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.

Parish
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: fotigenco.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 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.
This Sunday’s Gospel seems to have a strange focus. We’re in the Easter Season, and joy is everywhere. Spring is in the air (as much Spring as we get here in New Orleans), the days are getting longer, and Christ is Risen! Why, then does St. John keep emphasizing Christ’s wounds in Sunday’s Gospel passage? As soon as Jesus walks into the room where the disciples were, he shows them his hands and his side. He shows them the wounds of his crucifixion. Thomas isn’t there. He returns later, and the others excitedly tell him “We have seen the Lord!” To which replies: “I won’t believe it until I see and touch the wounds.” He does see and touch the wounds, and that leads him to exclaim “My Lord and my God!”

John wants to remind us that God so loved the world that he gave us his only son. Jesus died for you and for me and has saved us by this sacrifice and act of love for us. His wounds are our reminder of that truth. They shout out to us that God’s mercy is more powerful than death. All this is tied in with the special feast we’re celebrating today on Divine Mercy Sunday. Mercy is when God’s love meets our brokenness. We all need God’s mercy. And we all need to see God’s mercy. As Pope Francis, paraphrasing Pope Benedict XVI, once said, “The name of God is mercy.” The wounds of Christ, visible for all eternity, are the vivid reminder of God’s mercy. It’s not enough to know abstractly that the name of God is mercy. We need to see it and to be reminded of it. We can say that the mercy of God comes to us through Christ’s wounds.

Even still keeping that in mind, sometimes we’re afraid to let God see our own wounds (even though he knows us through and through, better than we know ourselves). What if I were to go to a doctor because I cut my foot, and say, “I don’t feel so good… My foot is killing me.” And then I don’t let the doctor look at it. He can’t really do that much for me if I don’t show him the wound. When we bring our wounds caused by sin to Jesus, he can heal them. It is then that the mercy of God can come to us through our wounds. Where does this happen? Above all it is in the sacrament of reconciliation. We are still in this amazing Jubilee year of Mercy after all, declared by Pope Francis. Even with Lent behind us, we can still reap the benefits of God’s mercy whenever we need it. Every time we confess our sins two things happen. First we receive the mercy of God who forgives us of our sins. Second we receive strength from God to live as his beloved children.

Let us then take courage from this feast of God’s mercy we’re celebrating this Sunday, and let’s resolve to attend confession frequently this year. Once a month is usually a good goal for it. Keep in mind also that St. Ann is a pilgrimage site for the Year of Mercy too, and you can receive a special indulgence every time you visit our shrine, receive Communion and through the sacrament of penance (One good confession can be good for many indulgences received for you or your loved ones and anyone else you to him you wish to offer it). Christ’s mercy comes to us through his wounds. When we bring him our wounds in the sacrament of confession, our very wounds become an entrance point for his merciful love. We experience the peace and the joy that Christ wants to give us every time we do it.

Reflection by Fr. Travis

MASS INTENTIONS

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Vigil</td>
<td>Gardner &amp; McCleland Families, Gagliano &amp; Foto Families, Alma Jurado, Rose Marie</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Vincent A. Tallo, Patrice Lawson, Dominic DiGiovanni, Carl J. Eberts, Joseph Palmisano, Marion Kennedy, Catherine Perilloux, Patty Jo Peterson, Theresa Laiche, Msgr. Charles E. Duke (Health), Jerry Baggett</td>
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<td>Marguerite Borne</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Blessed Mother (L.M.)</td>
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<td>Poor Souls in Purgatory</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H. C. Alexander</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Juana Delhommer</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>Poor Souls in Purgatory</td>
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Our Lady of Hope Statue
Please go to http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084faaab2ea1fd0-ourlady to sign up for the week you would like Our Lady to visit your home. Hosted by St. Ann’s Respect Life Committee. For any questions or if you have problems with the website please contact the parish office. Thank You!

St. Ann Blood Drive
Our St. Ann CYO will be sponsoring a Fund-raising Blood Drive on Sunday, April 3 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the school parking lot. For each pint of blood donated, our youth group will earn $10 to help fund our youth activities. There will be sign-up sheets in the entrance to the church to help schedule your donation. Give the gift of life and support our CYO!

April 3 - 9, 2016
“Sanctuary Candle”
In Memory of Dominic DiGiovanni
Have a Generous Heart

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.

We continue to look at Bible verses that give us a glimpse into the generosity that God wants us...

4. Psalm 119:36 Eschewing selfishness

_Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain!_

The key to living a life of generosity is in having a heart that delights in the Lord. When we find our purpose and joy in conforming to Christ’s image, we shed the inclination to indulge in materialistic fantasies and desires.

Mary Quaid would like to thank all of her Prayer Warriors, those known and unknown, who have supported her in her battle with cancer, and all those who attended the Evening of Mercy on March 17, 2016. She apologizes for inadvertently omitting the names of our Deacons and their wives, Deacon Phil and Diane Doolen, Deacon Ray and Randy Bertin and Deacon Tom and Madeline Fox, during her testimony that evening, who have been extremely supportive of her.

School News The sixth grade students had their field trip on Friday. April will be a very busy month for the students as this is the final quarter of the school year. The Home and School Installation Dinner will be on Monday, April 11th. We are very appreciative of the wonderful support of all the volunteers of the Home and School Club. We thank the outgoing Home and School Board officers and congratulate the new incoming Home and School Executive Board!

St. Ann Holy Hour of Mercy

St. Ann Church and National Shrine is one of the nine Pilgrimage sites during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. One of the special programs being offered during the Jubilee Year is the Holy Hour of Mercy.

These special devotions will be celebrated twice each month (and also by scheduled visits) for those groups making a pilgrimage to St. Ann Church and Shrine. Of course, St. Ann parishioners are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

On the second Wednesday of each month at 10:30 am and on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm we will celebrate the Holy Hour of Mercy. The Tuesday gatherings will be after Benediction and repose of the Blessed Sacrament, and before the celebration of the 7:00 pm Mass and the Novena to St. Ann.

These special hours will consist of: a brief history of the Shrine with a tour and explanation of the beautiful stained glass windows, the Calvary steps, the devotional candles and the newly enhanced upper level of the Shrine where the Relic of St. Ann is displayed.

An explanation of the indulgence will be explained. In addition a Theological Reflection which includes a Scripture reading and Reflection with a theme of God’s Mercy will be celebrated. Recitation of the Stations of the Cross will take place.

Our first gatherings for the Holy Hour of Mercy will be Wednesday, April 13th at 10:30 am and Tuesday, April 26th in the Shrine.

May God abundantly bless all who visit during the Jubilee Year and all who participate in the Holy Hour of Mercy.

Grandperson’s Day for St. Ann School Students

St. Ann is hosting “Grandperson’s Day” on April 8, for the grandparents and special friends of our middle school students. This special event will begin with a Mass at 1:30 pm. Guest of our middle school students should meet in Church at 1:15 pm. Seventh grade student guests should enter through the Loveland Street doors, sixth grade student guests should enter through the Meadowdale Street doors, and fifth grade student guests should enter through the Transcontinental Drive doors. The grandpersons will meet their children and sit with them for Mass. After Mass, the middle school students will be permitted to leave with their grandpersons. Cookies will be served outside the church immediately following the Mass.

As in the past, if your child’s grandparents are unable to attend, please feel free to invite a special friend or relative. We look forward to an enjoyable afternoon!
This Week at Home

Monday, April 4, 2016

Solemnity of the Annunciation

Today’s Psalm refrain, “Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will,” challenges us to reflect on when we have opened ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit. Like Mary who said yes and was completely vulnerable before God, we too are asked to completely give of ourselves and bear witness to Christ. As you reflect on the Gospel, think of when you have said no or been too afraid to respond to God’s invitation to love and preach the Good News. Take a moment today to pray the Rosary or sing the Hail Mary.

Today’s Readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; 8:10; Psalm 40:7–8a, 8b–9, 10, 11; Hebrews 10:4–10; Luke 1:26–38.

Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Community

Today’s passage from Acts paints an ideal picture of community life in the early Church. Reading this gives me hope and a desire to strive for a more profound experience of community life. The tenets presented here are important. How can we live these ideals in our families, in our parishes, and in the Church? It’s not easy to be of one heart and mind. Is there a food pantry to which you can bring nonperishable items or a shelter to which you can bring children’s books?


Wednesday, April 6, 2016

God’s Love

It is truly amazing to think about how much God loves us. Jesus came to show us God’s mercy and love. Through his Paschal Mystery we are saved. Once we were a people of darkness, but in Baptism, we were united to Christ and imbued with the Holy Spirit. Like the Apostles, we must boldly share the Gospel, no matter the risk. Find a quiet place to contemplate God’s love for you. If you feel restless, breathe deeply and let God know you are waiting and ready to be loved.


Thursday, April 7, 2016

St. John Baptist de la Salle

As members of the Body of Christ, it is our responsibility to care for the poor and marginalized. The Gospel is not vague. It challenges us to take up our cross and do as Christ did and respond to the cry of the poor. Like St. John Baptist de la Salle, let us bless the Lord’s name and seek to do work with the poor and marginalized.


Friday, April 8, 2016

Thanks

Chapter 6 of John’s Gospel illuminates for us Jesus, the Bread of Life. In today’s passage, Jesus feeds five thousand. Unlike Matthew, Mark, and Luke, John’s account has Jesus giving thanks. Jesus is the source of all nourishment; every time we gather at Mass, we celebrate this amazing gift and receive the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation. At the evening meal, invite everyone to offer thanks for the gifts of the day or week.


Saturday, April 9, 2016

Neglected

The First Reading begins with an argument between the Hellenists, those who spoke Greek, and the Hebrews, because the Hellenists’ widows were being neglected. Seven men were chosen to assist with the ministry; every time we gather at Mass, we celebrate this amazing gift and receive the Bread of Life and Cup of Salvation. At the evening meal, invite everyone to offer thanks for the gifts of the day or week.

Today’s Readings: Acts 6:1–7; Psalm 33:1–2, 4–5, 18–19;
Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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Date: April 3, 2016

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

Publisher 2010, Acrobat 10 standard

Special Instructions: