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.

“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.
Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C
Isaiah 43:16-21 Philippians 3:8-14 John 8:1-11

Can you imagine next Sunday is Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion? In two weeks we will celebrate Easter. In today’s Gospel we hear again the immortal words of Jesus in relation to the woman caught in adultery: “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.”

Even though we are sinners, we have cast the stone of judgment at others … gossip etc. We sit in judgment like the scribes and Pharisees and we often fail to move a finger to make easy the burden of the other. It’s very easy to criticize at a distance, isn’t it? However, we should not be too quick to judge in light of the words attributed to John Bradford: “There but for the grace of God go I.” The expression comes from John’s remark after seeing criminals being led to their execution in 1553.

We live in a culture of blame, accountability and compensation. A head may roll, but too often it’s the wrong one. We may be inclined to think of ourselves as infinitely better than the lynching mob presented to stone the nameless woman in the Gospel. Are we that superior? While we are mostly nice to others, respectful to colleagues, law abiding citizens, not committing adultery, or using drugs, we seem to only see ourselves as “cursing and swearing” “telling a few white lies” and so on. Then again, if we look deeper we’ll find that we harbor bitterness, and resent any intrusion, or the need to change. Haven’t we all strayed with our eyes and heart – if not with the body as well? Jesus unmasks our hypocrisy with his words: “Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” Hands up anybody who is without sin!

The accusers saw a sinner. Jesus saw someone who, with encouragement, might sin no more … a saint possibly. What God wants is not the death of the sinner but conversion and new life. We stand continually in need of God’s mercy. Therefore, we should refrain from casting stones at others. We have to be most careful about seeing the “splinters” in the other person’s eyes while being blind to the “planks” in our own eyes. None of us have a right to be Humpty-Dumpty sitting on the wall of judging others … Humpty-Dumpty had a great fall … Sins cannot be undone – they can only be forgiven.

God does not say: “Be good, and I will love you.” Rather, he says: “Because I love you, you should be good.”

Reflection by Fr. Billy
Have a Generous

As you make your way through the Bible, you discover a God both gracious and compassionate. As we choose to follow Him, He beckons us to follow His example and be kind and openhearted ourselves.

For the next 20 weeks we will look at Bible verses that give us a glimpse into the generosity that God wants us to share:

1. Leviticus 25:35-37 Giving to those in need

   If your brother becomes poor and cannot maintain himself with you, you shall support him as though he were a stranger and a sojourner, and he shall live with you. Take no interest from him or profit, but fear your God, that your brother may live beside you. You shall not lend him your money at interest, not give him your food for profit. “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan, and to be your God.”

   God commanded the Israelites to be generous and merciful to each other. Your brother’s need was not to be capitalized on for personal gain. If you loaned money to a fellow Israelite, you were not to charge interest.

   Because the Israelites were delivered from Egypt, and therefore recipients of God’s generosity, they were to show impartial generosity to each other.

2016 Paschal Candle

The Paschal Candle burns next to the ambo throughout the fifty days of the Easter Season. The candle is lighted for the celebration of the Rite of Infant Baptism, stands and burns at the foot of the casket of deceased parishioners and burns through the month of November until the beginning of the Advent season when we remember those parishioners who names are inscribed in our parish Book of the Names of the Dead.

The 2016 Paschal Candle was donated by Kevin and Deborah Donahoe in Memory of their son Matthew Donahoe.

Parish Calendar

3/13  11 AM RCIA 3RD SCRUTINY
3/14  9:30 AM COME AND SEE/ST. RAYMOND
7 PM HOME & SCHOOL CLUB MTG./CAFETERIA
3/15  9:15 ADORATION
6:20 PM PSR CAFETERIA & CLASSROOMS
7:30 PM BOY SCOUT 261/CAFETERIA
3/16  8:45 AM SCHOOL MASS 3-7
1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND
5 PM CONFESSIONS IN CHURCH
7 PM GRANDPARENTS CLUB MTG./CAFETERIA
7 PM PASTORAL COUNCIL MTG.
7 PM YOUTH CHOIR IN CHURCH
3/17  9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM STUDY/ST. RAY
7 PM EVENING OF MERCY
7 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION/WELCOME CTR
7 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN CHURCH
3/19  10 AM NOTRE DAME HOSPICE MTG./WELCOME CENTER
10 AM ALTAR SOCIETY MTG./ST. RAY
7 PM GIRL SCOUT FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE/CAFETERIA

Stations of the Cross

St. Ann Church
7 PM
Fridays, March 18 & 25

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS!

The St. Ann CYO is hosting a Living Stations of the Passion of Christ on Sunday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the school gym. The event will feature members of our own CYO as they give a moving, meditative experience of the Stations of the Cross. Seating will begin at 6:15 p.m. and the meditative music will begin at 6:30 p.m. Come support our youth and contemplate the “Concrete expression of love” of Christ in His Passion.

School News

If you are interested in registering your child for St. Ann School, it may not be too late. Please call the school office at 455-8383 as there is some availability in some grade levels. Next week is Faculty and Staff Appreciation Week. The St. Ann School students benefit from our dedicated faculty and staff members. Next Friday, March 18 is St. Ann night at City Park. This is a fun, community event for our students and their families.

St. Ann Finance Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Recap for Church Bulletin</th>
<th>vs. Prior Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Envelopes and loose collections</td>
<td>2016: $64,968</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salaries and church expenses</td>
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<td>Special collections and other receipts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net increase (decrease) in cash from operations</td>
<td>2016: (27,560)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital expenditures (net activity)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>2016: 742</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds on deposit (net activity)</td>
<td>2016: (742)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Shortfall)</td>
<td>2016: (27,560)</td>
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Holy Week Worship Schedule

Palm Sunday-Regular Mass Schedule
- Confessions 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM
- Living Stations of the Cross 7:00 PM - Gymnasium

Monday, March 21st
- Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM

Tuesday, March 22nd
- Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM & 7:00 PM
- 40 Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: 7:00 AM to Wednesday, 10:00 PM in the Adoration Chapel
- Mass of Chrism at St. Louis Cathedral: 10:00 AM
- Confession 6:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Wednesday, March 23rd
- Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM

Tomorrow the only Mass permitted is the Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper.

Holy Thursday, March 24th
- Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM
- Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 7:00 PM followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight. (Day Chapel)

Good Friday, March 25th
- Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM
- Celebration of the Lord’s Passion: 3:00 PM
- Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, March 26th
- Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM followed by RCIA Preparatory Rites
- Easter Vigil: 8:00 PM. The entire celebration of this Vigil should take place at night, that is, it should begin after nightfall and end before dawn. The Easter Vigil is not to be celebrated at the time of day that is customary to celebrate anticipated Sunday Masses. [No 3:00 PM Confessions or 4:00 PM Mass]

Easter Sunday, March 27th
- Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM [No 5:00 PM Mass]

This Week at Home

Monday, March 14, 2016  Entrap
When we lose focus on God, it is easier to fall into the trap of sin. Sin has a way of eating at us and often puts us at odds with others. Like the two elders in the First Reading, it sometimes seems easier to entrap someone in a lie to protect oneself. It’s easier to ignore our sins and highlight the sin of others. The First Reading reminds us that God is just and merciful and that only God can judge. Reflect on the dark areas of your heart and ask the Light of the World to heal them. Today’s Readings: Daniel 13:1–9, 15–17, 19–30, 33–62; Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6; John 8:12–20.

Tuesday, March 15, 2016  Prayer
We pay increased attention to the discipline of prayer during Lent. Think about how you approach the Lord in prayer. Do you feel comfortable revealing your needs or do you shy away from God and intimate conversation? No matter the situation, God longs to hear our prayers and takes delight in answering them. Today would be a great day to make pretzels and discuss prayer with another. Today’s Readings: Numbers 21:4–9; Psalm 102:2–3, 16–18, 19–21; John 8:21–30.

Wednesday, March 16, 2016  Faithfulness
The three young men in the Book of Daniel refuse to worship a false idol even though they are placed into a fiery furnace. Because of their faithfulness, they are saved from death. The Responsorial Psalm today blesses God for his wonderful works. We learn from Jesus that those who heed God’s word are blessed and free. What idols have you refused because God’s Word is planted in your heart? How has God rescued you from occasions of sin? If you have children, they can learn this story by acting it out as it is read. Today’s Readings: Daniel 3:14–20, 91–92, 95; Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; John 8:31–42.

Thursday, March 17, 2016  I Am
This is the third time this week that we hear Jesus say, “I am.” By using the divine name, Jesus is declaring his oneness with God, who sent him. Jesus is the fulfillment of the covenant; those who refuse to believe will not inherit the Kingdom. How do you understand God’s promise working in your life? To grow in intimacy with Jesus, take some time to sit in silence and ponder, “I am.” Today’s Readings: Genesis 17:3–9; Psalm 105:4–5, 6–7, 8–9; John 8:51–59.

Friday, March 18, 2016  Belief
The Jews in John’s account of the Gospel are struggling to understand or believe that Jesus was sent from God as a sign of God’s love and faithfulness. Some sought to test, or entrap, Jesus and prove him an impostor, just as they did with the prophet Jeremiah. Jesus tells the people to pay attention to the works that he performs as signs that the Father is in him. Jeremiah trusts in the Lord and sings praises to God. Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 20:10–13; Psalm 10:2–3, 16–18, 19–21; John 8:31–42.

Saturday, March 19, 2016  Solemnity of St. Joseph
he biblical accounts in which Joseph appears provide insight into his character. Joseph was a righteous man and obedient to God’s will. He did not want to shame Mary in any way. Our tradition tells us that Joseph was a faithful and loving husband and father. He is the patron saint of a happy death, of workers, and carpenters. Joseph can teach us to remain steadfast when the circumstances are messy. Pray for the dying and for carpenters today. The National Shrine of St. Joseph is at St. Norbert Abbey, De Pere, Wisconsin. Consider taking time to learn more about the shrine and, if possible, plan a pilgrimage there. Today’s Readings: 2 Samuel 7:4–5a, 12–14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Romans 4:13, 16–18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18–21, 24a or Luke
St. Ann Church and Shrine

Date: March 13, 2016

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

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Special Instructions: