



2026 CITY OF OPELOUSAS ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARADE RULES AND GUIDELINES

Parade Date: **Thursday, December 10, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.** Parade line-up is from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Parade travels down East Landry to Bullard and Landry Streets.

1. **Christmas Music Only** This is a children's Christmas parade. Only Christmas music may be played or sung—no exceptions.
2. **Late Arrivals-** Participants should be in their designated spot by 5:00 p.m. Large parade floats will be lined up beginning at Landry Street alongside Myrtle Grove Cemetery. Other units will line up at the Exxon Station on Wallior Street and Academy Street.
3. **Drop off point** – Parade participants are to be dropped off at the Farmer's Market Pavilion at Le Vieux Village. From there, participants will be escorted to parade floats/and or units. Band members are to walk through the village and lineup in the back parking lot on Academy St. behind The Orphan Train Museum.
4. **Parade Assistance** - If assistance is needed in locating your spot, please look for a member of the parade staff near the Farmer's Market (look for the tall red feathered flag).
5. **Street Closure** - Academy Street between Vine and Landry behind the LA Orphan Train Museum Parking lot will be blocked off and will not be available to access.
6. **Participant Parking** - For those participating in the parade, parking is available on the city parking lot adjacent to Williams Funeral Home on Vine and Academy Streets.
7. **Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus** - will be provided by the Parade Committee. No float or entry may feature a live Santa and Mrs. Claus. Only one (1) Santa will be in the parade and will be on the last float of the parade.
8. At the end of the parade route, **floats** will proceed to the Yambilee parking lot. Marching groups such as bands and walking groups (dance teams, etc.) will stop at the parking lot of Meche's Supermarket / Our Lady of Mercy Church.
9. **Prohibited items** -No glass containers or tobacco products are allowed on the floats. No alcoholic beverages, skateboards, or unleashed animals are allowed in the parade.
10. **Throws** - Individually wrapped candy and/or novelties may be thrown. Each entry will be responsible for throws for their groups.

For questions related to the parade email tourism@cityofopelousas.com or call 337-948-6263