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

WEEKLY POLICY

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.

MEANING 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.
The fun and revelry is over and it’s time to be serious about our commitment to God. Lent is here - the annual retreat of the Church. The forty days of Lent are counted from the first Sunday through Thursday of Holy Week - an arguable point because Sundays are never days of penance. Some argue that Lent is counted as forty days from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday [not including Sundays]. The Gloria and Alleluia are put away for Lent. Lent is all about removing the clutter and doing a spring cleaning.

We use ashes as a sign of beginning again, and of course as a reminder that we are dust and to dust we shall return [Genesis 3:19]. The Ash Wednesday ashes come for the previous year’s Palm Sunday branches.

It’s not quite accurate to say that prayers, fasting, and almsgiving are Lenten disciplines. They are year-round Christian disciplines. St. Leo advised: “What Christians should be doing at all times should be done during Lent with greater care.”

Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one’s needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Abstinence from meat is also observed by all Catholics who are 14 years and older on Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday.

Lent is derived from the old English word lencten, the season of spring, the time of year when the days lengthen and nature comes alive again after the sleep of winter. We would do well to imitate nature … Awake from your slumber! Arise from your sleep! A new day is dawning … Let us build the city of God.

Every year the Gospel for the first Sunday of Lent recounts the temptations of Jesus in the desert. Jesus’ forty days in the desert served as preparation for his mission to proclaim the good news of salvation to the poor, freedom to prisoners, joy to those in sorrow … to those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one’s needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

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The temptations were not a once-off affair. Temptations always lurk and return at the opportune time – that’s the devil!’ Someone once said the devil tempts all persons, but the idle individual tempts the devil. Shakespeare said: ‘Tis one thing to be tempted … Another thing to fall. An agnostic said: “I don’t believe in the devil. I have never met him.” A Christian replied: “You’re right. You haven’t met the devil. You don’t meet anybody when you are going the same way.” Reflections by Fr. Billy

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**Mass Intentions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>February 14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Carl Becnel, Alberta Basha, Walter Dyer, Gardner &amp; McCleland Families, Frank Bufofone, Dr. Anthony Scalco, Rose Marie Fox, Francis Leonard Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Edison &amp; Jeanne Schayot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Blessed Mother (L.M. Health), Eulalie G. Tallo, Gladys Hazel Blanke, Elmo Spellman, Joseph Cuccia Tortorich, Amelie Courreges, Mary Quaid (Health), Tom Tobin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Maria Palma</td>
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</tbody>
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**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.

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**Interested in Exploring Priesthood??**

Come and See Weekend March 18-20, 2016
St. Joseph Seminary College Covington, Louisiana

Spend a weekend with seminarians. See what day-to-day life is like at the seminary. The program is designed for High School Juniors and Seniors and College-age Men. There is no charge for the weekend. Deadline for registering is March 11, 2016. For more information contact Fr. Kurt Young Vocation Office (504) 861-6298.

**February 14 - 20, 2016**

“Sanctuary Candle ” In Memory of Carol Dares
Have a Generous Heart

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

Comfort the Sorrowful

- Attend wakes and funerals of the loved ones of your family and friends. Offer sympathy and help them grieve.
- Send a Mass Card to a family who has recently lost a loved one.
- Offer treasured memories about deceased family and friends to remind those left behind of the happy times with their loved ones.
- Offer words of encouragement to those who seem discouraged.
- Offer positive words and assistance to fellow students or coworkers who are having a difficult time with their tasks.
- Be present to those who are struggling or in emotional pain or despair.

Stations of the Cross
St. Ann Church
7 PM
Fridays, February 26
March 4, 11, 18 and 25

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!

St. Ann Solemn Lenten Novena continues through Friday, February 19, 2016

Presenter: Fr. Stan Fortuna C.F.R.

Theme:
God’s Mercy in the Teachings of Popes John Paul II, Benedict and Francis

Novena Schedule
Sunday:
4:00 pm Vigil (Saturday), 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:00 am and 5:00 pm. All Masses followed by Novena to St. Ann.

Tuesday, February 16, 2016
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 11:00 am - 6:00 pm.

Weekdays:
10:00 am and 7:00 pm Masses with Homily, followed by Novena to St. Ann. Sacrament of Reconciliation with private confession before and after the Masses.

School News
Please pass on the information about new student registration. New Student Registration is Monday, Feb. 22 from 6-7pm in the school cafeteria. Please contact the school at 455-8383 for more information. We continue to offer “Walk Through” tours for potential new parents every Monday and Thursday mornings at 9:30 am. No appointment is necessary, just come to the school office for 9:30 am.

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.
This Week at Home

Monday, February 15, 2016
Conduct
Verses 2 and 18 in the First Reading provide two rules for the divine-human relationship. First, we must be holy like God; and second, we must love our neighbor. Maybe we've heard it too often, but if we follow these commands, our lives will be rooted in God. In the Gospel, Jesus is clear that those who pour out their love will share in the Kingdom. Perhaps you might try to take a few moments to journal about ways you have broken the commandments. How might you reconcile with God, self, and neighbor? 

Today’s Readings: Leviticus 19:1–2, 11–18; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Matthew 25:31–46.

Tuesday, February 16, 2016
Word
The illustration in the First Reading invites us to think about God's Word. Like the rain that nourishes the earth, God's Word nourishes our hearts and awakens us so that we can spread the Good News. Jesus, the Word made flesh, came into the world to reveal the Kingdom. When you hear the Word, are you inspired to do God’s will? Consider taking time to provide encouragement to a friend.


Wednesday, February 17, 2016
Repent
Are we an evil generation? Jesus uses these strong words in the Gospel to address those who seek more proof of his spiritual authority. They want a sign like Jonah was for Nineveh. He called the city to repent so that God would spare them. The role of a prophet is to call people back into right relationship. Through the Incarnation, God reveals himself in Jesus, the ultimate sign of his love for us. We must repent and turn back to God to enter the fullness of life. This evening light a candle and slowly pray today's psalm.

Today’s Readings: Jonah 3:1–10; Psalm 51:3–4,

Thursday, February 18, 2016
Pleading
Queen Esther’s prayer in the First Reading acknowledges the sin of the nation and recalls God’s faithfulness. She pleads with God to rescue them from the enemy. The Gospel reminds us that Jesus saves us from our enemies, our sins. We must seek God’s mercy and then, like the psalmist, give thanks and praise when the Lord answers our prayers and delivers us from our brokenness. As we approach the second week of Lent, this might be a good time to consider joining or starting a Bible study.

Today’s Readings: Esther C:12, 14–16, 23–25; Psalm 138:1–2ab, 2cde–3, 7c–8; Matthew 7:7–12.

Friday, February 19, 2016
Turn Away
The Prophet Ezekiel is straightforward in telling the people to turn away from sin. By casting aside their wickedness and following the Law, they will have life. We must strive to live a virtuous life united to Christ. When Christ is not at the center of our lives, it is easy to be overwhelmed by sin, which leads to destructive relationships. If we choose a path without Christ, we are liable to judgment. Where do you need reconciliation? Plan to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance during this season.


Saturday, February 20, 2016
Love
God created us out of love, for love; Jesus calls us to witness this love in the Gospel. He tells us to love our neighbors and our enemies. Who is your neighbor? What does it look like to love these neighbors? Second, consider who your enemies are. What does it look like to love them? God has filled us with love to share, so think of ways you can share your love.
