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

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.

“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.

A 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.

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.

“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.
The natural seasons of the year give a rhythm to life. Each season provides nature with something it needs to keep growing. The same thing happens in the Church, with liturgical seasons. In each liturgical season God sends us graces we need in order to keep growing in wisdom, holiness, and happiness.

These graces don't benefit our souls automatically, the way sunlight benefits plants. Rather, we have to take them in on purpose. How, then, can we bathe in the supernatural sunlight that will make us grow, make us better, make us change during this liturgical season? The Church is reminding us this week of the most effective method we have for drinking in all the graces God wants to give us during this Lenten Season: prayer.

In Sunday's first Reading from Genesis we hear, "The Lord God took Abram outside..." and had a conversation with him. That's prayer. The Psalm(27) gives us an example of King David's prayer in the face of danger. "Your presence, O Lord, I seek. Hide not your face from me..." St. Paul, in the Second Reading from his letter to the Philippians, reminds the Christians in Philippi that while most people occupy their minds "with earthly things... Our citizenship is in heaven." Our attention as Christians is on God - that's prayer. Finally, in Luke's Gospel, Jesus leads his three closest disciples away from the hustle and bustle of life, up to the top of a high mountain, where he can be alone with them, and give them a lesson in prayer, which he certainly does so wonderfully.

We have to ask ourselves: how is our prayer life, is it in good shape? Has it improved in the last year, the last ten years? If it's out of shape, we won't be able to drink in the graces God wants to give us this Lent, the ones we really need.

All of us are called to ask ourselves about our prayer lives. When we do this it is key, essential and of the utmost importance to be honest. If our prayer life hasn't grown in the last year, it's up to us to do something about it. God still has so much he wants to do in our lives. Improving our prayer life will give him room to work.

One way to do that is by instituting a daily quiet time. We never let a day go by without eating, because we know our bodies need that nourishment. Many people almost never let a day go by without exercising, because they know their bodies need that stimulation. Why not do the same thing for our souls? That's what a daily quiet time is for. It's a one on one appointment with the Lord, which gives him room to refresh, nourish, and exercise our souls.

It's very simple to do. Choose a time and place in which you won't be interrupted. Then do three things: First, Remember. Remind yourself that Christ is with you and wants to be with you. Think of all the blessings he has given you. Second, Read. Take out a spiritual book, a Bible, or your favorite prayer book and read a paragraph or two, slowly. No rush. Third, Reflect. Think about what you read. Listen to what God wants to say to you through it. Apply it to your life. Three simple steps: Remember, Read, Reflect.

Before you know it you will have received a word of encouragement from God to help you live the life he wants you to. It's not about how much time you put into it, it's about putting in your best effort and whatever you can offer. Prayer is the secret to drinking in all the graces God has in store for us. As we ponder these things he is hoping we'll decide to become better, more dedicated prayers. Let's not disappoint him. Reflections by Fr. Travis

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY
DECEMBER 8, 2015 - NOVEMBER 20, 2016

“God doesn’t tire of us, but we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy.”

In declaring a Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has said, “It’s a journey that starts with a spiritual conversion. For this reason I have decided to declare an Extraordinary Jubilee that has the mercy of God at its center. It will be a Holy Year of Mercy.”

At St. Ann we will have a monthly celebration consisting of prayer, praise, song, scripture, reflection, personal witness, the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Our second gathering will be in church on Thursday, February 25, 2016 from 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM.

Donna Doolen will be our second personal witness. Please join us. Each month gatherings will be posted in the bulletin.

February 21 - 27, 2016
“Sanctuary Candle
In Memory of Edison & Jeanne Schayot
Have a Generous Heart

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

Be Patient with Those in Error
- Work to be less critical of others
- Overlook minor flaws and mistakes
- Give people the benefit of the doubt
- Be patient with those who may be slower than you
- Don’t succumb to “road rage”
- Don’t get rude or impatient with someone who isn’t doing something just the way you would do it
- Assume that people who may have hurt you did so because they are enduring pain of their own
- Pray for people who have wronged you
- Sow the seeds of faith in the hearts and minds of those who are in grievous error, then wait for the change to come in God’s time, not yours!

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!

Men’s Club Seafood Dinner: Friday, February 26 and March 11, 6-8 p.m. in Cafeteria. $8 for shrimp dinner, $8 for fish dinner, $10 for shrimp & fish dinner (all dinners served with choice of potato, salad & garlic bread). $5 for seafood gumbo, $2 for cheese pizza slice, $1 for order of fries. Prices are good for dine in and carry-out. Limited drive-up menu available for purchase while quantities last from cafeteria doors on Meadowdale Street.

School News: New Student Registration is Monday, Feb. 22 from 6-7 pm in the school cafeteria. Please check our school website at www.stannschool.org to learn more about our school. The seventh grade monthly assembly is next Friday. At St. Ann School we are proud that we offer each grade level K-7 the opportunity for a performance on stage. Each grade level has a different month and a different theme.

Parish Calendar

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>2/22</td>
<td>9:30 AM COME AND SEE/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/23</td>
<td>9:15 ADORATION</td>
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<td>2/24</td>
<td>9:45 AM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>2/25</td>
<td>7 PM EVENING OF MERCY/CHURCH</td>
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<td>2/26</td>
<td>6 PM MENS CLUB SEAFOOD DINNER/CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>2/27</td>
<td>10 AM NOTRE DAME HOSPICE MTG./WELCOME CENTER</td>
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<td>2/28</td>
<td>11 AM RCIA FIRST SCRUTINY</td>
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The Spiritual Works of Mercy

Instruct
The second Spiritual Work of Mercy is to Instruct. As Jesus says in the Gospel of John: “You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free” (John 8:32). People fall into sin and despair over and over again. Often times this happens because they either don’t know what will make them happy or don’t know how to defend and act on their faith. The Spiritual Work of Mercy of instructing asks Catholics to both continually educate themselves on the things of the Lord and to bring the truth to everyone who surrounds them.

That’s where the truth and mercy of God comes in. He wants everyone out of the cycle of seeking earthly pleasures that will only give temporary happiness. He offers the freedom of a life lived in his truth. Out of love, he has given a wonderful guide to what will lead to lasting happiness and what will not. It is called Catholicism. Catholics have access to the truth God has offered humanity. Aspects of Divine Truth can be accessed in prayer, the Bible, the documents of the Church, e.g. the documents of Vatican II, any encyclical written by a Pope, and the Catechism, which can all be found on the Vatican’s website. God is calling every member of his Church today to make use of their access to these resources in order to spread Gospel Joy.

Instructing is a Spiritual Work of Mercy because no one can accept Christ and the salvation he offers if they don’t know him. Instructing can be as simple as sharing Christ and his truth with coworkers and neighbors who are confused as to what Catholicism teaches, or as in-depth as volunteering to help with faith formation at your parish.

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.

We look forward to having you join us!

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Second Sunday of Lent          February 21, 2016

This Week at Home

Monday, February 22, 2016
Feast of the Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

Today’s feast is not about a piece of furniture, but about the office of the pope, the shepherd who leads his flock on the right path. In the Gospel, Peter confesses that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God; Jesus chooses Peter to shepherd the Church. In what ways have you confessed that Jesus is the Son of God? Consider spending time reading 1 and 2 Peter during this week. Today’s Readings: 1 Peter 5:1–4; Psalm 23:1–3a, 4, 5, 6; Matthew 16:13–19.

Tuesday, February 23, 2016
Be Humble

After reading the Gospel, the first thing that came to mind was “Practice what you preach.” When we set aside our selfish ways and allow the peace of Christ to rule our hearts, we seek justice and we strive to live genuinely. The religion the Pharisees practiced was about being noticed and being important. Jesus teaches us to set aside our selfish ways and to serve as he served. Discuss this Gospel at dinner and see what insights arise. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21 and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.

Wednesday, February 24, 2016
Cup of Salvation

In today’s Gospel, Jesus reveals his imminent Passion and Death. The crux of the story is centered on the sons of Zebedee (James and John). Jesus asks them if they can drink from the cup of his suffering and our salvation. They reply confidently. Every time we approach the Eucharistic table and drink from the cup of salvation, we say yes to suffering with Christ as well as living the joy of the Resurrection. Christ calls us to offer ourselves up in service to others. This week you might consider visiting the imprisoned or the homeless. Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 18:18–20; Psalm 31:5–6, 14, 15–16; Matthew 20:17–28.

Thursday, February 25, 2016
What Path?

Today’s passages challenge us to reflect on our actions and our relationship with Jesus. Are you like the rich man who ignored the needs of his neighbors or like the blessed person, mentioned in Jeremiah, who trusts in the Lord? When we place our trust in the Lord, grace consumes us and we work for justice. When we follow the counsel of the wicked, we choose to separate ourselves from God’s love. The beauty in these stories is that they call us to repent and hope in the Lord. Let this Lenten season be one of transformation and saying yes to Christ. Consider art as part of your prayer. Compose a song, write a story, draw, or paint a picture that helps you engage in the Gospel account. Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Luke 16:19–3.

Friday, February 26, 2016
The Vineyard

Read the Gospel parable several times, but each time imagine yourself as a different character. How would you respond if you were the tenant? Who are the prophets among us who are calling us to loving and just relationships? When we respond to God’s Word, we bear good fruit, but when we get caught up in our passions, we die. Today’s Readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–43, 45–46.

Saturday, February 27, 2016
Loving and Forgiving

The refrain of the psalm sums up one of the main messages from today’s readings. We are reminded in the Gospel that God will always welcome us home, no matter how serious our sin. The story of the prodigal son portrays God’s love and mercy, showing how God rejoices over his beloved when they return to his embrace. Consider how it has felt to be forgiven. Have you been willing to show mercy to others? Today’s Readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.
St. Ann Church and Shrine

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Date: February 21, 2016

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

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Special Instructions: