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

CHURCH HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and 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

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 Phil Doolen at 455-7071, ext. 231. The celebration of infant Baptism will be arranged during the interview process.

MATRIMONY
The prospective bride or groom must contact 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 someone 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 Wednesday 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.
They rose up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill to hurl him down ... Like so many prophets before and after him, Jesus was rejected by his own people - they were blind to his gifts and they couldn’t take the truth!

Jeremiah never wanted to be a prophet and was overwhelmed by the sheer burden, standing out as a lonely figure whose mission seemed to have failed. Yet, St. Paul tells us to: Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts ... In other words, get to know yourself as made in the image and likeness of God and appreciate the gifts you have been given in time and place to minster. God expects the world to be a better place because of our presence in it.

Jesus was saddened by what happened to him in Nazareth, but he didn’t get embittered either ... He moved on! During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, I am sure there are “things” that we need to move on from or get over during this Jubilee Year of Mercy.

It’s amazing the swing from approval to the negativity and anger and violence in the attempt to throw Jesus over the hill. What poisoned their reactions? Why is the local prophet not accepted? It’s possible that the folks of Nazareth found Jesus too human for their admiration - Joseph and Mary’s son ... Some people find the Church and Pope Francis too human for their liking. We should be glad the Church is human and frail because that means there is room for you and me.

Perhaps another point for reflection might be Jesus’ warning against letting rejection by others keep us from doing what we think is right and just and striving to eagerly use our gifts for the betterment of society. Our vocation as Christians is to be prophets of the Father in this world. This is what our baptism and confirmation is all about. To paraphrase the words of St. Paul: “In a world of darkness, we Christians are called by God to shine like stars.” [Philippians 2:15]

In closing, because of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, I share this thought: God does not say, “Be good, and I will love you.” Rather he says, “Because I love you, you should be good” Reflections by Fr. Billy

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

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<th>Day</th>
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<td>Vigil</td>
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<td>Dr. Anthony Scalco</td>
<td>Mary Quaid (Healing)</td>
<td>Elmo Spellman, Iris Leinag, Sadie Russo, Anthony Capozza, Sr.</td>
<td>Floyd Halligan</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sunday**

- January 31
  - 4:00 pm: Vigil
  - 10:00 am: 11:00 am
  - 5:00 pm: Parishioners

**Monday**

- February 1
  - 6:30 am: Dr. Anthony Scalco
  - 8:45 am: Curtis Dupree

**Tuesday**

- February 2
  - 6:30 am: Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander
  - 8:45 am: Janel Rosa Hamide
  - 7:00 pm: Janel Rosa Hamide

**Wednesday**

- February 3
  - 6:30 am: Floyd Halligan
  - 8:45 am: Michael Jaeger (Health)

**Thursday**

- February 4
  - 6:30 am: Chris Alessi
  - 8:45 am: Thomas Dupree

**Friday**

- February 5
  - 6:30 am: Patrice Cazaux Lawson
  - 8:45 am: Moore & Edna Gauthier

**Saturday**

- February 6
  - 7:30 am: Elaine Tusa

**LIFETOUCH 8x10 PICTURES**

Parishioners who have not received their 8x10 pictures from Lifetouch can pick them up at the parish office. Thank You!

**January 31 - February 6, 2016**

“Sanctuary Candle” & “Altar Flowers” In Memory of Thomas J. Kelly
Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Archdiocesan Golden Anniversary celebration will take place on Sunday, June 5, 2016 at 3 pm in Saint Philip Neri Church in Metairie. Please Note: This year’s celebration will not be a Mass, but a Prayer Service. Attendance of Mass for Sunday obligation will have to be met within one’s respective parish. To register, please contact the parish office before February 24, 2016.

Adult Beginner Bible Class! Everyone is invited to attend an eight-part DVD-led series that will provide the easiest way to understand the Bible. Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, by Jeff Cavins makes the complex simple. In this series, You will:

- Make sense of the Bible and see how it relates to your everyday life
- Discover the remarkable connections between the Old and New Testaments
- See how the sacraments, the Church and our entire Catholic Faith is rooted in Scripture
- … and much more!

The cost is $20 per person which includes a workbook, bookmark, and Bible time-line. Sessions will begin Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria and last no more than one hour each meeting. To register, call 455-7071, ext. 225. We look forward to having you join us!

Save the Date!
St. Ann Solemn Lenten Novena
Thursday, February 11 through Friday, February 19, 2016
Presenter: Fr. Stan Fortuna C.F.R. Theme: Mercy

Fr. Stan Fortuna C.F.R., a Roman Catholic priest ordained on December 8, 1990, is one of the eight founding members of the Community of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal (an order established in the Archdiocese of New York under the jurisdiction of John Cardinal O’Connor). Prior to his conversion, Fr. Stan was a professional jazz musician who studied with the legendary Lennie Tristano (the ‘father of improvisational jazz’).

While studying to enter the priesthood, Fr. Stan was working in Spanish Harlem during his formation years. It was there that he encountered hip hop firsthand in the street, a style he refers to as ‘rhythm and rhyme’, and was captivated by its improvisational nature. He heard people in the neighbourhood ‘rap’ about their daily lives/struggles, and he soon learned how to integrate this phenomenon and technique into his own heart and music. In time and with the encouragement of his community, he developed an affinity for this artform and started using rap to reach out to the less fortunate and beyond.

Fr. Stan has since independently released over twenty (20) CD’s in various genres as well as DVDs and books. Assigned to the work of preaching full-time, Fr. Stan travels extensively giving talks and concerts across the country and around the world with proceeds from bookings and sales going towards his work with poor and underprivileged families.

The C.F.R.s adhere to an ascetic lifestyle in their friaries and underprivileged families.

CYO – Our St. Ann CYO presents the first ever archdiocesan-wide High School Karaoke Contest! The event will be held Friday, February 19, from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. in the St. Ann gymnasium. It is open to ALL area high school students! The entrance fee is $5.00 per person and each Karaoke singer will receive a ticket for a chance to win $100! Concessions will be available for purchase.

Have a Generous Heart

We continue to examine practical ways to practice each of the Spiritual works of mercy.

Instruct the Uninformed
- Commit yourself to learning about the Catholic faith and share your understanding and insight with others
- Take seriously the responsibility that you are the primary source of Religious education for your children
- When reading to children and grandchildren, pick a bible story or story of the life of a saint
- Monitor TV and Internet use in your home to ensure the content is appropriate
- Pray together as a family
- Give a favorite Catholic book to a friend or family member
- Take time to tutor or share your skills with others

Instruct the Uninformed
Parish Calendar

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>2/1</td>
<td>9:30 AM COME AND SEE/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>6:30 PM ST. ANTHONY MTGS./ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>9:15 ADORATION</td>
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<td>7:30 PM BOY SCOUT 261/CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>10 AM INTERNATIONAL GRANDPARENTS CLUB TOUR OF SHRINE</td>
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<td>1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>1:45 PM CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK MASS AND BLESSING OF THE THROATS GRADES 2-7</td>
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<td>7 PM YOUTH CHOIR/CHURCH</td>
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<td>9:30 ADULT CATECHISM STUDY/ST. RAY</td>
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<td>7 PM CONFIRMATION SESSION 2/CLASSROOMS &amp; CAF.</td>
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<td>7 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION WELCOME CENTER</td>
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<td>9:15 AM ADORATION</td>
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<td>8 AM ROSARY AFTER 7:30 AM MASS</td>
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<td>12:30 PM BAPTISMS IN CHURCH</td>
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Spiritual Works of Mercy

Advise

The first spiritual work of mercy is to advise. This work of mercy is unpopular because the culture emphasizes a need for respecting other’s lifestyle choices, even if it is a lifestyle of sin. This form of toleration is considered “love”, and the absence of it is called “hate”.

Contrasting the culture’s idea of “love”, the very word advise, or to admonish, means to caution someone against something especially in a good-willed manner. Christians that admonish sinners, like God, desire the salvation of all (1Timothy 2:4), and don’t want any sinner to be in jeopardy of losing their soul forever because Christians did not say anything to warn them of the danger they were in.

The spiritual work of advising is pure charity. It is uncomfortable for the Christian who acts on it and opens them up for abuse and rejection. As St. Francis of Assisi commented, however nothing should take precedence over the work of the salvation of souls. If Christians actually care about others, they will do something to prevent their souls being lost. To say nothing is to watch brothers and sisters, friends and neighbors choose hell over God. To tolerate their actions is not to love them.

In his discourse on the topic, Fr. Andrew Apostoli, CFR, notes that there are many ways to admonish sinners. The main purpose of this spiritual work is to call the sinner to conversion, to a life lived in the joy of having chosen Christ. One of the ways to admonish people is to give a testimony of how Christ has changed your life. Other ways might include refusing to cooperate in sin and encouraging someone in their struggle to break away from a life of sin.

In acting with this spiritual work, Christians are having mercy on those around them by giving them a chance to wake up and amend their lives.

When a Christian enters this sort of conversation, he or she must remember to not try to “win the argument” but to love the person with whom they are speaking into changing their ways for Jesus Christ. The person’s soul is always the goal, so one must make sure speaking up at a certain time is what will be the most effective, when a person would be most open.

One final note: Anything that is said to others will be received badly if not said a) prudently and in love, and b) with the example of a life lived in Christ. The lack of these two things make any message powerless.

Ash Wednesday Schedule
Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Blessing and imposition of Ashes will be during the 6:30, 8:45 am & 6:00 pm Masses and 12 Noon & 3:00 pm with Liturgy of the Word (No Mass) and imposition of Ashes during the Liturgy of the Word.

Marquette Council 1437 of the Knights of Columbus is please to announce the winners of its annual Free Throw Contest.

Four boys and girls from St. Ann were named local champions of the 2016 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship and have earned the right to compete at the district level. Marquette Council 1437 sponsored the local competition at St. Ann.

The winners are pictured from left right: District Deputy Paul Eckert, Kaden McLaughlin, William Carpenter IV, Caitlynn Cooper, Evan Arceneaux, and Grand Knight Mark Carver.

Congratulations to all the winners!