**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.

**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.
Today is "Laetare Sunday," or "Rejoice Sunday." [the Sunday in which the entrance antiphon of the liturgy begins with the word "laetare"]. Midway through our Lenten journey towards Christ’s Passion and Resurrection, the Church invites us to rejoice. What, then is joy? Joy is a feeling of contentment that we get when we come into the possession of something good, like the feeling we all had when the Saints won the Superbowl back in 2010, or any major personal accomplishments we can recall. The feeling only lasts as long as we have the good thing. It goes away when we lose it, when it wears out, or when we get tired of it, in which case it is no longer a good thing for us. Since all the things of this earth wear out, we get tired of it, in which case it is no longer a good thing. It never wears out, never break, and never go away.

What is this one good thing that makes Christian joy possible? It is God’s loving attention. God is always paying attention to us. He can't stop thinking about each one of us. Because God is all-knowing and all-loving, while he pays attention to us he is knowing us and loving us, through and through. Just as the father did with his two sons in today's parable. That is precisely the good thing that our heart aches for, because that's what it was made for, to be known and loved through and through. So when we turn our attention to God, we see him paying attention to us, knowing and loving us, and that fills us with a joy that doesn't wear out. That's what the Church is reminding us of today: Rejoice! God is thinking of you!

God is inviting each one of us to renew this experience of Christian joy. Most of us, if we're honest, have to admit that often life’s troubles seem to obscure our joy instead of giving it a chance to shine. If that's the case, we need to refresh our friendship with Christ, the source of Christian joy. We need to face up to the uncomfortable fact that we have not always been his faithful friend - ask for forgiveness, and renew our commitment to be more faithful in the future. Since Christ’s love for us is personal and total, even our small infidelities sadden him.

Whenever we ignore the teaching of his Church, whenever we ignore the voice of conscience, whenever we fail to love our neighbor as our-self, we sadden our Friend, Christ, who only wants the best for us. We put distance between him and us. That distance stifles our experience of Christian joy. There is an easy way to take that distance away and make a fresh start in our friendship with Christ. We can go to him in the sacrament of confession, the sacrament of rediscovered joy. If you have already gone to confession this Lent, that's great. If you haven't come to confession yet, why wait? The Lord is thinking of you, hoping you will return to him, so he can reconstruct his joy-giving temple in your soul.

Reflections by Fr. Travis

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>March 6</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Etta Hymel, Gardner &amp; McCleland Families, Gagliano &amp; Foto Families, Patricia Bernard, Mr. &amp; Mrs. T. Rodrigue &amp; Children (S.I.), Rose Marie Fox, Ryan W. Neider, Joann Spizale (Health)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Dr. Anthony Scalco</td>
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<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Harry P. Smith, Lehmann Family, Patricia Lawson, Amelie Courreges, Joseph Cuccia Tortorich, Mary Franz, Dominic DiGiovanni, Douglas Wilkie</td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Ryan Neider</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>March 7</td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Khai Nguyen</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Laura Ianetta (Health)</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>March 8</td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H. C. Alexander</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Mary Franz</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. T. Rodrigue &amp; Children (S.I.)</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>March 9</td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Edward Watermeier</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Rose Deckelman (Thanksgiving)</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 10</td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Dominic DiGiovanni</td>
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<td>Art Franz</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Vincent Zeringue</td>
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<td>Art Franz</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>March 12</td>
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<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Cheryl Booksh (In Thanksgiving)</td>
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Please be reminded that a priest will be available at St. Ann and all other church parishes to hear confessions on the next 2 Wednesdays, March 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.

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

Our next Evening of Mercy will be Thursday, March 17th at 7 PM in St. Ann Church. These Evenings of Mercy offer Song, Prayer, Sacred Scripture, Reflection, a Powerful Witness of Faith and the Recitation of the Holy Rosary and the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy. Our featured witness will be Mary Quaid our St. Ann Church office manager. Please join us for this prayerful evening.

**March 6 - 12, 2016**

**“Sanctuary Candle”**

_In Memory of Harry A. P. Smith_
Have a Generous Heart

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

Pray for the Living and the Dead
- Pray for the Living
  - Bring your needs and the needs of your loved ones before the merciful heart of Jesus every day
  - Pray for friends and family members
  - Pray for the poor and underprivileged
  - Pray for the rich and haughty
  - Pray for those who have left the Church
  - Pray for our world leaders
  - Pray for those in government that they will seek God’s wisdom when they make decisions
  - Pray for the sick and the healthy
  - Pray for the unemployed that they may soon find meaningful employment
  - Pray for those discerning a vocation that the Holy Spirit will guide them in their decision
  - Pray for the young and the elderly
  - Pray for those who can’t pray for themselves

Parish Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>3/6</td>
<td>11 AM RCIA 2ND SCRUTINY</td>
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<td>3/7</td>
<td>9:30 AM COME AND SEE/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>3/8</td>
<td>6:30 PM ST. ANTHONY MTG/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>3/9</td>
<td>9:15 ADORATION</td>
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<td>3/10</td>
<td>8:45 AM SCHOOL MASS 3-7</td>
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<td>3/11</td>
<td>7 PM BOY SCOUT 261/CATERERIA</td>
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<td>3/12</td>
<td>8 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>3/13</td>
<td>5 PM CONFESSIONS IN CHURCH</td>
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<td>3/14</td>
<td>6 PM CUB SCOUT MTG/CATERERIA</td>
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<td>3/15</td>
<td>7 PM YOUTH CHOIR IN CHURCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/16</td>
<td>9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM STUDY/ST. RAY</td>
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<td>11 AM FR. MICHAEL ST. FRANCIS &amp; PARISHIONER MASS</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/17</td>
<td>7:30 PM SCHOOL ADVISORY MTG/PARISH OFFICE</td>
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<td>3/18</td>
<td>6 PM MEN'S CLUB SEAFOOD DINNER</td>
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<td>3/19</td>
<td>7 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN CHURCH</td>
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<td>3/20</td>
<td>10 AM NOTRE DAME HOSPICE MTG./WELCOME CENTER</td>
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Stations of the Cross

St. Ann Church
7 PM
Fridays, March 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 second graders received the Sacrament of Reconciliation Wednesday evening. The fifth graders had their field trip on the Creole Queen Riverboat on Friday. The next Men's Club Seafood Dinner will be next Friday, March 11th. The “drive-through” service is a nice addition!

Catholic Relief Services Collection March 5 & 6, 2016

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40). Today, we are reminded that Jesus identified himself with our poorest brothers and sisters. The Catholic Relief Services Collection serves Jesus in the victims of human trafficking, those who suffer from unjust laws, and those who need pastoral care and humanitarian assistance across the globe. Through supporting today’s collection, you help Jesus in disguise. Please be generous.

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 of the pilgrimage 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.

SAS Grandparents Club News

Wednesday, March 16 meeting at 6:30 cafeteria

The next meeting will take place during Teacher Appreciation Week. The club will be hosting a faculty luncheon on Thursday, March 17. Please call Sally Leingang (650 2010) if you are able to donate food for our devoted SAS faculty and staff. Donations may be brought the night of our meeting.

In keeping with Pope Francis’ proclamation of the Holy Year, the Jubilee of Mercy, our guest speaker, Mrs. Janet Trahan, will discuss the opportunities for spiritual growth offered by the Archdiocese at the Spirituality Center (at the former St. Lawrence School campus). Mrs. Trahan is the Associate Director of the Spirituality Center. She had led numerous retreats and has been active with volunteers of bereavement, palliative care, and with families with incarcerated members.

Middle School Grandparents Day (Gr 5-7) is Friday, April 8 at 1:30.

The Grandparents Club will treat the students (Gr K-7) to a Spring Treat on Monday, April 18.

Keep collecting the Box Top for Education and Community Coffee labels. Last year the school received $4,000 through the collection of labels. The grade level with the most donations receives a dress down day. The last day to contribute is April 29th.
Monday, March 7, 2016
Optional Memorial of Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
Sts. Perpetua and Felicity were martyred around the year 203 because they refused to renounce their faith in Christ. Their encounter with the Risen Christ changed and saved them; their love for Christ was so strong they couldn’t imagine denying him. How do you praise the Lord for rescuing you? In memory of the martyrdom of these saints, you might want to consider making hot cross buns sometime this week.

Tuesday, March 8, 2016
Waters of Salvation
The sacred river in this passage from Ezekiel brings new life to the wilderness of Judah. During the Easter season, we sing a verse from this passage to remind us that we have been restored to life in our Baptism into Christ. We are about halfway through Lent. What in your desert needs the waters of salvation? One of the corporal works of mercy is visiting the sick. Do you have sick friends or family who might be cheered by a visit from you? Today’s Readings: Ezekiel 47:1–9, 12; Psalm 46:2–3, 5–6, 8–9; John 5:1–16.

Wednesday, March 9, 2016
Restore
While in captivity, Israel had lost hope and thought God had abandoned them, but Isaiah reassures them that is not the case and God will save the prisoners and restore Zion to its glory. We too can find ourselves in exile and hopeless. We need Jesus to restore us and to trust that God will never forget us. From today’s First Reading, we may want to consider the corporal work of mercy, visiting the imprisoned. Whom do you know that needs to be reassured of God’s promise? Today’s Readings: Isaiah 49:8–15; Psalm 145:8–9, 13cd–14, 17–18; John 5:17–30.

Thursday, March 10, 2016
Idols
When the Israelites turn away from God and build an idol to worship, Moses implores the Lord not to unleash his wrath. Today we are invited to think about the idols in our lives that keep us from seeing or trusting God. What causes you to turn away from God? How might you invite others to remember they are God’s chosen ones? Find a painting online or at a museum that depicts the First Reading and meditate on the image and Scripture passage. Today’s Readings: Exodus 32:7–14; Psalm 106:19–20, 21–22, 23; John 5:31–47.

Friday, March 11, 2016
Messiah
John’s Gospel account gives the impression that Jesus has stirred things up. Again, we hear that “they” are trying to kill him. Near the end of the passage, Jesus identifies himself with the Father, which indicates he is the Messiah. The people of Jerusalem knew his origins and so doubted that he was the Messiah. Jesus affirms that his authority comes from God. The tone in the Gospel narrative is beginning to shift more clearly toward the Passion. You may want to consider attending the Stations of the Cross as one of your Lenten disciplines. Today’s Readings: Wisdom 2:1a, 12–22; Psalm 34:17–18, 19–20, 21 and 23; John 7:1–2, 10, 25–30.

Saturday, March 12, 2016
Messiah, Take 2
The Gospel today continues yesterday’s theme. As we draw closer to the celebration of the Triduum, the Jesus of John’s Gospel asserts that he was sent by God and is obedient to God’s will. Like Jesus, we too can be pursued or falsely accused; and so like the psalmist, we seek refuge with our God. These pericopes from John’s Gospel account can be hard to grapple with. Try reading all of chapters 7 and 8. Then place yourself in the story. Which character(s) do you identify with? How would you react to Jesus? Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 11:18–20; Psalm 7:2–3, 9bc–10, 11–12; John 7:40–53.