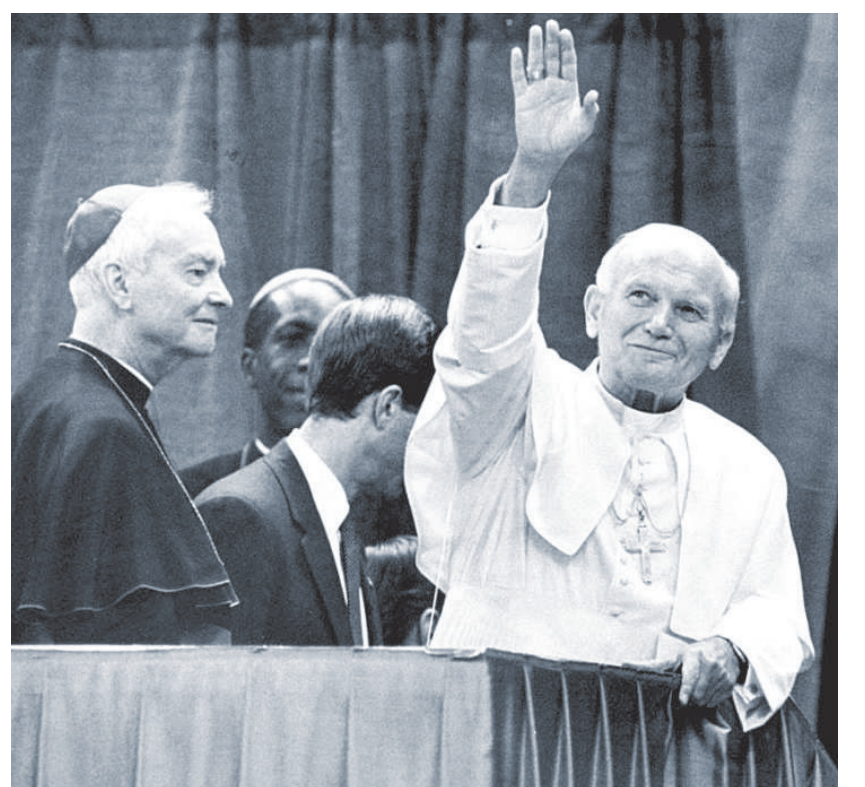
The pope's visit is commemorated with a plaque at St. Louis Cathedral.



Pope John Paul II with Xavier President Norman Francis.

New Orleans showed off its Catholic roots and heritage when **Pope John Paul II** visited the city for three days in 1987.

The pope's stop was one of nine he made in the United States. Pope John Paul II was greeted on Sept. 11 at the New Orleans International Airport by the Olympia Brass Band. He spent two nights at the Notre Dame Seminary. He spoke on Sept. 12 to 3,000 clergy and worshippers at St. Louis Cathedral after a parade through the French Quarter that locals unsurprisingly turned into a party. The Holy Father spoke to Catholic educators at Xavier University and went to the Superdome where he attended a youth rally featuring a small Mardi Gras parade and the St. Augustine Marching 100. The visit also featured a papal Mass outside at the University of New Orleans attended by more than 130,000 that featured Pete Fountain and Al Hirt. The Mass was delayed by rain, which literally stopped as the pope took the stage. Pope John Paul II died in 2005 and was canonized in 2014.



The Holy Father, with Archbishop Philip Hannan, waves to those attending a youth rally at the Superdome.



The Holy Father arrives in the Superdome in a modified "Popemobile."

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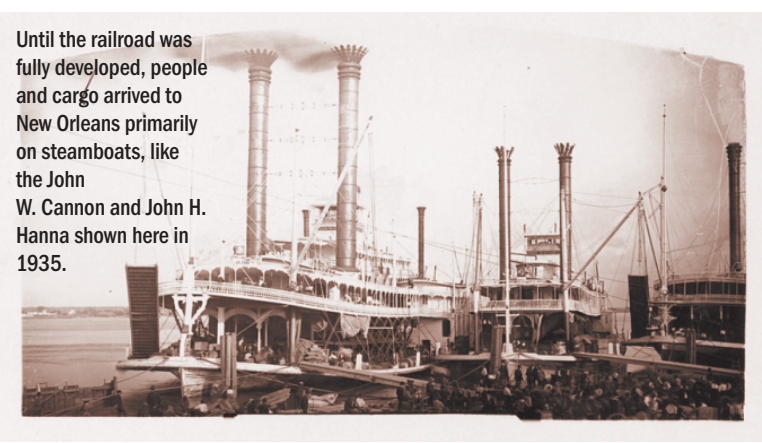


**WHAT HAPPENED**

In 1896, the Louisiana Legislature created the Port of New Orleans Board of Commissioners.



The Port of New Orleans handled 36 million short tons of cargo in 2016.

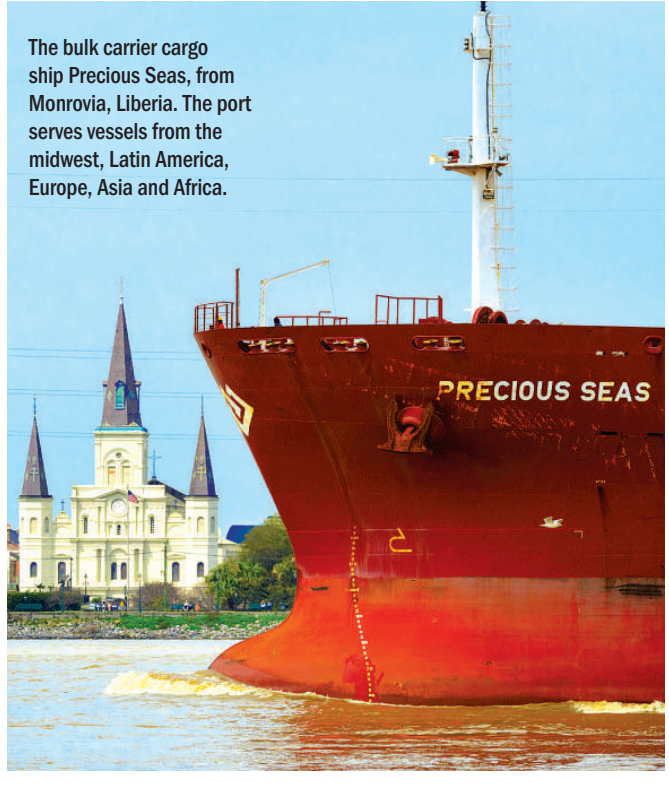


Until the railroad was fully developed, people and cargo arrived to New Orleans primarily on steamboats, like the John W. Cannon and John H. Hanna shown here in 1935.



The port first developed modern cruise facilities in 1984. A new cruise terminal on Erato Street was opened in 2006 and in 2011, the Julia Street cruise terminal was opened in 2011.

**The Port of New Orleans** has fulfilled the promise Jean Baptiste le Moyne Sieur de Bienville saw in the river crescent when he founded New Orleans in 1718.



The bulk carrier cargo ship Precious Seas, from Monrovia, Liberia. The port serves vessels from the midwest, Latin America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

The critical port on the Mississippi was the source of the city's wealth for centuries through its tobacco, cotton and sugar exports, and the port was the reason the United States began negotiations that eventually led to the Louisiana Purchase. The port also made New Orleans an important Union conquest during the Civil War. The port has existed since the city's founding, with ships often loading and unloading on the riverbank. The Louisiana Legislature's creation of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans in 1896 regulated operations along the riverfront. The commission oversaw the construction of wharves, buildings and a grain elevator. In addition to moving goods, the port was an entry point for slaves and immigrants. Between 1820 and 1860, more than 550,000 immigrants went through port, making it the second leading port of entry in the U.S., behind only New York. The port has diversified with the times, adding properties along the Mississippi River, the Gulf Coast Intracoastal Waterway and the Inner Harbor Navigational Canal. The port has invested more than \$500 million in port infrastructure recently, including new container terminals and a cruise terminal. For the last five years, the port has set new records each year in the number of cruise passengers and cargo passing through the port.



A Strachan Shipping Co. steamer is docked at a grain elevator on the Mississippi in 1956.