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

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. Colin Braud, 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: fotigenco.com

Office Manager
Mrs. Debbie Sommers, 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 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 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 Wednes-
day 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.
Second Sunday of Advent, Year A

What is unique to the Advent Season is that it is a season of waiting and anticipation. We spiritually place ourselves with the Israelites of the Old Testament, who were patiently waiting for the promised Messiah to come. There are not one, but two comings or advents of Christ that the Season of Advent reminds us of.

Our first reading from the Prophet Isaiah tells us about the promised Messiah and the first coming of Christ. He tells us that “a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse.” By this prophecy he is indicating to us what lineage the Messiah will have. Who is Jesse? Jesse is the father of David. So the Messiah who will come will be of the house of David, indicating that he will be kingly, since David was king. Matthew’s Gospel begins with the genealogy of Jesus, beginning with Abraham, going through Jesse and David, and of course ending with Him. So just by reading the first chapter of Matthew’s Gospel we see that Jesus fulfills this prophecy of Isaiah regarding the Messiah.

In our second reading from St. Paul we see the posture that we should have regarding the second coming of Christ. He talks of endurance and hope. Jesus first came in humility. He came as a baby born of a virgin, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and placed in a manger. His second coming will be in justice. He will come to set things right, separating the sheep from the goats. Of this second coming, we know not the day nor the hour, so we should be alert and vigilant everyday. As the Israelites were watchful for the first coming of Jesus, we should alert in anticipation of His second coming.

As we remember the first coming of Jesus, and prepare for His second coming, may we take St. Paul’s words to heart and endure with hope. May we be found watchful and waiting, so that we will be filled with joy when He comes again in glory.

Reflection by Fr. Braud

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1:4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11</td>
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MASS INTENTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>December 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm Vigil</td>
<td>Gagliano &amp; Foto Families, Mary Z. Gelpi, Dale St. John, Raymond Olivier, Ashley Code, Holy Souls (Living &amp; Deceased), McCleland &amp; Gardner Families, Lois Fox, Roudolph Francis Neubeck, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Ethel Aucoin</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Aline Richards, Ashley Code, Frank “Mickey” Garrity, Juliet Carrigee, Theresa Cusachs, Edmond Tassin, Rosemary Abadie, Jackie Scalco, Patricia McDonald, Edmond Tassin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Donald Loisel</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>December 5</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Kate Maniscalco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Ashley Code</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>December 6</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H. C. Alexander</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Ruth Giroir</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Lois Fox</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>December 7</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Nora O’Riordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Ashley Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Pete Serrat</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>December 8</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Kate Maniscalco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Raymond Olivier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Nora O’Riordan School Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Mary Quaid</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>December 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Edward &amp; Peggy Asaro (In Thanksgiving)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Dulce M. &amp; Jose C. Azcuy</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>December 10</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Carl Heitz</td>
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December 4 - 10, 2016
“Sanctuary Candle”
In Memory of Patricia Vezina

Celebrating the Immaculate Conception
December 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary Masses will be:
Vigil Mass Wednesday, December 7 at 6:30 PM
Thursday, December 8, 6:30, 8:45 AM & 6:30 PM
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 11th. 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.**

Parish Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/4</td>
<td>CYO Pro-Life Calendar/Nativity Magnet Sale/After Mass</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/5</td>
<td>6:30 PM St. Anthony Mtg./St. Ray</td>
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<td>12/6</td>
<td>9:15 AM Adoration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:20 PM PSR Classes/Cafeteria</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30 PM Boy Scouts/Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/7</td>
<td>7:30 PM Rosary for Healing After Novena</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 AM Prayer Group/St. Raymond</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1 PM Sewing Seams of Faith Class/St. Raymond</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5 PM Notre Dame Hospice in Welcome Center</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:45 PM Notre Dame Hospice Memorial Service/Church</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Feast of Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass 6:30 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 PM Adult Choir/St. Cecilia</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7 PM Youth Choir Reh./Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/8</td>
<td>Feast of Immaculate Conception Masses Are 6:30, 8:45 AM and 6:30 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 AM Adult Catechism/St. Raymond</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/9</td>
<td>6 PM St. Anthony Ministry Christmas Party/Wel.Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2 PM School Mass Grades 2-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/10</td>
<td>5 PM Altar Server Christmas Party/Cafeteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/11</td>
<td>Bambinelli Sunday at 9:30 &amp; 11 AM Masses</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7 PM Christmas Music Concert in Gym</td>
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Bambinelli Sunday

Each year, on the Third Sunday of Advent, children gather with their families in St. Peter’s Square for “Bambinelli Sunday.” The children bring with them figures of the Christ Child - the “Bambinelli” - from their family’s Nativity scene. During the noontime Angelus prayer, the pope blesses the children and the figurines they have brought. On the Third Sunday of Advent - December 11th at the 9:30 and 11:00 AM Masses we will celebrate Bambinelli Sunday here at St. Ann Church. Therefore, we invite the children to bring your Baby Jesus figurines to Mass for a blessing, and then to be taken home and placed in the Nativity Scene as you wait for Christmas.

Eric McCrary’s Christmas Concert

*Christmas Concert*

7:00 PM in St. Ann Church

Please join us for a delightful evening of song presented by our very own Eric McCrary and his good friend, Dr. Louise LaBruyère. There will be vocal and piano solos and duets both sacred and secular, traditional and popular, all in celebration of the Christmas Season.

Although the concert is free and open to the public, a donation in encouraged. Spread the news and bring your family, friends and neighbors! It’s an evening for the Whole Family!

School News

The school is preparing for the birth of Jesus. Our Advent theme is “Bells Ring the Advent Message.” Our school is continuing with walk through tours every Monday at 9:30 am. Please meet in the school office if you are considering registering your child for any of our programs beginning with the two year old “tot” class. For more information about our school please check www.stannschool.org or call 455-8383.
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.
What’s going on at St. Ann?

All are welcome...

MONDAY
Every Monday
9:30 a.m. Come & See Prayer Group in the Ministry Center/St. Ann Room
First Monday of the Month
6:30 p.m. St. Anthony Ministry Meeting in the Ministry Center/St. Raymond Room

Third Monday of the Month
Men’s Club Meeting in the Cafeteria

Monthly
St. Ann Home & School Club once a month on Mondays

TUESDAY
Every Tuesday
Adoration 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Novena Mass and Prayers 7:00 p.m.
First Tuesday of the Month Rosary following the 7:00 p.m. Novena Mass and Prayers

WEDNESDAY
Every Wednesday
9:30 a.m. Prayer Group in the Ministry Center/St. Raymond Room
1:00 p.m. Sewing Seams of Faith Class in the Ministry Center/St. Raymond Room
7:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal in Church
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal in the Ministry Center/St. Cecelia Room

THURSDAY
Every Thursday
9:30 a.m. Adult Catechism Group in the Ministry Center/St. Raymond Room
First and Third Thursday of the Month
7:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation in the Ministry Center/Welcome Center

FRIDAY
First Friday
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament following 8:45 Mass until 10:30 a.m.

SATURDAY
First Saturday
7:30 a.m. Men’s Club Mass followed by Rosary

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December 2016

Universal:
End to Child-Soldiers
That the scandal of child-soldiers may be eliminated worldwide.

Evangelization:
Europe
That the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness, and truth of the Gospel which gives joy and peace.

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St. Ann December Events

12/3  Santa Boutique in the Cafeteria
12/3  Pro-Life Calendar & Nativity Car Magnet Sales
12/4  Pro-Life Calendar & Nativity Car Magnet Sales
12/9  7:00 p.m. Eric McCravy Christmas Concert – Church
12/11  St. Ann Christmas Pagent and Concert – Gym
12/18  Men’s Club Breakfast with Santa

Please see the bulletin for Mass schedules
Waters of Hopefulness and Harmony

Heavenly Father,

in your wisdom you call us to your Son, who welcomes us, and through our Baptism, we find the source of peacefulness and harmony. May our lives be spent in hopeful encouragement of one another, with the Spirit as our guide, and justice our path. May the community into which we are baptized continue to be a place of welcome and forgiveness. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 4, 2016
Roots, Stumps, Branches, and Fruit

Today’s Readings: Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17; Romans 15:4–9; Matthew 3:1–12. “A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse” begins today’s First Reading. These words not only set the tone for the day’s Scriptures but are the foundation for images and understandings of the coming of the Messiah and of his familial roots. Isaiah’s prophetic voice outlines a kingdom where the Messiah brings justice but also one that is an outgrowth of the line of David. The son of Jesse, David was a shepherd who became king. The kingdom described today is one in which the ruler will be guided by the poor and justice will be the outcome of his judgments.

When justice reigns, all will live in harmony and all of creation will be at peace. The harmony of wild animals living with domestic ones, and of children who curiously reach into a snake’s home without harm coming to them, are the bases for the Gospel, where John the Baptist, the wild precursor, proclaims the coming of the Kingdom. His warning to prepare calls us to question whether we are ready for a kingdom of harmony. When John states that the ax is ready for the trees that do not bear good fruit, we are taken back to the stump of Jesse.

The Jesse Tree, the genealogy of Jesus’ family, is full of hope and promise. In your homes, discover who some of the ancestors of Jesus were, and make a Jesse Tree with symbols of those ancestors. Rediscover the ancestors of your family, those who brought hope to your family tree. In that way, you may find the encouragement “to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus” (Romans 15:5).
This Week At Home

Monday, December 5
A Forgiving Household
Forgiveness and mercy can be difficult to accept, as Jesus reminds us in today’s Gospel. The season of Advent is an opportunity to prepare for the coming of Christ by seeking forgiveness as we prepare our hearts and forgive others as we prepare our homes for Christ to enter. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 35:1–10; Psalm 85:9ab, 10, 11–12, 13–14; Luke 5:17–26.

Tuesday, December 6
St. Nicholas, Bishop
As you place your shoes for Bishop Nicholas of Myra to fill, remember his generosity. He gave money to help three young women who were being taken advantage of. This season of Advent consider ringing bells to assist the Salvation Army, or finding a group that others have not yet begun to assist, and changing their lives. Most appropriately today, donate some shoes for homeless children. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 40:1–11; Psalm 96:1–2, 3, 10ac, 11–12, 13; Matthew 18:12–14.

Wednesday, December 7
St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
In today’s Gospel, Jesus says that his “yoke is easy” and his “burden is light.” St. Ambrose accepted the yoke and burden that the city of Milan placed on him, electing him their bishop. Still a catechumen, Ambrose was baptized, ordained, and made a bishop on December 7, 374. Our burdens may not seem quite as daunting as were those for Ambrose, but we know we do not tackle them alone. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 40:25–31; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 8, 10; Matthew 11:28–30.

Thursday, December 8
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
“Nothing will be impossible with God.” Mary accepted the angel Gabriel’s message and even reached out to support her cousin, Elizabeth, as she approached the birth of her son, John the Baptist. At home today, let your family support system be strengthened by reaching out beyond your needs. Then find a symbol for someone else in your family and hang it on the Jesse Tree. Today’s Readings: Genesis 3:9–15, 20; 145:1, 9, 10–11, 12–13ab; Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12; Luke 1:26–38.

Friday, December 9
The Law of the Lord Is Wisdom
In a time of quick judgments and hurtful words, often found in social media, today’s Gospel reminds us to hold off on our criticisms that are instant rather than thoughtful, immediate rather than purposeful. Wisdom is to be our guide. Today’s psalm response is our comfort for this week of Advent: “Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life.” Today’s Readings: Isaiah 48:17–19; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4, 6; Matthew 11:16–19.

Saturday, December 10
O Come, Divine Messiah
Halfway through the season of Advent, we are still waiting, but we wait with hope. The days are getting shorter, and so we sing of the Messiah’s coming as the world waits in silence “the day when hope shall sing its triumph.” Find a way to break through the darkness and silence in your world today, and discover Christ in that activity, reaching out and breaking through. Today’s Readings: Sirach 48:1–4, 9–11; Psalm 80: 2ac, 3b, 15–16, 18–19; Matthew 17:9a, 10–13.
Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

024225

Date: December 4, 2016

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

Publisher 2010, Acrobat 10 standard

Special Instructions: