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

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, 559-8637
e-mail: foti@stannchurchandshrine.org

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 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.

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I find it interesting that only Peter, James the Greater, and John the Beloved were taken to the mountain to experience the Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor. Where were the others? Still in bed? Shopping? On tour somewhere else? Missed the bus? Got a flat tire?

With internet and Google we can travel almost anywhere in the world and see the sights. We marvel at lakes and mountains in other places. The nearest thing to any kind of a mountain around here is **Monkey Hill** at Audubon Zoo. However, there is something awe-inspiring and breath-taking about mountains - the panoramic views and the air is clean! Mountains and lakes can be places of encounter with the Lord and mystery shared … Transfiguration moments are rich and lasting. **Not to know life on the heights is to suffer an impoverishing incompleteness.** It is good to be in the presence of those who can kindle a fire and tell stories about God in their lives rather than sit around those who take time to tear strips off others like tearing wallpaper off a wall. The population on the Mount of Transfiguration was small, but was tremendously significant - humanity needs contagious lofty spirits! We need contact with persons who are aglow with the life of God - a light in darkness. We need instruments of the reality of God’s presence. Perhaps this prayer of St. Francis of Assisi might be in our hearts and on our lips so as to let hearts kindle a fire and light a candle in the darkness this Lent …

**Prayer of St. Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

“I am the herald of the Great King.”

~ St. Francis of Assisi ~

Reflection: Fr. Billy
Dumb Ox Ministries and Notre Dame Seminary are partnering in an exciting endeavor, the premier of a new musical inspired by JPII’s Theology of the Body, written by Joey Martineck and based on the music of local artists Greg & Lizzy. Performances will occur at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans on March 16-19th, 2017.

This is an outreach inspired by the call for a New Evangelization, where we can offer our gifts of creativity and proclamation of the BEAUTY of our origin. It is a new, fresh, artistic take on the Book of Genesis and St. John Paul II’s Theology of the Body!

**Show Dates:**
Thursday, March 16th, 7:30 PM, Friday, March 17th, 7:30 PM, Saturday, March 18th, 8:00 PM and Sunday, March 19th, 2 PM

All shows will be held at Schulte Hall at Notre Dame Seminary (2901 S. Carrollton Ave, New Orleans). The doors will open 45 minutes prior to show time.

Go to dumboxministries.com/garden to purchase your tickets.

**School News**
Students in grades 3-7 were offered the opportunity of confession last Wednesday. The 6th graders went on a field trip on Friday. The St. Ann School administrative staff attend the Chancellor’s Dinner last Tuesday night in honor of Father Billy – what an honor!
Second Sunday of Lent

The Light of the World

Lord of all the nations,
you gather us into your arms
and bless us with your love and mercy.
Give us your eyes, so we may see you
in all peoples,
and respond to the needs of the
most desperate.
Give us your hands to reach across barriers
and repair the wounds wrought by closed
hearts and minds.

Give us your loving heart,
so in our lives we may, as Abram,
do your will
and work to become one community
of the earth.
May the blessings you instill in us
become blessings for all;
and may Christ, the Light of the World
shine on all peoples.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

March 12, 2017

Today’s Readings: Genesis 12:1–4; 2 Timothy 1:8b–10; Matthew 17:1–9. Moses, Elijah, and Jesus are transfigured on the mountaintop. Peter, James, and John are transfixed on the same mountaintop. On this Second Sunday of Lent, we are in awe of all six figures, for we seek to be transfigured, to be changed and enlightened, as are these three giants of the Scriptures. Today’s Gospel also is read at the Feast of the Transfiguration on August 6. Each person transfigured on the mountaintop is significant for the season. Moses spent forty days on Sinai, twice, and led the Israelites for forty years through the desert. Elijah spent forty days in the wilderness, in a cave, and is also here with Jesus. The Law, the prophets, and the Messiah did not gain the Light of being transfigured without time in the wilderness, desert, or mountain. They did not gain the Light of being transfigured without being tempted and without being supported through prayer for those days and years.

We are in the early days of our forty days. Are we supporting ourselves with prayer? Are we taking time finding our mountaintop, cave, or wilderness spot? Now is a crucial time for this Lent. If we hope to find the light and find a bit of our transfiguration, we cannot remain simply transfixed and in awe of others on the mountaintop. We need to work at our prayer, our fasting, our wilderness. No longer afraid, as Jesus tells us, we can return to our daily lives knowing that our ancestors in faith sustain us through whatever our wilderness times and places may be.
Monday, March 13
Give in Good Measure
Today’s Gospel reading calls us to forgive and to give generously without judgment. Forgiveness and generosity are constant Lenten themes. Our sinfulness can be outdone by our loving service to others. That is the measure by which God’s love is poured out. Today’s Readings: Daniel 9:4b–10; Psalm 79:8, 9, 11, 13; Luke 6:36–38.

Tuesday, March 14
Cleanse Us and We Shall Be White as Snow
Where is my Lenten almsgiving leading me? Am I putting away my misdeeds, as Isaiah directs? Only when the misdeeds are put away will my sins be washed away. Find a center for service and justice in your community and contribute without personal attention or reward. You might devote time to a homeless shelter or soup kitchen or work with a St. Vincent de Paul organization of a local parish. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16–20; Psalm 50:8–9, 16bc–17, 21, and 23; Matthew 23:1–12.

Wednesday, March 15
To Serve or Be Served
The readings today challenge us to a life of service. Humility is to accompany that service, for we are not to seek reward for our service. We need to keep in mind that, as followers of Christ, we have come to “serve not to be served” (Matthew 20:28). Even as we live out our baptismal calling, how much can we give without recognition? Jesus reminds us that our place in the Kingdom is of our doing. We might reflect today on how we can serve someone with prayer and compassion. Today’s Readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.

Thursday, March 16
Simplicity
Abraham and Lazarus remind us even today that societal trappings can blur our priorities. In your home this Lent, set up a simple prayer space, with a cross, a candle, and a Bible or Lenten reflection booklet. When life’s daily demands seem to overwhelm you, take time in this sacred space to center your life on God. Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 17:5–10; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4, 6; Luke 16:19–31.

Friday, March 17
St. Patrick, Bishop
The first bishop of Ireland, St. Patrick is celebrated today with green, shamrocks, and parties. As is well known, Patrick converted the nation by using a shamrock to tell of the Three Persons in one God. The significance for using a simple shamrock as a teaching tool for the Trinity is a brilliant reminder that God is revealed through nature, a given community’s experiences, and in personal responses to our encounters with God. Today’s Readings: Genesis 37:3–4, 12–13a, 17b–28a; Psalm 105:16–17, 18–19, 20–21; Matthew 21:33–44, 45–46.

Saturday, March 18
St. Cyril of Jerusalem
Bishop of Jerusalem in the fourth century, Cyril was known for his catechesis to catechumens at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. He shepherded his flock with love and care and was diligent in handing on the faith. Be mindful of the catechumens and candidates in your parish, and support them as they prepare to join you in living and celebrating the Catholic faith through worship and service. Welcome them along their journey. Today’s Readings: Micah 7:14–15, 18–20; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 9–10, 11–12; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32.
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Some of the Liturgical Content on FORMED.org.

Meditations for Lent  ebook on FORMED.ORG
Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet, Edited and translated by Christopher O. Blum

Even three hundred years ago, believers found it difficult to sustain for forty days the proper Lenten spirit. That's why even then, countless Christians turned to the writings of Bishop Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet (1627-1704), whose great piety and simple eloquence won him renown as one of the greatest preachers of his time. From Bishop Bossuet's sermons and spiritual writings, believers drew ever greater Lenten wisdom and strength.

Now translator Christopher Blum has selected from Bishop Bossuet's voluminous works fifty brief but remarkably powerful meditations that complement the daily readings at Mass during the Lenten season, thus offering to us the perfect companion for a thoughtful and fruitful Lent.

If you read and meditate briefly on just one of them each day in Lent, I guarantee that this good French bishop's eloquence will soon have you not merely remembering the events of Christ's journey to His Crucifixion; it will have you spiritually walking with Him on that journey . . . which is precisely what we are called to do in Lent!

With Bossuet, this Lent you will find yourself saying, "O Jesus! I present myself to you to make my journey in your company. O my Savior, receive your traveler! Here I am ready, holding on to nothing. Let me go with You to the Father."

That's the fire that should burn in the heart of all Christians. This Lent, let Bishop Bossuet enkindle it in yours.

Anniversary of the election of Pope Francis
Francis  Movie on FORMED.org

On March 13, 2013, cardinals stunned the world when they elected Pope Francis, the first Latin American Pope. But what did they see in the 76-year-old Jesuit? Who is Jorge Mario Bergoglio?

ROME REPORTS travels to Argentina to investigate and discover more about what shaped Pope Francis. From his only living sister, Maria Elena, to his successor as superior-general of the Jesuits in Argentina, we hear unedited testimonies from those who knew Bergoglio best. Hear from a priest who worked with Bergoglio in the country's slums, and the corner vendor who sold Bergoglio the daily newspaper every day for years. Meet the young man who overcame his addictions with support from the man that the world now calls the Pope.

The documentary begins with the moment that the young Jorge Mario discovers his priestly vocation. After decades of service to the Church, a historic conclave would forever change his life and begin the extraordinary papacy of Francis.

Who is Pope Francis?  Movie on FORMED.org

This outstanding new documentary film just produced in Europe gives an excellent overview into the life, thought and work of Jorge Mario Bergoglio, formerly Archbishop of Buenos Aires and now Pope Francis. It contains previously unreleased recordings and endearing images of Cardinal Bergoglio. His words and actions convey the unique charisma of this surprise Argentine Pope whose humility, kindness and courage are winning countless admirers to a renewed interest in the Papacy. The film includes comments on the new Pope by the Provincial of the Society of Jesus in Argentina and Spain, and from a Spanish bishop on the spiritual exercises preached by Cardinal Bergoglio to the Bishops. The film also shows many inspiring images of the papal conclave, and the most emotional details of the first appearances of Pope Francis, sprinkled with humor and warm emotion.
Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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Date: March 12, 2017

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

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Special Instructions: