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

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.

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.
Jesus ascends into heaven ...
Jesus ascends to the Father ...
Going home! Home is where our story begins. Home is where your heart is. Like the old saying: Home is where you hang your hat - wherever you are comfortable and at ease with yourself. Home is where you feel comfortable enough to take off your shoes. Rarely do I take off my shoes at someone’s home, but if I do it’s because I feel very comfortable there and at home. Sometimes I think of Jesus being at home in the house of Martha and Mary. It was a place where he could take off his shoes ... I recall the remarkable words of St. Augustine: “You have made us for yourself O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

There’s no place like home. The prospect of going home is very appealing. I think of all of these thoughts when I think of going home to Ireland and the aircraft is roaring down the runway getting ready for takeoff. I usually wave out the window and tell God: “Well, if something blows up I’m not here.” Going home! We need to think of going home in terms of readying ourselves and others, by our way of life, to meet our Heavenly Father and experience our eternal home with him. Missioned accomplished and at home with God! Life is all about practicing for heaven. I read a wonderful quote a few years ago: “Listening to the word of God and keeping it, the Christian arrives for salvation not for damnation.”

The Feast of the Ascension, celebrated 40 days after Easter, should conjure all kinds of questions, but above all, “How are we doing?” St. Augustine proclaimed the following words: “Today, our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him ...” The Church is not some “thing”... No, the Church is some one, namely the Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. However, it’s also about you and me too making disciples of others, especially parents preparing their children and evangelizing them so that their souls are readied to ascend to Almighty God and be at home with him there. It’s only by listening to the word of God and keeping it that we will rejoice in singing: Oh When the Saints Go Marching In. Yes indeed, we want to be in that number when the Lord calls out the names.

“How are you doing?”

I finish in sharing St. Paul’s blessing from the second reading: “May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call ...” Reflection by: Fr. Billy
### Parish Calendar

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>5/28</td>
<td>SISTERS OF CHARITY SETON HILL APPEAL</td>
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<td>SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD</td>
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<td>5/30</td>
<td>9:15 ADORATION</td>
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<td>11 AM EJ DEANEY SUMMER GATHERING/ST. PHILIP NERI</td>
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<td>5/31</td>
<td>9:30 AM PRAYER GROUP/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAY</td>
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<td>7 PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL/ST. CECILIA</td>
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<td>7 PM SYMBOLON: THE FAITH EXPLAINED IN CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>7 PM SYNDON MEETING/WELCOME CENTER</td>
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<td>7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL/CHURCH</td>
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<td>6/1</td>
<td>BLUE BAYOU ALTAR SERVER</td>
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<td>9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM/ST. RAYMOND</td>
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<td>6 PM CABBAGEBALL CONCESSIONS/GYM</td>
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<td>6/3</td>
<td>7 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION/WELCOME CENTER</td>
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<td>PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION</td>
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<td>7:30 AM MENS CLUB MASS ROSARY FOLLOWING</td>
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<td>4 PM PARISH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION</td>
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<td>RECEPTION FOLLOWING IN CAFETERIA</td>
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<td>6/4</td>
<td>SECOND COLLECTION PETER’S PENCE</td>
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<td>PENTECOST SUNDAY</td>
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<td>12:30 PM BAPTISMS IN CHURCH</td>
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<td>6:30 PM VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER IN CAFETERIA</td>
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### 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.

### In-Home One-on-One Marriage Preparation Training

**Saturday, June 17, 2017**

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

St. Matthew the Apostle Parish
Msgr. Bendix Center
10021 Jefferson Highway, River Ridge 70123

**$125 per New Training Couple**

**$45 per Refresher Training Couple**

Please bring your own lunch; drinks provided

Trainers: Jan and Lloyd Tate

For questions, please call 504-861-6243 or email flasec@arch-no.org.

The school year ended on Friday May 26th. The first through sixth grades each had a special “Fun Day” during the last week. The seventh grade closing Mass and reception was Wednesday. Please join me in wishing the best to our seventh grade students who are moving to area high schools.

### 100th Anniversary of Fatima Mini Retreat Opportunity

**Saturday, June 10, 2017**

**St. Ann Church & Shrine**

**Schedule:**

- **7:30 AM Mass**
- **Devotional prayers & Confession:** 8 AM—9 AM
- **Reflection:** 9 AM—11 AM

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](http://www.lukearredondo.com)

Books will be available for $10. Free Will Offering will be taken.
Saint Ann Parish would like to salute, thank and pray for our U.S. Military parishioners who are currently serving our Country.

Please submit your U.S. Military uniform picture and include your:
- Name, Rank, Branch of Service
A display will be prepared for an appropriate area in the Church and Shrine.
We hope to get an enthusiastic response in honoring our Military for their brave and loyal service to our Country.

God bless you and God bless America!

You may drop your picture off at the Parish Office, 4940 Meadowdale Avenue, 455-7071. Or, you can scan your info to Stephanie Schaff, stephanie.schaff@gmail.com

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You are invited to a St. Ann Parish Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

All parish adult volunteers are invited to Celebrate at the St. Ann Fourteenth Annual Parish Appreciation Dinner on Sunday, June 4, 2017 6:30 P.M. - School Cafeteria

The Appreciation Dinner is a Gift to all parish adult volunteers. Please RSVP by Friday, May 26 at 455-7071 ext. 221 or 222.

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Nine Day Novena

Tuesday July 18 - Wednesday July 26
Morning and Evening Mass 10am and 7pm
St. Ann Church & Shrine
3601 Transcontinental Dr. Metairie, LA 70006 (504) 455-7071
All are Welcome!

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Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill
May 27-28, 2017 Mission Cooperation Appeal

We are pleased to have this opportunity to learn about the missions from Sister Patrice Hughes, SC. As the sisters continue to bring the love of the Lord to the people they serve, they need our help—they cannot do it alone! Wherever we may live we are all missionaries and can help in different ways!

Please give from the heart on May 27-28 to help spread the Gospel throughout the world and assist the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill to share God’s love with those in need. Your prayers and donations will bring blessings of hope and healing!

God Bless You for Your Generosity!
The Ascension of the Lord

May 28, 2017
I Am with You Always

Today’s Readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9; Ephesians 1:17–23; Matthew 28:16–20. The last directive Jesus gives his disciples, as he gathers with them atop a mountain, is to go out to the whole world, to bring others into the faithful fold, and to remember that he is always with them. That message is for us, too. We have a responsibility to spread the Good News. In The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis states that we can bring the Good News to friends and strangers in the workplace, in the public square, or on a journey. This preaching, he says, is respectful and gentle and begins with personal dialogue.

The challenge is always to break out of the secure inner circle of family or parish or small organization and go out beyond, often into unknown territory.

So this Easter season, consider how you practice your faith beyond the family home. Discover a new place for your interests within the parish, where you might have to learn something different about your faith. Perhaps you might want to sponsor someone who is interested in becoming Catholic. Going beyond our comfort zone is a challenge, but we are not alone. St. Paul tells us to put all things—all faith, uncertainty, and hope—beneath Christ’s feet, for he is the head of the Church. And Jesus himself, as he is to ascend into heaven, assures us that he is with us always, until the end of the age. We need to always be confident of that.

Witnesses to the Ends of the Earth

God of all ages,
you have been our guardian and guide
from the creation of the world to the present age.
Empower us with your Spirit,
and bless us with understanding as we seek to do your will.
May we be your witnesses in the world,
in our homes, and to neighbors and strangers.
May your Holy Spirit be with us today and every day,
our constant guide and our hope in times of trouble,
as we grow in faithfulness and generosity,
as we seek to be witnesses beyond boundaries.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
This Week at Home

Monday, May 29
The Holy Spirit
In the First Reading, Paul is confronted with the statement that some disciples have never even heard of the Holy Spirit. As odd as that may sound, we often do not understand or teach about the Holy Spirit, whose power and presence were promised to us by Jesus. The unifying power of the Holy Spirit is singular. The next time you participate in the Eucharist, notice the references to the Holy Spirit, who makes all one. Today’s Readings: Acts 19:1–8; Psalm 68:2–3ab, 4–5acd, 6–7ab; John 16:29–33.

Tuesday, May 30
The Hour Has Come
Both Paul, in the First Reading, and Jesus, in the Gospel, are beginning to say goodbye. How do we prepare to say goodbye to family and friends? The struggle is one of loss and deep love. Knowing that someone will be enjoying the Kingdom of God is at odds with knowing that we can no longer share with them the Kingdom insights here. Today’s Readings: Acts 20:17–27; Psalm 68:10–11, 20–21; John 17:1–11a.

Wednesday, May 31
Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
The beautiful feast of two pregnant cousins visiting one another is a celebration of family support through prayer and particular insight. Elizabeth, much older, and Mary, much younger, find in one another a way to express the holiness of each other’s pregnancy, and to accept whatever God has in mind for them and their offspring. We might want to think of how we can be supportive to soon-to-be mothers. Today’s Readings: Zephaniah 3:14–18a; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6; Luke 1:39–56.

Thursday, June 1
Truth and Belief
How do we know what the truth is? Today’s reading from the Acts of the Apostles begins with a dispute over St. Paul and the truth that he presented. How do we determine the truth—or truths—of our faith? The first response should be one of prayer, with Jesus’ actions as a model for a prayerful life. Not only does Jesus give us an example of always relying on prayer to mark his life, his final prayers are an appeal to unity among believers. To determine the truth, we must be united in our belief and trust in God. Today’s Readings: Acts 22:30; 23:6–11; Psalm 16:1–2a, 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; John 17:20–26.

Friday, June 2
Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs
Marcellinus and Peter, two martyrs of the persecutions of the early fourth century, were so respected that they continue to be mentioned in Eucharistic Prayer I. Marcellinus was a priest, and Peter an exorcist. Their martyrdom in the year 304 under the Emperor Diocletian prompted a profound reaction, and their burial sites were eventually the foundation for basilicas built in their names, a testament to so many other martyrs of the early Church. Today’s Readings: Acts 25:13b–21; Psalm 103:1–2, 11–12, 19–20ab; John 21:15–19.

Saturday, June 3
St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
Charles Lwanga and twenty-one other Ugandan Christians were martyred between 1885 and 1887 by the brutal dictator Mwanga. Some of the martyrs had been baptized, but many were still catechumens. All were marched to their death, tortured along the way, and forced to witness each other’s brutal deaths. Their witness is a reminder that, in every age, people struggle to keep the faith alive. Today’s Readings: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20–25.
Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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Date: May 28, 2017

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

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Special Instructions: Please print 1450 bulletins due to school letting out. I believe the original count was 1750. If you have any questions please call me. Thanks Linda