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.

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.
Thirty-Third Sunday Year C

The gospel announces a kind of doomsday clock. The end is near ... Nations will rise against nation ... the Titanic sinks ... Increase in nuclear weapons, the 911 attack, destruction of the environment, coastal erosion and political unrest ... Preachers predicting the end of the world ... The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem.

For the Jews, the destruction of the Temple was the equivalent of the end of the world. Maybe it is for this reason that the Church uses such a gospel reading, especially since we are celebrating the second-to-last Sunday of the liturgical year. As the liturgical year draws to a close, the Church wants us to reflect when the world will also draw to a close ... our own lives too. “Gird your loins and light your lamps ... You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” [Luke 12:35-40]

We should reflect on the end not with a doom and gloom attitude, but rather a prepared-spiritually-attitude. Perhaps it’s time to tie up some lose ends and make peace with a family member or neighbor. Maybe it’s time to move out from the comfort of the shore and put out into the deep, and find what the Lord wants us to experience. An introverted Christianity, in which the individual is exclusively concerned with one’s own salvation, is not Christianity at all.

The gospel speaks of persecution ... in the land of the free. What? The now deceased Cardinal George said: “I expect to die in bed, my successor will die in prison and his successor will die a martyr in the public square. His successor will pick up the shards of a ruined society and slowly help rebuild civilization, as the Church has done so often in human history” Freedom always has a price. Persecution comes in the form of biased reporting, and in family mockery.

One day we will have to leave the earthly boat that has carried us through the sometimes stormy waters of life. If at difficult times during this life we have opted for Jesus Christ, it will come naturally to reach out and take his hand so that he can haul us onto the shores of eternal life. The judgment won’t help us much really if it merely means we are afraid. Think of it as a clarion call to generosity, and an urgent invitation to change. Reflection by: Fr. Billy

“We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become.”
~St. Claire of Assisi~
School News

Monday begins a special week for our seventh grade students. They receive their high school application cards. St. Ann School is proud that 99% of our students are accepted into the high school of their choice. The Home and School Christmas Boutique is Monday evening. On Tuesday, our students will receive the new St. Ann School car magnet to display with pride. If you are interested in a car magnet, please call the school office at 455-8383.

Parish Calendar

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>11/13</td>
<td>6 PM CYO SPORTS NIGHT/GYM</td>
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<td>11/14</td>
<td>7 PM H &amp; S CLUB MTG./CAFETERIA/GYM</td>
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<td>11/15</td>
<td>9:15 AM ADORATION</td>
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<td>6:20 PM PSR CLASS IN CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>7:30 PM BOY SCOUTS/CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>11/16</td>
<td>9:30 AM PRAYER GROUP/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>9:45 AM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAY</td>
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<td>6 PM CS PACK MTG./CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>7 PM PASTORAL COUNCIL/PARISH OFFICE</td>
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<td>7 PM ADULT CHOIRIST. CECILIA</td>
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<td>7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REH./CHURCH</td>
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<td>11/17</td>
<td>9:30 AM ADULT CATECHIST/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>7 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION/WELCOME CENTER</td>
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<td>7 PM EVENING OF MERCY</td>
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<td>7:30 PM SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL/PARISH OFFICE</td>
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<td>11/18</td>
<td>8:30 AM MONTHLY ASSEMBLY/6TH GRADE/GYM</td>
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<td>11/19</td>
<td>10 AM ALTAR SOCIETY MEETING/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>11:30 AM ALTAR SERVER MEETING/TRAINING/CHURCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/20</td>
<td>11:30 AM MENS CLUB PARISH THANKSGIVING LUNCHÉON/CAF.</td>
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Guidelines For The Reception Of Holy Communion

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.

The norm established for the dioceses of the U.S. is that Communion is to be received standing, unless an individual member wishes to receive Communion while kneeling (GIRM 160). When receiving Holy Communion, the person approaches the minister and bows his or her head before the sacrament as a gesture of reverence. While the sign of reverence used to be a genuflection, for the sake of unity, the U.S. bishops asked that the faithful bow their head instead.

When the Communion minister says, “The Body of Christ” or “The Blood of Christ,” we respond “Amen” as a sign of our belief in the true presence – the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. By our “Amen,” we are saying, “I believe.

The consecrated host may be received either on the tongue or in the hand, at the discretion of each communicant. If receiving it on the hand, it is customary to place your left hand on top of your right hand, thus creating a throne for the Eucharist. After the host is placed in your left hand, you take it with your right hand and place it in your mouth to consume the host. If you are receiving on your tongue, it is important to stick your tongue out far enough for the minister to place the host on your tongue.

When receiving the Blood of Christ, after bowing and receiving the chalice in your hands, communicants drink the Blood of Christ and carefully return the chalice to the minister.

If you are not prepared to receive Communion or if someone with you is not Catholic, they can still approach the priest or deacon and receive a blessing. It is customary to cross your arms across your chest as a sign of your desire for a blessing.

Upon receiving the Eucharist, it is appropriate to return to your pew and spend some quiet time in prayer. Some people might prefer to silently pray a spontaneous prayer of thanksgiving or recite a traditional one from memory, while others might prefer to sit in silent communion with Jesus, whom they have just received. Another option is to participate in the singing of the hymn, if one is being sung.

Even though Mass ends shortly after receiving Communion, it is important to stay for the end of Mass, which includes a closing prayer, announcements (if any), and a final blessing. Having heard and reflected on the Scriptures and received Jesus in the Eucharist, the congregation is blessed and sent to go out into the world and announce the Gospel through the way they live.
### Respect Life Focus for November-Adoption

The November Respect Life focus is Adoption. Not only is this our focus topic in the archdiocese, it is also National Adoption Awareness Month. Please join the Respect Life Office in remembering both birth and adoptive families this month in prayer and action.

#### SEVEN CONSIDERATIONS

**WHILE NAVIGATING INFERTILITY**

We often assume parenthood happens easily after “I do,” but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility after giving birth to one or more children, they are unable to have another.

The pain can become overwhelming. Social media posts of pregnancies, baby announcements, or pictures of newborns may intensify feelings of being alone in the ache for a child. Attending baby showers and being around children or pregnant women can be excruciating.

If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and His Church desires to walk with you. The following suggestions may be helpful to you on this journey.

1. **Start with a Prayer:** God has a beautiful plan for your life as you walk with you. The following suggestions may be helpful to you on this journey.

2. **Connect with Others:** A mentorship, a faith-based support group or spiritual direction can offer comfort and provide new perspectives.

3. **Seek to Understand the Church’s Teaching:** The sexual act expresses the marital covenant, repealing over and over again, “I give myself to you entirely, unreservedly, holding nothing back.”

4. **Learn the Difference between Ethical and Unethical Interventions:** Applying the Church’s teaching means that, in short procedures that introduce a third party into the process (such as surrogates or sperm/egg donors) are not morally acceptable.

5. **Be Aware of “Treatments” That Destroy Life:** Some procedures are problematic for multiple reasons. For example, beyond its unethical nature (as per the previous section), in vitro fertilization often involves the tragic loss of human life. Children in the embryonic stage are frequently discarded—or frozen—without ever being implanted into their mother’s womb.

6. **Make a Plan:** Do you know there are medical options consistent with Church teaching that have statistically significantly higher rates of achieving pregnancy than IVF? Learn about these, fertility awareness practices, and other treatments that also respect your marriage and any children who may be conceived.

7. **Keep Your Marriage Healthy:** Handling uncertainties of infertility is a challenge for even the strongest marriages. Once engaged in treatment, it can become easy to focus more on the process than on each other.

Hold fast to the constant truth of God’s love for you. “To couples who cannot have children of their own,” St. John Paul II affirmed, “you are no less loved by God; your love for each other is complete and fruitful when it is open to others” and their needs. In times of suffering, Pope Francis notes, “we sense a powerful need for someone to be close and feel compassion for us. “You are not alone: Jesus does not abandon those whom he loves.”

Even if we ourselves do not experience difficulty bearing children, we can be channels of God’s mercy for those who do. Learn how to show compassion sensitively from a short list of suggested *dos and don’ts* at www.usccb.org/respectlife.
Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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

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Special Instructions: