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

ISSUE 52
December 25, 2016

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.

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: stannreled@bellsouth.net

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

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Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Ann,

Greetings and Merry Christmas in the name of St. Ann, mother of the Mother of God! Here we are another year older, and in some cases we are grieving the loss of loved ones since Christmas last year. Our hearts grieve with our loss and this year won’t be the same without them. Christmas 2016 will not be the same for me, having buried my mother in June. I take this time to thank so many people for their kindness, prayers and Mass Cards … I thank God for you because of your support and presence at the Month’s Mind Mass for her on July 8th here at St. Ann Church. Your presence in the Presence of Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life is indeed a support to me. May our beloved departed rest with Almighty God, St. Ann and all the saints … May God have mercy!

Well, earlier in the year Archbishop Aymond appointed me Director of Seminarians for New Orleans at Notre Dame Seminary, and so I am happy to report that we have 42 seminarians studying for the priesthood, three of whom belong to St Ann Parish: Matthew Hoffpauir, Robert Frank and Nathaniel Peters … Please pray for them in their discernment. Of course we take this time to thank Fr. Colin Braud for being with us, and look forward to his sharing and unveiling the presence of God for us over the coming years. I appreciate his wisdom and guidance as well as his witty sense of humor. I also wish to thank all who minister in any way as part of St. Ann Parish: readers, altar servers, counters, music and song ministers, greeters in the Lord, those bringing the Eucharist to others, our teachers in the ways of the faith - and all done in the Lord’s name! “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the good news.” [Romans 10:15]

Being bearers of the Good News means proclaiming the Gospel of the Lord and announcing that the Kingdom of God is here and ready for operation … As we ready ourselves to see the world as God sees it, please read and meditate on the words of St. Matthew [25:1-45] … These words will surely judge us for good or bad. These days, I find that some people think they are beyond reproof or correction of any kind - not the way of a disciple of Jesus Christ and not how we might describe walking humbly with God. Inevitably we have to ask: What would happen if Mary and Joseph were to knock at our doors? Would there be room, or do we have time and space for them? Does God actually have a place in our thinking? We are often full of ourselves, and so we need Christmas to remind us to think about others, especially those who are without as well as those who need a prayer and phone call or card this Christmas 2016.

Remember, it is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air.

    The Light of the Christmas Star to You
    The warmth of home and hearth to You
    The cheer and good will of friends to You
    The love of the Son of God’s peace to You

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Rev. Fr. Billy O’Riordan, Pastor
**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sunday December 25**
4:00 pm Vigil
Geralynn Lion, Maurice Lion, Roberto C. Haughton, Dale St. John, Elmo Spellman, Harold R. Neuburger, Dennis Hebert, Raymond Olivier, Donald Loisel, Allen Webre, Ashley Code, Dominic DiGiovanni, Charles Stier, Joe Bischone, Sr., McCleland & Gardner Families, Julie Calongne, Albert F. Hezeau, Jr., Elaine Jones, Curtis Dupree, Thomas Dupree, Lillian Mayfield, Souls in Purgatory, George Hoffman, Mary E. Moore, George S. Cassard, Ill (Health)

6:00 pm Vigil
Iris Fitzpatrick, Mary Quaid

**Candlelight Christmas Mass**
10:00 pm
Irene DiPietro & Family (In Thanks)
Living & Deceased Parishioners

8:00 am
Ethel Aucoin

10:00 am
Harry A. P. Smith, Ryan Neider, Salvador J. D’Amico, Ashley Code, Juliet Carrigee, Theresa Cusachs, Tony Smith, Jose L. Silva, Ricardo De Zayas, Mrs. Ethel St. Pierre, Msgr. Charles E. Duke, Nora O’Riordan, Joseph Bischone, Sr., Anna Margaret Boudreaux, Mary E. Moore, Gerard Virgadamo

**Monday December 26**
6:30 am
Carol Tusa (Health)

8:45 am
Vivian Berthelot

**Tuesday December 27**
6:30 am
Mary Quaid

8:45 am
Theresa Cusachs

7:00 pm
John & Nicole Elwood & Boys (Blessing)

**Wednesday December 28**
6:30 am
Carol Tusa (Health)

8:45 am
Theresa Cusachs

**Thursday December 29**
6:30 am
Nora O’Riordan

8:45 am
Ollie French, Ill

**Friday December 30**
6:30 am
Curtis Dupree

8:45 am
Thomas J. Kelly

**Saturday December 31**
7:30 pm
Nora O’Riordan

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**Parish Calendar**

12/25  THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD MASSES ARE: 8 & 10 AM
12/26  PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
12/27  9:15 AM ADORATION
12/28  7:30 PM BOY SCOUTS/CAFETERIA
12/28  7 PM ADULT CHOIR/ST. CECILIA
12/28  7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REH./CHURCH
12/29  PARISH OFFICE HAS A HALF DAY
12/30  NEW YEAR’S EVE VIGIL MASS: 4:00 PM
1/1  NEW YEARS DAY MASSES ARE: 8, 9:30, 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM

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**2016 Christmas Season Mass Schedule**

**Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord**

Saturday, December 24th
Vigil Masses: 4:00 PM & 6:00 PM
Candlelight Christmas Mass at 10:00 PM

Sunday, December 25th
Christmas Day Masses: 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

New Year’s Day

Saturday, December 31st
Vigil Mass  4:00 PM
Sunday, January 1st
New Year’s Day 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM

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**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

First & Third Thursday of the Month
7:00 P.M. IN THE MINISTRY CENTER

Come and see what our adult faith-sharing group is like. 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.
FORMED.org!
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.

Movies to Watch in December

The Story of the Nativity
The story of the birth of Jesus is often misunderstood. But this fast-paced, thought-provoking look at the true story of the Nativity clears away widespread misunderstandings of Jesus’ origin. Join top scholars, inspirational speakers, and popular authors as they explain the story behind the story of the birth of Jesus. The Story of the Nativity also includes stunning works of art depicting the biblical story, from Fra Angelico to Rembrandt, and footage from the Holy Land showing the places where the Christmas story actually took place. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus’s miraculous conception, the birth of John the Baptist, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and the birth of Jesus. This is an invaluable tool for believer and unbeliever alike to learn more about Jesus of Nazareth and about the truth of Christmas.

Mary of Nazareth
is an epic motion picture on the life of Mary, mother of Christ, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus. Shot in high definition, it was filmed in Europe with outstanding cinematography, a strong cast, and a majestic music score. Actress Alissa Jung gives a beautiful, compelling, and inspired portrayal of Mary. The film vividly captures the essence of Mary’s profound faith and trust in God amidst the great mysteries that she lived with as the Mother of the Messiah, as well as her compassionate humanity and concern for others, and the deep love that she and Jesus shared for one another. The movie underscores her special role in God’s plan for our redemption, her unique relationship with Christ, and the tremendous suffering that she endured in union with his Passion and Death, as well as her serene joy at his Resurrection.

Feast of the Holy Family

Joseph of Nazareth
The first feature film ever on the story of St. Joseph—carpenter, husband of Mary, and the foster father of Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that St. Joseph was a “just man” and that God gave him the most daunting task ever asked of a man—to be the husband of the woman who would give birth to the Messiah and the father and protector of this Holy Family, the man closest to Christ.

This Week At Home

Monday, December 26  St. Stephen, the First Martyr
It seems unusual that the day after Christmas we commemorate St. Stephen, the first martyr of the Church. However, his witness in the Acts of the Apostles is also a testament to the Communion of Saints into which we are all called by virtue of our Baptism. One of the first seven deacons, Stephen works among the people, speaks with wisdom, and cries out, while dying, “receive my spirit.” Today’s Readings: Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Matthew 10:17–22.

Tuesday, December 27  St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
At the heart of the Christmas season lies a theology rooted in St. John. This theology is not just about the Word made flesh, from the readings of Christmas Day. John is the author of both of today’s readings, and it seems that he cannot remind us enough that we know Jesus Christ. His writing shows that we have seen him and have touched him. God is now made visible through us, our fellowship, and our belief at the side of the empty tomb. In the First Reading, we hear, “We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.” Our joy is also complete! Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:1–4; Psalm 97:1–2, 5–6, 11–12; John 20:1a, 2–8.

Wednesday, December 28  Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs
In this wonderful season of Christmas, we are reminded of so many innocent lives cut short. Take time today to marvel at the beauty and wonder of children bring, at any age. Celebrate God’s loving presence in the innocence of one another. Last of all, pause in prayer for those who suffer at the violent hands of others. May they forever be gathered around Jesus. Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:5 — 2:2; Psalm 124:2–3, 4–5, 7cd–8; Matthew 2:13–18.

Thursday, December 29  St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr
Thomas Becket (1119–1170) spent much of his years as archbishop of Canterbury battling King Henry II. His martyrdom, killed by four knights during vespers in the cathedral, sparked a political and religious backlash on the English monarchy. Buried in Canterbury Cathedral, the site became the primary English pilgrimage destination. Today’s Gospel sums up what so many pilgrims still seek: “those who lose their life for my sake will find it.” Today’s Readings: 2 Timothy 2:8–13; 3:10–12; Psalm 34:2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9; Matthew 16:24–27.

Friday, December 30  Feast of the Holy Family
We know very few individual stories about the Holy Family, but today is a perfect time for activities connecting with those stories. Tell stories of birth (Bethlehem) and singing lullabies for the journey of youth (Flight into Egypt). Share meals together as the Holy Family did in Nazareth. Make time to pass on insights and skills. During this week between Christmas and New Year’s, visit relatives, taking time to listen to family stories self-heard. Always let each other know where you are! Today’s Readings: Sirach 3:2–6; 12–14 or Colossians 3:12–21 or 3:12–17; Psalm 128:1–2, 3, 4–5; Matthew 2:13–15, 19–23.

Saturday, December 31  Testify to the True Light
The readings today call us to witness and stay true to our faith. John the Baptist is our model, for he forged a way for others to recognize Christ. Both readings remind us that all peoples are enlightened by the truth. In addition, this light is found only through God’s Only Begotten Son, who has now become the Way, the Truth, and the Light in which we are grounded by Baptism. Today’s Readings: 1 John 2:18–21; Psalm 96:1–2, 11–12, 13; John 1:1–18.