ST. ANN CHURCH
AND NATIONAL SHRINE
4940 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA 70006
504-455-7071 - Fax 504-455-7076
Website: stannchurchandshrine.org - Email: stannmet@bellsouth.net
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stannchurchandshrine
Twitter: https://twitter.com/stannmetairie
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/stannchurch

CHURCH HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 6:00 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday 6:00 am to 8:15 pm

WEEKEND EUCHARIST
Saturday: 7:30 am Mass
4:00 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday Masses:
8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am and 5:00 pm

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST
Monday - Friday: 6:30 am & 8:45 am
Tuesday: 7:00 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm
ending with Benediction
First Friday: 9:30 - 10:30 am

RECONCILIATION
Tuesday: 6:00 to 6:45 pm
Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm
5:00 to 5:30 pm

Mission Statement
St. Ann, a Roman Catholic Parish of the
Archdiocese of New Orleans, is a faith family,
serving the needs of the parishioners and
the wider community.
Home to the National Shrine of St. Ann, we
are committed to providing opportunities to
all for worship and service, evangelization
and education, stewardship and ministry.
St. Ann Parish welcomes and invites all
people to join us in proclaiming and living the
Gospel values of Jesus Christ.

Pastor
Rev. Billy O’Riordan
455-7071, ext. 223

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Colin Braud, ext. 224

Deacons
Mr. Philip Doolen, ext. 231
Mr. Raymond Bertin,
Facilities Manager, ext. 226
Mr. Tom Fox, ext. 257

Director of Religious Education
and Youth Ministry
Mr. David Wilson, ext. 225
e-mail: stanneled@bellsouth.net

Director of Liturgical Music
Trish Foti, 559-8637
e-mail: tfoti@stannchurchandshrine.org

Office Manager
Mrs. Debbie Sommers, ext. 221

Church Secretaries
Mrs. Linda Ehrhardt, ext. 222
Mrs. Beverly Musso, ext. 222

St. Ann School - 455-8383
Mrs. Susan Kropog, Principal
www.stannschool.org

WEBSITE POLICY
The parish bulletin is published on the parish
website on the internet. Any person who
does not want his or her name or picture in
the bulletin or on the internet, please notify
the Parish Office immediately in writing.

A CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD
This is for students in grades kindergarten,
one, two and three and is held during the
Sunday 9:30 am Mass.

BAPTISM
Baptisms are celebrated on the first Sunday
of each month at 12:30 pm. Please call the
Church Office at least three months before
the anticipated date of birth. To schedule an
interview and date for Pre-Baptism Seminar,
call Deacon Ray Bertin at 455-7071, ext.
226. The celebration of infant Baptism will
be arranged during the interview process.

MATRIMONY
The prospective bride or groom must con-
tact one of the parish priests or deacons at
least 6 months in advance.

FUNERALS
Families should contact the Church Office
before making any arrangements with the
funeral home.

VISITATION OF THE SICK
Please notify the Church Office when some-
one is in the hospital or sick at home and
unable to attend Mass.

ROSARY GROUPS
1st Saturday of each month following the
7:30 am Mass in Church.
Every Saturday 3:20 pm-3:40 pm, before
the 4:00 pm Mass in Church.
Rosary & Divine Mercy, every Wednesday
9:30 am to 10:30 am in the St. Ann Room.

NOVENA TO ST. ANN
Every Tuesday after the 8:45 am and 7:00
pm Masses. Twice a year a solemn nine
day novena is held at 10:00 am and 7:00
pm, consisting of Mass, homily and novena
prayers. July 18th through 26th (Feast of St.
Ann) and the Thursday after Ash Wednes-
day through Friday of the first week of Lent.

“LITTLE CHURCH”
“Little Church” is a babysitting service which
is available every Sunday during the 9:30
am Mass for children ages 1 to 5 years old.
Please bring your children to the Parish
Ministry Center, behind the church.
Our readings today are all about resurrection and rising from the dead. In the first reading we see a prophecy from the Prophet Ezekiel of the dead rising from their graves. The redemption of the Lord is mentioned in the psalm. St. Paul reminds the Romans that the same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead also dwells in us, and in the Gospel we see the very well known occurrence of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. The Resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the singularly most important event in the Christian life, or the history of the world for that matter. St. Paul even said that if Christ didn’t rise from the dead then our preaching and our faith is in vain (1 Cor. 15:14).

Every Sunday in the Creed we profess belief in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. So in the resurrection all bodies will rise from the dead and become reunited with their souls, which were separated at the moment of death. Drawing from St. Matthew’s Gospel the sheep will be separated from the goats. The sheep will enjoy eternal bliss, while the goats will enjoy eternal damnation (Mt. 25:31-46). The next life will have a corporality or bodyliness to it. The fruits of Heaven will be enjoyed physically, and the punishments of Hell will be endured physically as well.

There is a popular false misconception concerning what happens to us when we die, and that is some think that we become angels when we die. This is not the case. We do not become angels when we die. We remain human after death. In the period between our death and the general resurrection our existence will be entirely spiritual, as our bodies are dead but our souls, which are immortal, continue to be in existence. We do not become angels after the resurrection either, as our glorified bodies will be united with our souls.

As we meditate on the resurrection this weekend, and implicitly on our own death, let us become more committed to following Christ. Where we end up after death is determined by how we live here on earth and the state of our soul when we die. Let us continue to persevere in our Lenten penances, as Holy Week will soon be upon us. May we accompany Christ’s Passion and Death during this Triduum, so that we might one day rise with Him into eternal life.

Reflection by Fr. Braud
School News
Support St. Ann School by purchasing books at Barnes and Noble this week through April 8th. You can visit the store or go to www.BN.com/bookfairs to buy books online. The code is #12093837. The students in grades 3-6 will be participating in standardized testing this week. We are very proud of our students and very proud of their test scores! We will have middle school career day on Wednesday. We thank the many parents and community members who participate in this. The Men's Club Crawfish-Seafood Dinner is next Friday, April 7th.

Parish Calendar

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>4/3</td>
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<td>12:20 PM FIRST COMMUNION PRACTICE/CHURCH</td>
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<td>6:30 PM ST. ANTHONY MTG./ST. RAY</td>
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<td>7 PM VOCATIONS MEETING/PARISH OFFICE</td>
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<td>4/4</td>
<td>9:15 ADORATION</td>
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<td>6:20 PM PSR CLASS/CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>7:30 PM BOY SCOUTS IN CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>7:30 PM CATECHIST CLASS/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>9:30 AM PRAYER GROUP/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>9:30 AM SCHOOL STATIONS GRADES K &amp; 1/CHURCH</td>
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<td>1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REH./CHURCH</td>
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<td>7 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION/WELCOME CTR.</td>
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<td>4/7</td>
<td>8:45 PM SCHOOL MASS GRADE 2/CHURCH</td>
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<td>1:30 PM GRANDPARENT’S MASS GRADES 5-7/CHURCH</td>
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<td>5 PM MEN’S CLUB SEAFOOD DINNER/CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>7 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS/CHURCH</td>
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<td>4/9</td>
<td>6 PM FAMILY FEST COMMITTEE MTG./CAFETERIA</td>
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The St. Ann CYO is in the midst of being revamped. YOU can be a part of something big, as the CYO goes in a new direction. Many of you have expressed an interest in joining and helping to move the CYO forward but were hesitant because of the perceived lack of interest in the parish. Here is the chance... YOU BE THE CHANGE.

Fr. Billy sees this as a very important time in our youth ministry. This is an opportunity to do something great.

Go to the St. Ann website and sign up for the CYO. http://stannchurchandshrine.org/cyo

To be a CYO member, you must be in grades 8-12. There will be a meeting in the Welcome Center on Sunday, April 2 at 6 p.m., after the 5 p.m. Mass. Come, bring a friend, and bring your thoughts and ideas of what you want the CYO to be.

Feel free to forward to your friends, and tell your friends.

Middle School Grandparent’s Day
St. Ann is hosting Grandparents Day on April 7 for the grandparents and special friends of our middle school students. This special event will begin with a Mass at 1:30 p.m. Guests of our middle school students should meet in church at 1:15 p.m. Seventh grade student guests should enter the Loveland Street doors, sixth grade student guests should enter through the Transcontinental Drive doors, and fifth grade student guests should enter through the Meadowdale Street doors. The guests will meet their children and sit with them for Mass. There will be reserved seats for guests of the altar servers, readers and choir members near their children.

As in the past, if your child’s grandparents are unable to attend, please feel free to invite a special friend or relative.

After Mass, the middle school students will be permitted to leave with their grandparents and special friends. There will be no early dismissal penalty. Cookies will be served outside the church immediately following the Mass.

Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to an enjoyable afternoon for the middle school students and their guests to share.

Palm Sunday—Regular Mass Schedule
Monday, April 10th
- Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM
- 40 Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 6:30 AM Mass until 10:00 PM on Wednesday in the Adoration Chapel ONLY
- Mass of Chrism at St. Louis Cathedral: 10:00 AM
- Confession 6:00-7:00PM

Tuesday, April 11th
- Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM & 7:00 PM

Wednesday, April 12th
- Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM

Holy Thursday, April 13th
- Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM
- Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 7:00 PM followed by procession to the Day Chapel, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight.

Good Friday, April 14th
- Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM
- Celebration of the Lord’s Passion: 3:00 PM
- Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, April 15th
- Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM followed by RCIA Preparatory Rites
- Easter Vigil: 8:00 PM. The entire celebration of this Vigil should take place at night, that is, it should begin after nightfall and end before dawn.
- The Easter Vigil is not to be celebrated at the time of day that is customary to celebrate anticipated Sunday Masses. [No 3:00 PM Confessions or 4:00 PM Mass]

Easter Sunday, April 16th
- Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM [No 5:00 PM Mass]
Dinner’s Almost Ready -
Make Your Plans Now to Attend the St. Ann Parish Lenten Dinners
Friday, April 7

Join with the St. Ann Men’s Club as they cook up something great for the annual St. Ann Parish Lenten Seafood Dinners. Dine-in, Take-Out or Drive-thru our new Meadowdale Street pick-up area, the choice is yours.

On Friday, April 7, we will be serving up fish ($8), shrimp ($8) and fish/shrimp combo ($10) dinners 6 to 8 pm in the St. Ann Cafeteria. Don’t like fried seafood? We have you covered with pizza by the slice ($2), seafood gumbo ($5) and fries by the order ($1). Beverage service available for dine-in only. Dinner prices include potatoes, bread and our famous Men’s Club salad.

For more information, please see our website at www.stannmensclub.org, email us at stannmensclub@gmail.com or call the church office.

Dear Members of St. Ann,

Thank you for your generosity in the donation of $404.00 for the local home for victims of human trafficking. I made a recent visit with the young women (ages 12-17) who are staying there to heal after their experience of being trafficked. They are beautiful young women who are finally able to be in a place where they are loved unconditionally. The staff daily meets their needs—physical, emotional, mental, spiritual—and gives them a place where they may truly come to know the love of God and the joy of living authentically. Without your generosity and the generosity of many in the archdiocese, the staff would not be able to care for the girls as efficiently. The girls, the staff, and I truly appreciate the effort and love you put into this project. Thank you so much!

Sincerely, Debbie Shinskie
Director of the Respect Life Office, Archdiocese of New Orleans

Thank You from the St. Ann’s Sewing Seams of Faith Ministry
The members of St. Ann’s Sewing Seams of Faith Ministry are so pleased to have distributed so many Prayer Blankets during the Anointing Mass of this year’s Lenten Novena. We would like to express our gratitude to those who so generously made a donation to our ministry. The money will help continue our efforts to make Prayer Blankets for those who are in need of their comfort and prayers.

"COULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?"
~MARK 14:37

The Adoration Ministry offers an invitation to quiet prayer. Faith brings to one’s life a thirst to know the Lord, to know God’s will and to know oneself better; and quiet prayer provides a time to listen and to present to the Lord individual cares and hopes for families, friends and oneself. Every Tuesday at St Ann Church, following the 8:45 A.M. Mass, a day of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins and continues until 6:30 P.M., prior to the 7:00 P.M. Novena Mass. If you are interested in spending an hour with the Blessed Sacrament, please complete the form at https://stannchurchandshrine.org/adoration-society

The Adoration Society ensures that the Blessed Sacrament is never left alone.
Fifth Sunday of Lent

Release Us by Your Spirit

God of all life,
who raised Lazarus from the dead,
and released the poor from their suffering;
you who lead us in the land of the living:
bless us and give us your Spirit,
your Spirit of generosity and holiness,
of life and of creative energy.
Lift us from our graves of sinfulness
and raise us from our dry and wasteful ways.
May our sins be left behind
and our life in your Spirit bring us joy.
We ask this through Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

April 2, 2017

Spirit Dwelling Within

Today’s Readings: Ezekiel 37:12–14; Psalm 130:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 7–8; Romans 8:8–11; John 11:1–45. The Spirit of God gives life. The Spirit, given by God, is all about life. Today’s readings emphasize the role of the Spirit in those apparently dead. Ezekiel emphasizes this quite vividly: graves will be opened and we will rise from them. That is only the beginning, though. God will settle us in our land by putting his Spirit within us.

Have you already died, buried in a grave of apathy or disillusionment or sinfulness? Have you allowed a negative attitude or an overly judgmental nature to cut you off from God? If so, you have dug your own grave. If the Spirit of God is within you, now is the time to release that Spirit, for it is the spirit of life. The First Reading reminds us that God’s Spirit is in us that we might live; and we are not just to live, but live and “settle” in the land of the living.

We who have been baptized carry within us the Spirit of Christ, as St. Paul reminds us in the Second Reading, and therefore have life—Christ’s life—dwelling in us. That is not just a calling, but a reminder that we are sustained by our baptismal graces throughout our ups and downs, our joys and our failings. We do not need to remain in the graves we have dug. We must settle in the land of the living.

Belief in Jesus as the Resurrection and the Life is at the heart of today’s Gospel passage about the raising of Lazarus. In the dialogue between Jesus and Martha, Jesus states clearly, “Whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live.” Martha, Mary, and Lazarus had lived the life of the Spirit of God. They not only believed that Jesus was the Messiah, they lived that daily. Jesus’ raising Lazarus from the dead, then, is an affirmation that the grave had no power over a life lived in the Spirit.
This Week at Home

Monday, April 3

In the Dark Valley I Fear No Evil

Today, both readings from the Old and New Testaments speak to ancient punishments for women, but they also speak of Daniel and Jesus going beyond first-glance assumptions, and finding justice that is built on faith and truth, not first impressions. If anything, we often need to look two, three, four, or more times at people and situations before deciding where God is in the experience or relationship. Today’s Readings: Daniel 13:1–9, 15–17, 19–30, 33–62; Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6; John 8:1–11.

Tuesday, April 4

St. Isidore of Seville

Isidore was from a family that had many bishops. He was known for his vast knowledge and his use of that knowledge to guide the priests under his charge in Seville, Spain, in the early seventh century. He wrote the first complete compilation of knowledge, and is now patron of the Internet. His gift was the ability to use what he knew to guide laity and clergy alike in how they were to live their faith devoutly. Today’s Readings: Numbers 21:4–9; Psalm 102:2–3, 16–18, 19–21; John 8:21–30.

Wednesday, April 5

St. Vincent Ferrer, Priest

A Dominican priest, Vincent Ferrer was a gifted preacher. Living in the late fourteenth century, he was caught up in the Great Schism of the Church, a time when disagreements were so volatile that more than one pope reigned at the same time. St. Vincent, however, preached Christ, and evangelized throughout Europe, drawing people to the faith through the Paschal Mystery and not politics. Today’s Readings: Daniel 3:14–20, 91–92, 95; Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; John 8:31–42.

Thursday, April 6

Abraham’s Covenant

The use of the word covenant in today’s readings might seem ancient and impractical to some. Yet our Baptism is a type of covenant. Each year during Easter Time, we renew our baptismal promises, saying I do to our commitment to a life of faith to which we continually strive. During this Lent, take to time prepare for that renewal, thinking of the place of that covenant in your life. Today’s Readings: Genesis 17:3–9; Psalm 105:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; John 8:51–59.

Friday, April 7

St. John Baptist de la Salle, Priest

Known for his tireless work educating the poor, St. John Baptist de la Salle built schools. He founded the Christian Brothers and the first school to train future teachers. He called his work an outpouring from God, who “guides all things with wisdom and serenity.” He died on Good Friday 1719, in his native France. Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 20:10–13; Psalm 18:2–3a, 3bc–4, 5–6, 7; John 10:31–42.

Saturday, April 8

I Will Be Their God

If we are not careful, the unity expressed in today’s readings can elude us. The unity is of “the dispersed,” of a land previously divided into two kingdoms. How do we work for unity among the wide diversity of peoples, neighborhoods, and faiths that we know? As we approach Holy Week, let us focus on the Cross as our symbol of unity among peoples, as well as between earth and heaven. Today’s Readings: Ezekiel 37:21–28; Jeremiah 31:10, 11–12abcd, 13; John 11:45–56.

Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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Date: April 2, 2017

Contact: Linda Ehrhardt (504)455-7071 ext. 222

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Special Instructions: