ST. ANN CHURCH AND NATIONAL SHRINE
4940 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA 70006
504-455-7071 - Fax 504-455-7076
Website: stannchurchandshrine.org
Email: contact@stannchurchandshrine.org
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: tfoti@stannchurchandshrine.org

Office Manager
Mrs. Debbie Sommers, ext. 221

Church Secretaries
Mrs. Linda Ehrhardt, ext. 222
Mrs. Ann Gauthier, 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 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. 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).

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.
Advent is probably the most misunderstood liturgical season in the calendar. I think this is largely due to the fact that it is short. Once we get into the rhythm of the season it is suddenly Christmas time.

There is another difficulty that comes with Advent, which I think is a key to helping us understand what the season is all about. The difficulty is that we sort of place ourselves in the place of the Israelites in the Old Testament who are patiently awaiting the coming of the Messiah. Because we do not understand the Old Testament, and because it is hard to take on this posture of awaiting the coming of Christ when He has already come, Advent is a difficult season for us. The Old Testament, particularly the prophets, take center stage in the liturgies during the Advent Season. During Advent we sort of summarize the period that the Israelites spent awaiting the promised Messiah.

Also we do not know how to celebrate the Advent Season. The commercial industry cannot wait soon enough to start selling Christmas items. Before Halloween comes we see Christmas things being stored on the top shelves of stores. We also have this unwritten rule that we don’t play Christmas music until after Thanksgiving. And for about a month we indulge in all things Christmas, with the music, and parties, and decorating our Christmas trees. And then we’re glad Christmas is here because we’ve gotten tired of Christmas. On December 26th there are trees in front of homes.

In order to have a good Advent, in order to better understand what Advent is all about, we would do well if we adopted a posture of anticipation before December 25th. The more we wait to decorate our homes, the more we wait before we play Christmas music, the more we enter into the spirit of the Advent Season, and the more we are prepared for the Christmas Season, as Christmas is not one day, but a season of a couple few weeks. The more we wait, the more we are like the Israelites who waited for the Messiah, the better Christmas we will have.

Reflection by Fr. Braud
The school is preparing for the birth of Jesus. Our Advent theme is “Looking for Christmas”. 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.

**Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Holy Day of Obligation Mass Schedule:**

- **Thursday, December 7th**
  - Vigil 6:30 PM

- **Friday, December 8th**
  - 6:30, 8:45 AM and 6:30 PM

We prepare for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. We visit family and friends, bake cookies, decorate our trees, and shop for gifts until we’re ready to drop.

This year prepare for Christmas in a different way. Join our parish for Best Advent Ever, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during Advent. Each day you’ll receive an email with…

- Short inspirational video from leading Catholic voices Matthew Kelly and Dr. Allen Hunt
- Practical tips for your everyday life
- Real-life stories of hope

To sign up visit: BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope
Eucharistic Adoration Service

The CYO youth group here at St. Ann is hosting a monthly Eucharistic Adoration service on the second Sunday of each month following the rosary after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Each service will have a specific focus and will be youth-oriented but all parishioners are invited to participate. In December, the date will be December 10th and we will focus on “God Become Man” in Jesus Christ who would become our Eucharist. We look forward to having you join us!

St. Ann CYO

St. Ann CYO is open to ALL 8th through 12th graders. Our youth group meets each Sunday evening following the 5:00 p.m. Mass in the Youth House located at 4909 Loveland Street. If you are interested in participating in any CYO event, feel free to call the church office at 455-7071, ext 225 or attend any of CYO events listed below. Our calendar for the coming weeks is as follows.

- December 3—CYO Topic Sharing Night with food
- December 10—Rosary for Peace and Healing 6:00 p.m. Followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 7pm
- December 17—Bake Sale after all Masses
- December 29—paintball outing in Covington
- December 30—CYO Movie Outing at Clearview AMC
- January 7—CYO Topic Sharing Night with food
- January 14—Rosary for Peace and Healing 6:00 p.m. Followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 7pm
- CYO Spiritual Night in church with snacks.

Here are some upcoming CYO events our youth can look forward to:
- Ice Skating trip in Baton Rouge
- Outing to Covenant House
- Teen Drive-in Movie Night
- Paint Ball event in Covington
- Eucharistic Adoration Nights
- CYO Retreat
- “Battle of the CYO’s” event
- March for Life trip to Washington, DC
- Renovations of Youth House

New CYO members always welcomed!!!

Knights of Columbus Charity Calendar

$15,970 in Cash Prizes

Proceeds benefit our local KC Council and its Charitable Programs

Get YOURS Today!!! On Sale in the church office or after all Masses the weekend of December 2nd and 3rd. $20 per Calendar

$20 enters you into a drawing for cash prizes to be held each day for 365 days!

You can win more than once! Your ticket stays in the raffle everyday - even if you previously won!

Prizes

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<tr>
<th>Prize</th>
<th>Draw Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>Columbus day</td>
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<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>New Year’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>$250</td>
<td>April 1 &amp; December 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>$150</td>
<td>1st day of Feb, Mar, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, &amp; Nov.</td>
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<tr>
<td>$100</td>
<td>Saturdays (51 drawings)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$20</td>
<td>All other days (301 drawings)</td>
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WHAT IS THE ST. ANN SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL?

The Advisory Council is an advisory to the Pastor and the Principal. The Advisory Council is established to serve as a resource to the Principal in implementing Archdiocesan policies and in formulating policies on the local parish level. The Advisory Council consists of 9 members (with or without children at St. Ann School), the Principal, and the Pastor.

WHO WOULD MAKE A GOOD SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER?

Qualifications of potential Advisory Council members include:

- A practicing Catholic attending mass weekly at St. Ann and supporting the parish
- Able to attend monthly meetings, which take place on the third Thursday of each school month
- Willingness to serve on the Advisory Council’s various committees and attend committee meetings
- Able to work cooperatively with others
- Accepting the Advisory Council’s proper role as a policy making body, not an administrative body
- Able to keep completely confidential those matters discussed in executive sessions
- Able to subordinate purely personal concerns as a parent from the overall welfare of all the students and the welfare of the parish and the school.

Please prayerfully consider the person or persons you feel have the necessary spiritual gifts and skills in our community to serve on the St. Ann School Advisory Council. List the name(s) below.

SELF-NOMINATIONS ARE WELCOMED AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.

If you have any questions or need further information about the Advisory Council, please contact:

Karen Litolff 504-908-0820 or klitolff@bellsouth.net.

Forms should be returned to the school office no later than January 20, 2018.

Name ____________________________________________________________

Phone __________________________________________________________

Email ___________________________________________________________
This Week at Home

Monday, December 4
Peace
At the beginning of Advent, the Church invites us to ponder the Reign of God. The First Reading paints an image of God gathering and instructing the nations. God’s instruction leads the nations to unity and peace. Our world continues to be divided so we must continue to pray for peace and strive to make known the Reign of God. Also, do you notice a familiar text in the Gospel? We say this prayer before receiving Holy Communion. At dinner, take some time to discuss this phrase and its relation to the Eucharistic table. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 2:1–5; Psalm 122:1–2, 3–4b, 4cd–5, 6–7, 8–9; Matthew 8:5–11.

Tuesday, December 5
Jesus Reveal of the Father
In today’s Gospel, we see Jesus rejoicing over what God has revealed to the disciples. To understand the reference the reader needs to read verse 17 of the chapter, which describes a battle between good and evil. Like the disciples, we must be watchful, work for justice, and fend off evil. Those who have seen Christ know the Father. Today, create a Jesse tree with your family and discuss Christ’s role in salvation. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 11:1–10; Psalm 72:1–2, 7–8, 12–13, 17; Luke 10:21–24.

Wednesday, December 6
St. Nicholas
The message of the First Reading and Gospel helps us understand St. Nicholas’ desire to serve the poor and needy. Jesus, whose love is overflowing, inspired Nicholas to give generously to others. Instead of seeking gifts today, read about St. Nicholas and decide how your family might share its resources with the poor. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 25:6–10a; Psalm 23: 1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6; Matthew 15:29–37.

Thursday, December 7
St. Ambrose
Advent invites us to look into our hearts to discern our willingness to listen and to respond to God’s call. The readings today tell us that only the just will enter God’s Kingdom and stand firm amidst adversity. Is your heart open to the Father’s will? In what ways do you struggle to listen and respond to God? Take time today to journal and name ways you are living the Father’s will. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 26:1–6; Psalm 118:1 and 8–9, 19–21, 2–27a; Matthew 7:21, 24–27.

Friday, December 8
The Immaculate Conception
Today’s solemnity celebrates God’s grace working in Mary that kept her free of sin from the moment of her conception. The Gospel passage helps us understand that throughout her life she cooperates with God’s grace. Confronted by the angel Gabriel, she puts aside her entire self and says yes. She is the New Eve, the mother of all the living. Unlike Eve in Genesis, Mary humbly and obediently accepts God’s will and brings forth life in Jesus. After dinner, sing the Magnificat and discuss the powerful images. Today’s Readings: Genesis 3:9–15, 20, Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12; Luke 1:26–38.

Saturday, December 9
Discipleship
Jesus, in today’s Gospel, commissions the disciples to “cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons” as part of their mission to proclaim the Reign of God. In Baptism each of us was commissioned to live in such a way that our lives proclaim the Good News. What does it look like to “cure” the sick or “drive out” demons today? Jesus is calling us to go to the margins and proclaim God’s Reign. Today, consider celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26; Psalm 147:1–2, 3–4, 5–6; Matthew 9:35 —10:1, 5a, 6–8.

St. Ann Church and Shrine

Date: December 3, 2017

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

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Special Instructions: