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

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. Travis J. Clark, 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: stannreled@bellsouth.net

Director of Liturgical Music
Trish Foti Genco, 559-8637
e-mail: tfotigenco.com

Office Manager
Mrs. Mary Quaid, 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 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 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 Wednesday
during 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.
Third Sunday of Lent Year C

Words of warning … But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!

Hard words, but then we are like spoiled children in ways who are slow to pay heed. We are more inclined to turn a deaf ear to the chagrin of our need to change often. Quite recently I heard about a parishioner who refuses to go on retreat with his wife because he thinks he knows more than the retreat master anyway. I guess that person thinks he doesn’t ever have to change. A very inflated ego, don’t you think? How fitting the words of warning: But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!

The parable of the fig tree has many lessons for us, not least that God is always willing to give us a second chance. God is patient and less judgmental than we humans tend to be. The history of the Church is full of examples of barren fig trees that in time became fruitful - in other words sinners who repented and became saints! Every saint has a past and every sinner has a future.

Moses, in our first reading, is a good example because as a young man he had killed one of Pharaoh’s overseer’s who was abusing Hebrew slaves. Yet God didn’t write him off because there was GOOD in him. He was that kind of man who couldn’t stand idly by when he saw an injustice or a crime happening. It was because of this quality that God chose him to lead his people from the slavery of Egypt. In his 40 years in the desert he learned wilderness survival skills. But in the desert he also learned to hear the voice of God. St. Patrick, who was taken captive at the age of 16 and brought to Ireland to work as a slave, also learned to hear the voice of God. His captivity had a very positive effect on his spiritual life.

Let the judgment to God. Some people develop slowly. Einstein is a good example. One of his teachers was so disappointed in him that he said: “You will never amount to anything.” I think his parents and teachers judged him too soon.

The lesson here is that we must be willing to extend to others the kind of patience and compassion God extends to you and me. However, the parable makes it also clear that there is such a thing as a last chance. If we refuse to change, having been given several opportunities, the day will finally come when God will shut us out and deny that he even knows us.

Jesus’ parable contains a warning and a threat. Let those who think they are safe beware lest they fall. The parable also teaches that uselessness invites disaster.
Have a Generous Heart

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

Forgive Offenses
- Pray for those who have wronged you
- Pray for the courage to forgive. Forgiveness is something you do for yourself, not for the person who wronged you.
- Ask for forgiveness from others
- Let go of grudges
- Go out of your way to be positive with someone you are having a difficult time with
- Forgive a debt of someone who owes you something
- Let go of any desire for vengeance. Only God is qualified to give what we deserve. Only He knows the secrets of our hearts!

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

Men’s Club Seafood Dinner: 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
The students have many Lenten activities. Our theme for Lent is Be Merciful. The Men’s Club has a Lenten Seafood Dinner on Friday, March 11th. We are happy to have the support of the Men’s Club! Please check with the school office at 455-8383 if you missed Registration last week but wish to check for any grade level openings.

Fr. Michael will say Mass at St. Ann for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.
St. Ann Parishioners are invited to attend!

St. Francis of Assisi Senior Associates invites all interested in making a pilgrimage to the St. Ann National Shrine, 3601 Transcontinental Street, Metairie, on Thursday, March 10, 2016. The shrine is one the pilgrimages sites for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Father Michael will celebrate an 11:00 AM Mass in the church where he was pastor for 11 years.

Participation in this local pilgrimage carries with it a plenary indulgence. This indulgence removes all the temporal punishment due to sins that have already been forgiven. When we ask for and receive God’s forgiveness it is like removing the nail from the plaster. Although the nail is gone, the hole remains and needs to be repaired. Likewise, we have to repair the hurt we have caused to others and ourselves. Come participate with us in this pilgrimage to a renewed personal encounter with the mercy of Jesus Christ.

A Letter From Archbishop Aymond
Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I pray that your Lenten journey has been a time of drawing closer to Christ and responding to his invitation to conversion.

As we identify an area of our life that needs change, we can be assured of God’s help for us to face our weakness and experience a change of heart. Lent should include standing before our merciful God and asking for his forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, better known as Confession.

Please be reminded that a priest will be available in every church in the Archdiocese of New Orleans for the next 3 Wednesdays March 2, 9 and March 16 from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. The heart of Jesus is open and he invites you to know and accept his mercy. Please note: St. Ann Church will have confessions on Wednesday, March 9 & March 16. We will not have confessions on March 2 because the 2nd graders of St. Ann will make their First Reconciliation on that day.

Whether we have been to Confession recently, or perhaps it has been many years, now is the time to know that his heart is open and eager to forgive.

Let us remember one another in prayer as we continue this journey through Lent to the new life of Easter.

Wishing you God’s blessings, I am

Sincerely in Christ,
Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond
Archbishop of New Orleans
This Week at Home

Monday, February 29, 2016
Hearing
Both Elisha and Elijah end up serving non-Israelites because they weren’t accepted by their own people. The end of the Gospel indicates that the people became furious with Jesus. Like Elisha and Elijah, Jesus is rejected in his own land. We learn in this passage that Jesus was sent to save all people and those who hear the Word of God will be drawn in and healed. By spending time in silence today, you may become attentive to the call of the Holy Spirit.


Tuesday, March 1, 2016
Mercy
In today’s Gospel, Jesus paints a picture of mercy as he seeks to teach his disciples about forgiveness. It’s not always easy to forgive a neighbor, but as Christians, we must strive to follow Jesus’ example. Like the psalmist, many of us plead that God will remember the times he bestowed mercy. Do you remember to be merciful? How can Lent be a turning point for you? Whom do you need to forgive? Pray for a contrite heart.

Today’s Readings: Daniel 3:25, 34–43; Psalm 25:4–5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8–9; Matthew 18:21–35.

Wednesday, March 2, 2016
Law/Love
Both readings today speak about the Law. Many people shy away from this word. Let’s consider it another way. Jesus says he fulfills the Law. His very presence reveals the Kingdom and his ministry is about preaching the justice and peace of God. To follow him means to suffer and to love one’s neighbor. If we are genuine in this mission and seek forgiveness when we fail at loving, Jesus says we will be “great in the kingdom of heaven.” Spend a few moments examining your conscience.


Thursday, March 3, 2016
Optional Memorial of St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
Why is it so hard to listen? What makes it so difficult to follow God’s will? God is madly in love with us and desires for us to be in relationship. If we listen to God’s voice with open hearts, we will be changed and God will fill us with love. This love will overflow so that we can share it. Katharine Drexel’s heart was so open to God’s love that when she saw oppression, she sought to alleviate suffering. She established schools for Native Americans and African Americans.


Friday, March 4, 2016
Love
The Gospel gives us a powerful message today. Jesus combines two great commandments that Moses gave to Israel. The Shema (Deuteronomy 6:4–5) calls us to love God with our entire being. Leviticus 19:18 reminds us to also love our neighbor. The scribe, who had witnessed all the distress around Jesus, realizes that love, not sacrifices, is what God desires. Because he realizes this, Jesus tells him he’s not far from the Kingdom. How do you understand love as your mission? Consider writing down the Shema and using it in prayer.

Today’s Readings: Hosea 14:2–10; Psalm 81:6c–8a, 8bc–9, 10–11ab, 14 and 17; Mark 12:28–34.

Saturday, March 5, 2016
Return
The prophet Hosea is pleading for Israel to return to the love of the Lord. If they do so, God will heal and revive them. Hosea reminds us that God desires steadfast love. In the Gospel, we see this vulnerable love in the tax collector who honestly approaches God to seek mercy. God will have mercy on those who love him.

Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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

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Special Instructions: