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

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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.
First Sunday of Advent Year A
Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44

Happy New Year! The Church has its own calendar.

Happy New Year of Grace 2017! The New Year begins with the first Sunday of Advent and ends with the Solemnity of Christ the King. So, we start again with Year A of the Church’s three-year-cycle and we will journey with Matthew the Evangelist through the year. For St. Matthew, Jesus bears the usual Christological titles: Christ, Lord, Son of God, and Son of David, but above all Jesus is presented as the teacher of Israel and teacher of the Church after his resurrection. The gospel provides an abundance of moral teaching that is both personal and corporate in its effects.

Advent has a twofold character: a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s first coming is remembered, and a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await the Second Coming at the end of time. The liturgy is calculated to awaken in us sentiments of hope, longing, and joyful expectancy. Advent is pregnant with life, laboring with expectancy. “A woman with a swollen belly is both a practical and a profound image of the vitality that we carry within us - a life that stretches us without breaking us.” [Fran Salone-Pellestier “Awakening to God” Twenty-Third Publications]. I think Fran’s words describe discipleship rather well … a life that stretches us without breaking us!

The Advent Wreath announces four weeks of patient waiting. It seems fitting for the community of faith to gather around the wreath to pray and sing songs of hope because of war, capital punishment, violence, abortion, euthanasia and rioting. Advent calls us to wake up, to shake off the dust of routine and habit … The wreath is a call to a progressive hope from the initial lighting of one candle to the full blaze of four candles … May we grow in faith in a like manner.

According to St. Matthew in today’s gospel, the coming of Jesus requires of us a decision for watchfulness because any day, any moment could be the final coming of the Lord for you and me. Everything said in the Gospel about the Second Coming applies to us - a sudden death and that is the Second Coming as far as we are concerned. So, be prepared, be watchful! As disciples of Jesus Christ, our Advent task is to accept the charge to stay awake, and to prepare ourselves for the Lord’s coming. [Reflection by Fr. Billy]

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 – 10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday November 27
4:00 pm Vigil Dale St. John, Robert A Young, Sr., Harold R. Neuburger, Dennis Hebert, Raymond Olivier, Ashley Code, Charles Stier, Dorothy R. Mahl, Albert F. Hezau, Jr., McClelland & Gardner Families, Lois Fox, Giuse Nguyen Kim Thai, Maria Tran, Thi May, Maria Dinh Thi Xinh, Vincente Pham Van Pha, Daminh Nguyen Vi Tu, Maria Pham Ti Cuc, Jeannette & Robert Welcker (Anniversary), In Thanksgiving (Michael Cruz & Fly.). Eduardo Cruz, Marcela Cruz, Jesus Uy, Lilia Uy, Angelina DiMartino
8:00 am Parishioners
9:30 am Salvadore Guggino
11:00 am Antonio Randazzo, Carol Ross, Elmo Spellman, Theresa Cusachs, Ashley Code, Julie Calongne, Jose- phine Guevara, Mary Quaid, Juliet Carrigee, Michael J. Do
nahoe, Edmond Tassin, Rosemary Abadie, Clarence Dubos
5:00 pm Donald Loisel
Monday November 28
6:30 am Kate Maniscalco
8:45 am Gregory Kelly (Thanksgiving)
Tuesday November 29
6:30 am Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander
8:45 am Ashley Code
7:00 pm Andrew Trosclair
Wednesday November 30
6:30 am Kate Maniscalco
8:45 am Ashley Code
Thursday December 1
6:30 am Ashley Code
8:45 am Frank McNulty
Friday December 2
6:30 am George S. Turpie, III
8:45 am Hilda & Anthony Roppolo
Saturday December 3
7:30 am Louis Hebert

November 27 - December 3, 2016
“Sanctuary Candle”
In Memory of George S. Turpie, III

2016 Church Support- The 2016 Church Support for St. Ann School families is $400.00 per year. The deadline is November 30, 2016. If you would like to inquire about your record of support, please contact the parish office at 455-7071.
To celebrate our unique Catholic heritage, #iGiveCatholic is a giving day created to rally the Catholic community on #GivingTuesday, November 29th – a global day of giving.

Visit [www.iGiveCatholic.org](http://www.iGiveCatholic.org) and search for **St. Ann School** to make a tax-deductible donation to the St. Ann School Endowment Fund.

Don’t have access to a computer or need help making your gift? Bring your credit card to the St. Ann School office on Monday, November 28, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., and receive personal assistance to help make your gift.

Questions? Call Sara Cooper at 504-455-8383 x.181 or email scooper@stannschool.org.
Christmas Giving Tree

Once again we at St. Ann are invited to share OUR blessings and gifts with the multitudes who are not as fortunate. Hope House and Catholic Charities have numerous children, families, elderly and homeless whom they serve and whom we also, are called to serve. These wonderful Catholic facilities provide for these needs on a daily basis and St. Ann is always extremely generous in our Christmas sharing. The “Giving Tree” will be up from Thanksgiving through SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11. The Angel tags on the tree will indicate the necessary information for you to be able to provide a truly Merry Christmas for MANY considerably less fortunate than us. The tags will indicate specific gift requests along with age, size etc.

IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT WHEN YOU SELECT AN ANGEL TAG YOU MAKE YOUR PURCHASE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PLEASE WRAP SECURELY WITHOUT A BOW AND PLACE IT UNDER THE TREE AT THE SATURDAY AND SUNDAY MASSES ONLY!!!!

PLEASE TAPE THE ANGEL TAG SECURELY TO THE PACKAGE WITHOUT THE STRING.

PLEASE BE SURE TO GET A GIFT AND RETURN IT ON OR BEFORE SUNDAY DECEMBER 11. We must have time to sort and deliver the gifts before Christmas. We ask that all gifts be NEW.

Again for SECURITY reasons, please place your gifts under the tree ONLY AT MASS ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS.

Tuesday, Nov. 29 is a special day to give to St. Ann School for #iGiveCatholic. Please check our website at www.stannschool.org for more information. Next Friday, Dec. 2nd is St. Ann School night at City Park’s Celebration in the Oaks. Our choir and our band will perform.
Greetings in the name of our Lord,

We are excited to announce that St. Ann Church and National Shrine has become a partner in an exciting on-line web-based digital formation series called **FORMED**, produced by the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press.

This series is designed to help adults grow in their faith at all levels – how we think, how we pray, and how we live. Better yet, access is **FREE** to all St. Ann Church and National Shrine parishioners and their families anywhere, anytime on computers, tablets, or phones.

Have you wanted to be able to share more with others but felt you were lacking in knowledge? Through this content you will be able to not only learn more about the Catholic Faith but also go deeper and strengthen your own relationship with God. You will learn through beautiful videos, music, and notable Catholic speakers, educators as well as be able to read further on the topics through online links.

**FORMED** is a game-changer, a real immersion of Faith! To access **FORMED** you will find instructions on the next page. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this excellent resource and learn more about your faith so that you not only live it out more deeply but also share it with others.

Our subscription includes the following for **FREE**:

- **Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained** (RCIA and Faith Formation for entire parish)
- **Catholicism Series** (Featuring Bishop Robert Barron)
- **33 Days to Morning Glory** (Consecration Retreat featuring Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC)
- **YDisciple** (A 4-year Full Discipleship Group Youth Program)
- **Beloved: Finding Happiness in Marriage** (Marriage Prep/Marriage Enrichment)
- **Lectio: Peter and Prayer** (Bible Studies with Dr. Tim Gray)
- **Lectio: Eucharist** (Bible study with Dr. Brant Pitre)
- **Lectio: Evangelization** (Bible Study with Dr. Mary Healy)
- **Opening the Word** (Weekly reflections on the Sunday Readings)
- **Footprints of God** (Nine-Part Video by Steve Ray)
- **Lighthouse Catholic Media Audio Presentations** (Numerous Topics)
- **Movies and eBooks from Ignatius Press**
- Unlimited downloads of accompanying study materials (leader & participant guides)

We transform the world for Christ and His Church by first transforming and educating ourselves. May you find the light, movement, and calling of the Holy Spirit as you grow more fully in your faith.

Christ’s peace be with you,
Rev. Billy O’Riordan, Pastor
St. Ann Church and National Shrine
HOW TO REGISTER

• Go to Formed.org
• Enter our PARISH CODE XX87MF on the homepage
• Create a personal account with your user name/email and password
• Start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place!

In the future, log in by going directly to Formed.org and entering your user name/email and password.

IMPORTANT
DO NOT sign up as an individual - the parish access code provides more content than the individual subscription.
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Light of All Being

Creator God,
author of all life and light,
in this season of anticipation
you call us to recognize your light in our midst,
your love in our darkness.
Lead us from the darkness of despair
into a light of hope and peace.
Wake us from the shadows of our troubled lives
into a light that dispels our fears and concerns.
May your presence maintain our wakefulness,
as we prepare for your coming more deeply into
our hearts.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your
Son,
who lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spir-
it,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sunday, November 27, 2016

Today’s Readings: Isaiah 2:1–5; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9; Romans 13:11–14; Matthew 24:37–44. The day of salvation is near, and the darkness in which we often find ourselves does not need to govern our lives. The readings on the First Sunday of Advent are a call to be alert. They urge us to shake off our drowsiness, find a way through the darkness, and follow the light. From Isaiah, in the First Reading, we are called to “stream” together to the house of the Lord, where all nations will lay down their weapons of destruction. That vision is our call to live in the light of God’s Kingdom. On this opening day of Ad- vent, we can take that first step in our homes by setting up an Advent prayer area, with a purple cloth and an Advent wreath. The purple is the dark background in which the light, growing through the season, is both a reminder and a call to move forward together to work to establish God’s Kingdom of peace.

All three readings today summon us to wake up and to discard some kind of darkness, turning it into a life-giving light. In his Letter to the Romans, St. Paul speaks of a darkness brought about by our conduct, a reminder that when we put on Christ, when we clothe ourselves in conduct guided by the Lord, we wear the light of Christ as armor. In this dark season of the year, when our daylight hours are never enough, it can be too easy to let the darkness and the night be our guide.
This Week At Home

Monday, November 28
Promise of the Kingdom
This first Monday in the season of Advent is full of promise for all peoples, who will “eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.” Each meal as a family, and each community’s gathering at the Eucharist, is a reminder of the Kingdom of God. As you light your Advent candle before your evening meal, name your hopes and promises for each member of the family. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 4:2–6; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4b, 4cd–5, 6–7, 8–9; Matthew 8:5–11.

Tuesday, November 29
Lions, Lambs, Wolves, and Children
Advent is all about looking forward to the coming of the Messiah. Isaiah provides a vision of the messianic kingdom, a place and time when the most unlikely of animals and individuals will live together in peace. It is a fulfillment of the gifts of the Spirit. This season is an opportunity to work on a relationship of peace with an unlikely person. As you gather around the Advent wreath, share one relationship you find unlikely, and include that in your prayer. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17; Luke 10:21–24.

Wednesday, November 30
St. Andrew, Apostle
St. Andrew, one of the first Apostles called by Jesus, lived his call to discipleship by proclaiming Christ’s Good News to others. In the First Reading we hear: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” We have a wonderful challenge during this season of hopefulness to not just proclaim Good News but to bring Good News to others. Today’s Readings: Romans 10:9–18; Psalm 23:1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6; Matthew 4:18–22.

Thursday, December 1
Listen and Act
Jesus calls us to both hear his words and act upon his message. The first step is to listen. Take time this Advent to pay attention when others speak and to work to discern the proper time to act. As a family, take time to listen to one another and to work together to prepare for the coming of the Lord by reaching out to others beyond the comfort of your home. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 26:1–6; Psalm 118:1, 8–9, 19–21, 25–27a; Matthew 7:21, 24–27.

Friday, December 2
“Yes, Lord”
When Jesus asks the two blind men if they believe he can heal them, they quickly reply, “Yes, Lord.” The season of Advent invites us to seek Jesus with hearts wide open and full of faith. Find time to visit and pray a healing prayer with a sick friend. The season of Advent is often a time for groups to visit hospitals and nursing homes, singing carols and moving on. This Advent, take time to pause and focus on those who not only need a momentary cheering up but a comforting word of faith and friendship. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 29:17–24; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14; Matthew 9:27–31.

Saturday, December 3
St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Missionary and evangelizer Francis Xavier was responsible for the spread of Christianity in Asia and India, baptizing hundreds of thousands. His zeal for his faith prompted him to do as Jesus in the Gospel: go to all the towns and villages, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom. The coming of the Kingdom is for all peoples. As you pray at the end of this first week of Advent, remember the Lord’s Prayer invites us to the Kingdom here on earth “as it is in heaven.” Today’s Readings: Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26; Psalm 147: 1–2, 3–4, 5–6; Matthew 9:35 —10:1, 5a, 6–8a.