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, 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.
4th Sunday of Easter Year A

This Sunday is the Fourth Sunday of Easter. It is also Good Shepherd Sunday, where we particularly focus on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In our Gospel Jesus identifies Himself as both the shepherd and the sheep gate. Jesus is the one that brings us to the Father, and it is only through Him that we reach the Father. As shepherd Jesus leads us, provides for us, and protects us. As sheep gate, He is the mediator between us and God.

This Sunday is also Vocations Sunday, where we thank God for the men and women who have generously responded to God’s will by saying “yes” to the priesthood or religious life. We are thankful for how these men and women teach us about God, and also being an eschatological sign to the world. The word *eschatology* is a fancy word that means the fulfillment of the world at the end of time. Both priests and religious are eschatological signs for us, meaning their life, their very being points to the reality of the next life.

Priests, by virtue of their ordination, are particularly configured to the person of Christ, so much so that we often say that they act *in persona Christi*, or “in the person of Christ.” Priests image Christ to the present world. The more priests imitate Christ the Good Shepherd and Christ the Sheep Gate, the more they fulfill their role as priests of Jesus Christ. Priests are to be both leaders and mediators. They lead us to encounter God, not just at Mass, but outside the sacraments as well. They lead us into the realm of the infinite.

Priests are also mediators, meaning they singularly represent the people before God, and they represent God before the people. Mass especially shows us this. The priest offers the Sacrifice of the Mass in the name of the people who are assembled, and they also represent God and Christ to the people. The more priests are leaders and mediators the more they fulfill the life that God has called them to.

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, and Vocations Sunday, let us all take the time to thank God for the priests who have brought us to Christ. Let us thank them for profoundly affecting our lives, in celebrating the sacraments, and being there for us when we’ve needed them. Let us take the time to pray for them. Let us also pray for more men to say “yes” to priestly discernment by entering seminary, and for more men and women to hear God calling them to the religious life. The more we see these eschatological signs walking around us, I truly believe the more we will begin acting with our eternity in mind, and moving closer and closer towards Jesus who is our leader and mediator before our Heavenly Father.

Reflection by Fr. Braud
Parish Calendar

5/7  DIOCESAN PRIEST RETIREMENT COLLECTION
9:30 AM 3RD GRADE JUNIOR MINISTRY MASS
12:30 PM BAPTISMS IN CHURCH

5/8  FROZEN TREAT SOCIAL/CAFETERIA
12 PM  K CLOSING CEREMONY PRACTICE/CHURCH
2 PM 7TH GRADE MAY CROWNING & CLOSING CEREMONY/

5/9  9:15 ADORATION
7 PM PSR MASS
7:30 PM BOY SCOUTS IN CAFETERIA

5/10  9:30 AM PRAYER GROUP/ST. RAYMOND
11:15 AM PK4 MAY CROWNING PRACTICE IN CHURCH
1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND
2:15 PM MAY CROWNING GRADES 2-7/CHURCH
6 PM CS CROSSOVER BANQUET/CAFETERIA
7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REH./CHURCH
7 PM ADULT CHOIR REH./ST. CECILIA

5/11  9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM/ST. RAYMOND
11:15 AM PK4 MAY CROWNING PRACTICE/CHURCH
12:15 PM K CLOSING CEREMONY PRACTICE/CHURCH

5/12  8:45 AM SCHOOL MASS/MAY CROWNING K-1/CHURCH
11:15 AM PK4 MAY CROWNING PRACTICE/CHURCH
2 PM 7TH GRADE MAY CROWNING & CLOSING PRACTICE/CHURCH

5/13  10 AM GS MOTHER/DAUGHTER TEA/CAFETERIA
10:30 AM 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATIMA ROSARY/CHURCH

5/14  MOTHER’S DAY

St. Ann Parish Wedding Anniversary
Couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 years and so
on are invited to celebrate the anniversary of their
marriage on Saturday, June 3rd at the 4:00 pm Vigil
Mass followed by a reception in the cafeteria.
Please call the parish office to RSVP by Monday,
May 22th.

New Life Center
“Born to Run” Race
St Ann music ministry members participated
in the Woman’s New Life Center "Born to Run" race. All three choirs were represented:
adult, youth, & children’s choir. Olga Ann
Frank, children’s choir director, formed a
team called "Go Make a Difference" and re-
cruited many people from our parish, as well
as family & friends, totaling 70 people in
all! Our St Ann team is the proud recipient of
WNLC’s award for the largest team: the
"Raising Hope Award."

Congratulations!

Our team “Go Make a Difference” was chosen to sing the Na-
tional Anthem before the start of the race, directed by Olga Ann
Frank; trumpet player Joey LaHatte joined the choir.
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Listening for God’s Voice

Almighty Father,
you who have given us life and love,
whose creation we are,
whose Son redeemed the world,
lead us home.

We are like sheep listening for your voice,
turning to you for guidance.
May our hearts find in you an open gate
and open arms of love
even when we stumble and fall,
and hear other voices beckoning.
May your voice be clear and calm,
and welcome us home to your Kingdom,
Through Christ, your Son and
our Shepherd,
who lives with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

May 7, 2017
The Sheep Gate

their shepherd’s voice, and follow him where he leads
them. In looking out for his sheep, the good shepherd,
the responsible shepherd leads them through the gate. A
flock of sheep instinctively trust those who raise them.
Sheep recognize, through sound and smell, even more
than sight, their shepherd. The relationship between
sheep and shepherd is built on the nurturing the shep-
herd has provided. The sheep know who provides shel-
ter, food, and protection for them, and who finds them
when they are lost.

So it is with Christ. The flock finds its way through
him. Not only do we know his voice, not only do we trust
him to care for us—he is the gate through whom we
know our way. When we are lost, he opens the path for
us. Many distractions get in our way of following the
Good Shepherd. A number of obstacles cross our path to
woo us in another direction. In today’s Second Reading,
we hear, “For you were going away like sheep, but now
you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your
souls.” By Christ’s wounds we have been healed. When-
ever we stray, he is there for us, eager for our return to
him. Through Christ, we find solace for our self-doubts
and security for our missteps. Through Christ, we find
the one sure way.
This Week at Home

Monday, May 8
I Know Mine and Mine Know Me
In the middle of the Easter season, it is time to revisit the Creed and the beliefs we state each week. The readings today are a reminder of the Trinity. Acts addresses Baptism in the Holy Spirit, while the Gospel stresses knowing both the Father and the Son. As we profess, so do we live. We know and believe in the Triune Godhead who knows and loves us. Today’s Readings: Acts 11:1–8; Psalm 42:2–3, 43:3, 4; John 10:11–18.

Tuesday, May 9
Being Christian
The last line of today’s reading from the Acts of the Apostles reminds us that Antioch is where “the disciples were first called ‘Christians.’” What an astounding fact. Do you ever think about what that meant in the first century? And do you consider the implications of your Baptism, when you were first called Christian? Our identity with Christ, our identity of being Christ for others, is a result of being marked through Baptism. Today’s Readings: Acts 11:19–26; Psalm 87:1b–3, 4–5, 6–7; John 10:22–30.

Wednesday, May 10
St. Damien de Veuster, Priest
Risking his health, as well as his ties to family, friends, and the Church, Fr. Damien de Veuster committed himself to caring for Hawaii’s lepers on the island of Molokai. He treated each leper with dignity, building houses for them, as well as a hospital, a church, and a school. While much of the world dismissed anyone who had set foot on the island, Fr. Damien embraced each person as Christ. Today’s Readings: Acts 12:24—13:5a; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; John 12:44–50.

Thursday, May 11
Words and Actions
We are used to the saying “Actions speak louder than words.” In today’s Scripture passages, we are reminded that both are necessary. It is not enough for Jesus to simply wash his disciples’ feet; Jesus must repeatedly exhort his disciples that receiving him is the same as receiving the Father. Paul, in the First Reading, reminds the first Christian Jews that what they have been waiting for has already happened. Salvation is present and active in the world. Today’s Readings: Acts:13:13–25; Psalm 89:2–3, 21–22, 25, 27; John 13:16–20.

Friday, May 12
Witnesses of the Way, the Truth, and the Life
In the Gospel, we hear Jesus say, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life.” Members of the early Church took seriously the need to proclaim that, for in the Second Reading, Paul tells of how those who followed Jesus “are now his witnesses.” We too are challenged to proclaim the Good News. As witnesses to the redeeming Christ in our lives, we are to proclaim that truth in all that we are. Each action, gesture, word, and motive of a Christian should be proclaiming the Resurrection to others. Today’s Readings: Acts 13:26–33; Psalm 2:6–7, 8–9, 10–11am; John 14:1–6.

Saturday, May 13
Take Delight in the Lord
Gather the family for an Easter Time activity. Engage the children in acting out your favorite Gospel Resurrection account. Adults and children can all have a role not just in the play but in writing the script. Or perhaps the family would like to see how many words they can make from the letters in the word Resurrection. Ask the family to try to see if every phrase they utter today is worthy of adding an alleluia to it. Today’s Readings: Acts 13:44–52; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; John 14:7–14.
Join us as we explore the theological depths of the Fatima Prayer. In his new book, O MY JESUS, The Meaning of the Fatima Prayer, Luke Arredondo will explore with us the great themes of Christianity within this brief prayer: Sin, Forgiveness, Mercy, Heaven and Hell. It also touches on the topic of having a personal relationship with “my Jesus” as well as the hope that “all souls” may ultimately be saved.

LUKE ARREDONDO is a PhD student in religion, ethics and philosophy at Florida State University. He resides in Tallahassee, FL and writes for Aleteia, Ignitum Today, and The Catholic Outpost as well as his own website: www.lukearredondo.com

Books will be available for $10. Free Will Offering will be taken.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017 is currently registering campers! We will host the events July 3-14 (TWO WEEKS)!! and participants will have the option of half or full day program.

The program will include Bible stories, games, snacks, crafts and drama skits. Children entering grades pre-K (potty-trained) through 4th grade are welcome to participate and adults and/or students entering grades 5-12 are encouraged to volunteer as group leaders and station coordinators. Registration is done on-line at https://www.signupforms.com/registrations/10402 If you have questions, please forward them to David Wilson at 455-7071, ext. 225.

RCIA Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Do you want to know more about the Catholic Church? The parish faith community of St. Ann Church invites you or someone you may know to a series of inquiry sessions that will invite inquirers to the Faith and an opportunity to explore the church in a non-committal way. Invite someone you know who may be interested in the Catholic Church. Your invitation may be the one they are waiting for! Call the church office at 455-7071, ext. 225.

Last Thursday was the night of the Spring Music Concert. We are so proud of our band and choir students! The students will have an ice cream treat provided by the Home and School club on Monday. The school May Crowning is next Wednesday at 2:15 pm.