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

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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 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-
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“LITTLE CHURCH”
“Little Church” is a babysitting service which
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Please bring your children to the Parish
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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.

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: stanneled@bellsouth.net

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

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am Mass for children ages 1 to 5 years old.
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In today’s gospel, Jesus says: “This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” In song we sing: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. They will know we are Christians by our love. We will work with each other, we will work side by side … The problem, however, is that Christians want to be committed to Christ without being committed to his brothers and sisters.

“Love one another as I have loved you.” Of all the commandments Christ gave us this is the most important. It’s easy to love God whom we cannot see. It’s easy to love at a distance, and sometimes it’s devilishly hard to really love those close at hand. It’s easier to give a few dollars to relieve famine in some part of the world than to relieve the loneliness of a neighbor. We must begin by loving the people near us. This is how we reflect the glory of God in this life. Jesus’ new command means that if the world can know we are Christians by our love for one another, the world can also fail to recognize us as Christians if we don’t love one another. Therefore, if we don’t love one another, the world has every right to conclude that we are not Christians, nor disciples of Christ, and that we know little or nothing about being God with skin on. Love is the garment given the Christian to wear before the world.

Wearing our garment and bearing the cross of life, we must understand that the response to God is in the ordinary, everyday affairs of life. The kingdom of heaven is close at hand … as close in fact as the hand that serves.

“To love another person is to touch the face of God.” We have touched the face of God …

Reflection by Fr. Billy

**St. Ann Parish Wedding Anniversary**

Couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 years and so on are invited to celebrate the anniversary of their marriage on Saturday, June 4th at the 4:00 pm Vigil Mass followed by a reception in the cafeteria. Please call the parish office to RSVP by Friday, May 13th.
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.

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

7. Proverbs 21:13 Maintaining generous ears

Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.”

It’s interesting that God attaches intention to not responding to the needs of the poor. No matter what justification we might fabricate to excuse ourselves, the Lord calls it a willful “closing of our ears.”

In the same way we lend to the Lord by giving the poor, we withhold from the Lord when we respond selfishly to need—that gets repaid as well.

Parish Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/24</td>
<td>6 PM CYO SPORTS NIGHT/GYM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/25</td>
<td>9:30 AM COME AND SEE/ST. RAYMOND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/26</td>
<td>9:15 ADORATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/27</td>
<td>6:20 PM PSR CAFETERIA &amp; CLASSROOMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 PM BOY SCOUT 261/CAFETERIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/28</td>
<td>8:45 AM SCHOOL MASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:45 AM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH/ST. RAYMOND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 PM YOUTH CHOIR IN CHURCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/29</td>
<td>9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM/ST. RAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 PM CONFIRMATION/CHURCH AND CAFETERIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/30</td>
<td>1 PM PRACTICE IN CHURCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/30</td>
<td>6 PM ALTAR SERVER AWARD RECEPTION/WELCOME CTR.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/30</td>
<td>9:30 AM FAMILY MASS &amp; ST. LOUIS AWARDS RECIPIENTS/CHURCH RECEPTION FOLLOWING IN CAFETERIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/1</td>
<td>12:30 PM BAPTISMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 PM ORDER OF ST. LOUIS CEREMONY AT THE CATHEDRAL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School News

The third graders will have their recorder concert assembly on Friday. We are very proud that at St. Ann School all students learn to read music and play an instrument. All third graders will be invited to join the school band in fourth grade. St. Ann Parish students will be confirmed on April 28th. Please pray for them.

St. Ann School is still accepting applications for Kindergarten and PK. Please check our website at www.stannschool.org to learn more about our school. You may also call 455-7051 ext. 111 if you would like more information.

Congratulations Confirmands!!!

St. Ann Church wishes to congratulate the following students who will receive Confirmation on Thursday, 28, 2016. Please make sure to congratulate them personally if you see them at Mass!

Joseph Angelette  
Victoria Arnold  
Brooke Baltz  
Jacob Baxter  
Charles Beck  
Nicolas Benedetto  
Caitlin Betancourt  
Sarah Boudloche  
Brandon Bruno  
Kristy Callahan  
Gordon Case  
Ashley Code  
Christopher Cuomo, Jr.  
Abby Deroche  
Francesca DeVille  
Gabrielle Dupuy  
Richi Fernando  
Pascal Foto  
Armando Fuentes  
Grace Gardere  
Nathan Gauthreaux  
Daniela Gomez  
Thomas Gravois  
Emily Grillot  
Ross Guidry

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Grace Gardere  
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Daniela Gomez  
Thomas Gravois  
Emily Grillot  
Ross Guidry

18th Annual Mother’s Day Rosary Crusade for Life with Mass and Eucharistic Adoration

The 18th Annual Mother’s Day Rosary Crusade for Life will be held on Saturday, May 7th, 2016 from 8:30 to 10:30 AM starting with Mass at St. Angela Merici followed by an adoption testimony by Debbie Shinskye, Director of the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, and ending with Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary & Benediction. Archbishop Gregory Aymond and Fr. Beau Charbonnet will be the celebrants. This prayer event is sponsored by the Archdiocesan Sidewalk Counseling and Prayer Ministry, a ministry of the Respect Life Office of the Archdiocese of New Orleans.
Counsel

The third spiritual work of mercy is to counsel. The understanding of this work of mercy is sometimes different depending on where the emphasis is put. Some people focus on the action of counseling others to make good choices that will lead them closer to God’s will for them, and others focus on helping people overcome the doubt that can plague their lives.

These two understandings above merge in the awareness that to believe in Christ and give one’s life to him is the most important decision anyone could make. Every other good decision leads up to choosing Christ or flows from this choice. Following Christ always includes the cross.

The decisions that humans make ultimately become who they are. In fact, making a decision could be the difference between heaven and hell, between happiness and unhappiness, between a life of sin and a life full of grace and virtue.

Christians have a duty to counsel their neighbors to help them make the right decisions, particularly if they are asked. And they will be asked. If a Christian is living as a true disciple of Christ, it will cause questioning in the lives of those around them: Why did they act with such kindness? Why are they so joyful when their life is so hard? How can I be more like them? If one’s life does not look different from those around them, then the decision to follow Christ has not changed them enough.

When a Christian is asked a question, they should “Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope” (1 Peter 3:15). Then they must be open to the Holy Spirit. This work of mercy is a particularly spiritual one because the Spirit’s gift of counsel is needed to do it well, if at all. God alone knows the exact course this person should take toward him, so to insert one’s own counsel could hinder the person’s progress toward God. When someone asks them for advice, the Christian should say a prayer to the Holy Spirit and trust him to work. The Spirit’s gift of counsel will help one to sort out the person’s situation and give them advice to help them on their journey toward God.

If Christians do not see the importance of guiding their neighbors towards heaven, then they are not truly caring for their neighbor.

Reflection/Action

Read the advice Jesus gives to his disciples about carrying their crosses in Matthew 16:24-28.

• Why is this good advice?
• Is it easy to follow?
• In what situations could it help the most?
• How can you apply this to your life?
### St. Ann Finance Council

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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<tr>
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<td>Envelopes and loose collections</td>
<td>$79,193</td>
<td>$55,221</td>
<td>$23,972</td>
<td>$593,400</td>
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<td>(444,519)</td>
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<td>Special collections and other receipts</td>
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<td>10,030</td>
<td>7,702</td>
<td>152,314</td>
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<td>Special collections &amp; Arch. assessments</td>
<td>(11,071)</td>
<td>(24,217)</td>
<td>13,146</td>
<td>(116,357)</td>
<td>(111,819)</td>
<td>(4,538)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net increase (decrease) in cash from operations</td>
<td>35,018</td>
<td>(44,520)</td>
<td>79,538</td>
<td>184,838</td>
<td>31,089</td>
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<td>Capital expenditures (net activity)</td>
<td>(15,598)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(15,598)</td>
<td>(21,870)</td>
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<td>(21,870)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>695</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>5,694</td>
<td>5,580</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds on deposit (net activity)</td>
<td>(695)</td>
<td>(645)</td>
<td>(50)</td>
<td>(55,694)</td>
<td>(5,580)</td>
<td>(50,114)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Shortfall)</td>
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<td>$(44,520)</td>
<td>$63,940</td>
<td>$112,968</td>
<td>$31,089</td>
<td>$81,879</td>
</tr>
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#### ALTAR SERVER RECOGNITION 2016

We began our Lenten journey with Fr. Stan Fortuna proclaiming God’s abundant mercy. On April 2, 2016, Divine Mercy Sunday, the second Sunday of Easter, we celebrated and recognized our Altar Servers at St. Ann. Of all of the ministries that we have here, this is the one whose sole mission and purpose it to serve God. On that day, when we celebrated the Mercy that God shows to us every day, we were reminded that we are instructed, also, to show the same Mercy to others through our corporal and spiritual acts of Mercy.

Our servers, adult and youth, serve at God’s altar, solely and truly for their love of God. We are privileged to have several adult servers who serve at daily masses. We have 80 youth servers, grades 3 through 12, who you see at Sunday and Holy Day masses. We have several adult servers who assist with daily masses.

Yearly, the Serra Club of New Orleans celebrates the Altar Server of the Year throughout the archdiocese. In conjunction, we also celebrate our servers, and recognize our St. Ann Altar Server of the Year. This is a very tall task given the quality of each of our servers.

Our 2015 Altar Server of the Year, Ashley Code, has been the epitome of the virtues of the Altar Server of the Year. She has, through her actions, been an inspiration and spiritual leader to all in the parish. St. John Berchmans, the patron of Altar Servers, extolled a true devotion to serving at God’s altar, courtesy, kindness and loyalty to all. Ashley has been and continues to be a shining witness of these virtues, and of all that is good in our Young Catholic Church. She has set a high standard for others to follow.

The 2016 Finalists show the same qualities: leadership, devotion, courtesy, kindness and loyalty. All are leaders in our young church who provide excitement to see how our faith can grow through them, and because of them.

Our finalists, all of whom are quite exceptional, are, in alphabetical order: MOLLY DERBES, KATY ELAM, ZOE ELAM, HIRUNI FERNANDO, RICHI FERNANDO, ADAM PETERS, MARGARET SHEPHERD and MICHAEL WILSON.

Fr. Billy, Fr. Travis and our deacons, in an historical decision, have chosen twins, KATY AND ZOE ELAM, as the St. Ann Altar Servers of the Year 2016.

Please congratulate Katy, Zoe and their family, along with our other Finalists, and all of our servers.
This Week at Home

Monday, April 25, 2016

Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist

Our First Reading calls us to remain steadfast in our faith amidst adversity. We know all too well the challenges and temptations we face daily. As did the early followers of Christ, we must remember we are not alone in our struggle. As members of the Body of Christ, we support and encourage one another in faith. As part of your prayer, consider writing down and/or discussing ways you share the Gospel.


Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Peace

Reading the Acts of the Apostles can be quite exciting. Placing yourself in the story and trying to imagine what it must have been like in the early community is an exhilarating way to dig into the story a bit more. These were real people who had to deal with real persecution. Because Christ died and rose, his peace reigns forever in our hearts. Let the peace of Christ guide your steps and help you share his word. Consider decorating your home with a lily, a symbol of peace, and find out more about saints such as Norbert, who promoted peace.


Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Pruning

Fruit trees need to be pruned and trained so that they have a solid structure and can produce higher yields of fruit. As branches on the vine of Christ, we need to be shaped and trained so that as we grow in faith and in our relationship we will faithfully and zealously preach the Gospel. Radiating Christ’s love and sharing it with others is the fruit that we bear. If we turn away from Christ, we become dead weight and are cut off so the rest of the plant (body) will thrive.

Visit a vineyard (or research online) to inquire about the pruning process and reflect on this Gospel. Today’s Readings: Acts 15:1–6; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4ab, 4cd–5; John 15:1–8.

Thursday, April 28, 2016

Love

Love is the main theme of today’s Gospel. Jesus announces that he loves his people just as much as the Father loves him. We are asked to remain in this love and promised that Christ’s love will be the source of all of our joy. Send a love letter and flowers to a spouse, child, or a dear friend and give thanks for God’s love.


Friday, April 29, 2016

Memorial of St. Catherine of Siena

Today’s Gospel reminds me of J. Michael Joncas’ song “No Greater Love.” This song continues to spark my imagination. How could someone love this much? It’s hard, but we must love as Christ loved. The saint we celebrate today surrendered to this love. With a deep desire to respond to the will of God, she worked to protect unity in the Church. As you pray this evening, take some time to examine what you must surrender to love as Christ commanded.


Saturday, April 30, 2016

Fortitude

The high price of discipleship is that, like Jesus, we will be hated, persecuted, and dismissed. In Baptism, we have accepted Christ’s mission, but too often we may find ourselves shying away from proclaiming the Good News. After the Resurrection, the disciples went full speed ahead in sharing the Christ they knew and loved. The Gospel today is a reminder that our cross will not be easy, but it is necessary. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you the gift of fortitude.

Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

Date: April 24, 2016

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

Publisher 2010, Acrobat 10 standard

Special Instructions: I have added 2 extra pages to this bulletin. Thanks Linda