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
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stannchurchandshrine
Twitter: https://twitter.com/stannmetairie
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/stannchurch

CHURCH HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & 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

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 Ray Bertin at 455-7071, ext. 226. 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.

MISSIO 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.
Mary and Ashley would remind us that we should not let the silly things steal our happiness. Let us pray constantly without becoming weary or losing heart. Pray the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray, a prayer that he learned from his Heavenly Father. Pray it so that our hearts will beat in time with God our Father and have that intense longing for the Kingdom of Heaven. Let our prayer lead us into doing as we seek to follow in the footprints of Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life.

Continue to tell the stories of our beloved gone before us marked with the signs of faith and remember this: They have gone no further from us than to God, and God is very near.

Reflection by Fr. Billy

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sunday**  
October 16  
4:00 pm Vigil  Rose Marie Fox, Dale St. John, Dennis Hebert, Raymond Olivier, Alice Kelly, Nora O’Riordan, Dominic DiGiovanni, Holy Souls (Living & Deceased), Ashley Code, Zulma Naquin, Mary Quaid, Emelda Leatham, McCleland & Gardener Families, Donna Clement (S.I.), Robert Kitchen  
8:00 am Parishioners  
9:30 am Russell Howley  
11:00 am Edwige Gillette, Antonio Randazzo, Carolyn McNulty, Lee R. Centanni, Jr., Jennifer Courville, Raymond Olivier, Ruth Giroir, Marlene Bishop(Healing), Juliet Carrigee, Theresa Cusachs, Vivian Berthelot, Ashley Code, Nora O’Riordan, Michael Romance, Ethel Aucoin, Mr. & Mrs. T. Rodrigue, Jr. & Family (Healing & Protection), Mary Quaid, David & Consuelo Rodriguez (Health), Ann Silva (Health) & Jose Silva  
5:00 pm Donald Loisel

**Monday**  
October 17  
6:30 am Msgr. Charles E. Duke  
8:45 am Nora O’Riordan

**Tuesday**  
October 18  
6:30 am Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander  
8:45 am Msgr. Charles E. Duke  
7:00 pm Nora O’Riordan

**Wednesday**  
October 19  
6:30 am Linda Murry (Health) In Thanks to the Blessed Mother  
8:45 am Donald Loisel School Mass (3-7)

**Thursday**  
October 20  
6:30 am Bertrand J. Ibos, Jr.  
8:45 am Barbara Trosclair

**Friday**  
October 21  
6:30 am Nora O’Riordan  
8:45 am George Kippers School Mass (2)

**Saturday**  
October 22  
7:30 am Nora O’Riordan

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**MASSEY CEREMONY**

October 16 - 22, 2016  
“Sanctuary Candle”  
In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Roberto C. Haughton  
“Altar Flowers”  
In Memory of Paul & Verita Bachemin

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**Adult Faith-Sharing Group**  
Are you looking to make your faith more meaningful? Do you wish to take part in a more practical faith experience? Would you like to meet other faith-filled Catholics who are on the same journey as you? Come and see what our adult faith-sharing group is like. We will meet on the first and third Thursday evenings of each month in the Parish Ministries Center located just behind the church. This discussion group will seek to bring their Catholic faith alive through scripture reading, discussion, and faith-sharing. Questions may be forwarded to the church office.
School News

Friday, October 21st will be Grandparents’ Day for our youngest students. Grandparents and special friends are invited to visit the PK2, PK3, PK4 students and the kindergarten students. The grandparents and special friends will spend time in the classrooms and share refreshments with the students. St. Ann School has an active Grandparents Club. All Grandparents of school students are invited to join. Please call the school office at 455-8383 or email stann@stannschool.org for more information on the St. Ann School Grandparents Club.

Join Us For Our Evening of Mercy

Thursday, October 20 at 7:00 PM
A Tribute to Ashley Marie Code

A celebration of Prayer, Song and Witness by some of Ashley's friends who will share how their lives and their faith have been impacted by Ashley.

Important Notice:
Opening of the 2017 Mass Book

The Mass Book for 2017 will be open on Thursday, November 10, 2016.

Please submit your Mass Intentions, Sanctuary Light and Altar Flower requests in person on Thursday, November 10 at 10 AM in the Parish Office. No early requests will be accepted. If your first date and time is not available, we will select an alternative date and time at our discretion. We will follow up with a phone call. Also, if one of the priests is away and we have to schedule a Communion Service, the Mass Intention will be moved to another Mass time on the same date. Requests for Mass Intentions, Sanctuary Lights and Altar Flowers will not be posted upon receipt. The requests will be posted in the order in which they are received on Wednesday. We will accept no more than SIX Mass Intentions and ONE Sanctuary Light request per family. The offering (stipend) for each Mass Intention is $5, $10 for each Sanctuary Light, and $35 for each Altar Flowers.

Thank you for your cooperation.
EVERY SUICIDE IS TRAGIC

Proponents of doctor-assisted suicide try to draw a sharp distinction between those with a mental illness who want to end their lives and those with a terminal illness who express the same wish. They even insist we should not call the latter “suicide,” contrary to the plain meaning of the word. This is a tragically false distinction with far-reaching consequences.

DOCTOR-ASSISTED SUICIDE ABANDONS VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS

Even among terminally ill patients, a request to die is nearly always a cry for help. This request is a distress signal indicating that something in the patient’s condition—at the medical, psychological, or social level—has not been adequately attended to.

Studies show that the desire for death in terminally ill individuals generally correlates with both physical pain and poor social support. When comfort or relief is offered in the form of more adequate treatment for depression, better pain management, or more comprehensive palliative care, the desire for death typically vanishes. In the Netherlands, for example, the request for “hastened death” was withdrawn by 85% of patients when their symptoms were better controlled.

Suicidal individuals—with or without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die; they want to escape what they perceive to be an intolerable situation, and they inaccurately believe that suicide is their only way out. The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking, “Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?”

Among terminally ill individuals, a request to die is often associated with a potentially treatable mental disorder such as depression or anxiety. Yet alarmingly, in Oregon, where assisted suicide has been legal since 1997, fewer than 5% of individuals who die by assisted suicide are ever referred for psychiatric or psychological evaluation to rule out the most common causes of suicidal thinking—and the percentage of those receiving such an evaluation is steadily decreasing.

DOCTOR-ASSISTED SUICIDE ENABLES SUICIDE

While individuals who are at risk for suicide often contemplate and formulate suicidal plans, and some may show warning signs, they are often ambivalent about ending their lives. The actual suicide attempt is often done impulsively, in the midst of an acute crisis or while intoxicated or emotionally distressed.

A journalist tracked down the few dozen individuals who survived jumping off the Golden Gate Bridge, which is the #1 suicide spot in the world. He asked them what was going through their minds in the four seconds between jumping off the bridge and hitting the water. Every one of them responded that they regretted the decision to jump. One man said, “I realized that all the problems in my life that I thought were unsolvable were actually solvable—except for having just jumped.” To abandon individuals who have lost hope—under the guise of “respecting their autonomy”—is irresponsible.

Furthermore, completing a suicide generally requires not just intent (which typically waxes and wanes over time) but also easy access to means. People tend to fixate on one specific plan. If that particular method isn’t readily available, they typically don’t choose an alternative method; they choose to live. But assisted suicide increases access to a ready means to end one’s life for those who are especially vulnerable due to a terminal illness.

DOCTOR—ASSISTED SUICIDE ESCALATES SUICIDE

Advocates of assisted suicide claim it is a private decision, an exercise in personal autonomy that does not affect others. But there is a well-studied “social contagion” aspect to the behavior that can’t be ignored. A recent study, which controlled for other factors that could account for the rise, showed that the permissive assisted suicide laws in Oregon and Washington have caused at least a 6% rise in overall suicide rates in those states. Additional data, although limited, enhances this distressing picture. After suicide rates had declined in Oregon in the 1990s, they rose dramatically there between 2000 and 2010—the years following the legalization of assisted suicide in 1997. By 2012 suicide rates in Oregon were 42% higher than the national average.

We know that suicide is among the health-related behaviors that tend to spread from person to person. When a person ends his or her life, it can affect the choices of that person’s friends, as well as the choices of people at least three degrees of separation away: the friends of his or her friends’ friends. Additionally, publicized cases of suicide lead to clusters of copycat cases—known in social science as the Werther Effect. A 2003 Swiss study, for example, showed evidence of suicide contagion following media reports of doctor-assisted suicide. No one is an island.

LEGALIZING DOCTOR-ASSISTED SUICIDE WRONGLY COMMUNICATES THAT SOME LIVES ARE NOT WORTH LIVING

Finally, the law itself is a teacher. Our laws shape cultural attitudes toward certain behaviors and influence social norms. Laws permitting assisted suicide communicate the message that, under especially difficult circumstances, some lives are not worth living. This tragically false message will be heard not only by those with a terminal illness, but by any person struggling with the temptation to end his or her life.

Every suicide is tragic. We don’t discourage suicide by assisting suicide.

More Information: www.usccb.org/Respect Life Program
St. Ann Church and Shrine

Date: October 16, 2016

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

Special Instructions: