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 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. 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.
2nd Sunday of Advent, Year B

We continue our journey in the Advent Season as we celebrate the 2nd Sunday of Advent. We are always introduced to the figure of John the Baptist on the 2nd Sunday of Advent. He is important for so many reasons. Among others, he bridges the Old and New Testaments, as he is the last of prophets, who is privileged to be the one to announce the coming of the Messiah into the world.

But we see here in our readings that he fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah of the promised messenger who prepares the world for the coming of the Messiah. He is sometimes referred to the Precursor of the Lord, as he immediately precedes Jesus. He is literally the voice crying out in the desert, as he preached a baptism of repentance in preparation for public ministry of Jesus in the desert just outside the Jordan River.

There were particular signs that the Israelites were looking for that would indicate who the Messiah was, as he was expected to come around the time of Jesus. This messenger of Isaiah was one of these signs. There is also another sign connected to John the Baptist that is given by the Prophet Malachi. He tells us, "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes." (Mal. 4:5) So the Israelites were also expecting the return of the Prophet Elijah.

We are told in our Gospel that John the Baptist was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist. Guess how Elijah is described in the Old Testament? He wore a garment of haircloth with a leather belt around his waist. (2 Kgs. 1:7-8) This is why we will hear in next Sunday’s Gospel, when the Israelites are trying to figure out who John the Baptist is, they ask him if he is Elijah. They were expecting Elijah to come back, as he never died. He was taken up into heaven on a fiery chariot. John the Baptist fulfills this expectation of the return of Elijah before the day of the Lord, and so is the New Elijah.

What does this have to do with Advent? Part of what is going with Advent is we are spiritually placing ourselves with the Israelites who were patiently waiting for the coming of the Messiah. When certain things began to happen the Israelites would then know the Messiah has come. The messenger crying out in the desert was one of these signs. Elijah’s return was another. Our readings throughout Advent before the O Antiphons begin on December 17th, all have to do with these and other particular signs that accompany the coming of the Messiah, showing us that Jesus is in fact the promised Messiah.

May we continue keep the eyes and ears of our hearts open during this Advent Season, but everyday, as we know not how Jesus may come to visit us.

Reflection by Fr. Braud

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MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday December 10
4:00 pm Vigil Alberta Basha, Linda Murry In Thanks to Blessed Mother (Health), Jose L. Silva, Louis & Ruth Duvic, Robert Kinler, Robert McGinnis, Gardner & McCleland Families, Jeffrey Lambert, Shayne Beier, Tom Volz, Charlotte “Chuckie” N. White, Olga Prevost, Walter Parr (Health), Ida Hyer, Paul Brue, George Sanderson, Walter Parr, Clara Louise Deubler, Rodney Pete McIntyre, Pray for Family Spirituality, Earl Jacob, Jr., Bret Gleason, Jeffrey Lambert, Michelle Buisson & Children (S.I.), Marybeth Anderson, Sondra Tourne’ Cothern, Dorothy L. Benge (Health), Health of St. Ann Parishioners
8:00 am JoAnn Hirstius
9:30 am Parishioners
11:00 am Marie Jumonville, Richard Estopinal, Musette C. Barrouguere, Paul Brue, Peggy Greishaber, Anthony Maniscalco, Clara Louise Deubler, Mark Krassett, Gerry Smith Adams, Paul Joseph Velino, Rodney Pete McIntyre, Jeffrey Lambert, Margie Wait (Health), Walter Parr, Earl Jacob, Jr., Dorothy L. Benge (Health), Sondra Tourne’ Cothern, Health of St. Ann Parishioners, Catherine Linn, Mr. & Mrs. G. Cox (S.I.), Helen Turner (Health)
5:00 pm Marilyn Garon

Monday December 11
6:30 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger
8:45 am Frank & Terri Estrada

Tuesday December 12
6:30 am Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander
8:45 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger
7:00 pm Saul Santos

Wednesday December 13
6:30 am Anthony L. Musso
8:45 am Mark Melancon

Thursday December 14
6:30 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger
8:45 am Catherine Cardona

Friday December 15
6:30 am Olga M. Haughton Darenbourg
8:45 am Thomas Kelly School Mass 2

Saturday December 16
7:30 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger

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December 10 - 16, 2017
“Sanctuary Candle”
In Memory of Anthony L. Musso
“Altar Flowers”
In Memory of Thomas J. Kelly
Parish Calendar

12/10  SECOND COLLECTIN RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS
10 AM MEN'S CLUB BREAKFAST WITH SANTA/CAFETERIA
6 PM CYO ROSARY FOR HEALING & PEACE/CHURCH
7 PM SAS CHOIR & BAND CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERT & CHRISTMAS PAGEANT RECEPTION FOLLOWING/GYM/CAFETERIA

12/12  9:15 AM ADORATION IN CHAPEL
5 PM RCIA/ST. JOHN PAUL II
6:15 PM PSR CLASSES/CAFETERIA & CLASSROOMS
6:30 PM PSR RECONCILIATION SERVICE IN CHURCH
1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND
7 PM SYNOD MTG. IN ST. RAYMOND
7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL IN CHURCH

12/14  9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM/ST. RAYMOND
3 PM BEGINNER CHOIR REHEARSAL IN CHURCH
6 PM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS (BUSINESS)/CAFETERIA
7 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION/WC

12/15  8:45 AM SCHOOL MASS
5:30 PM ERIC'S CONCERT IN CHURCH

12/16  9:30 AM ALTAR SOCIETY/ST. RAYMOND
5:30 PM ALTAR SERVER PARTY/GYM

12/17  6 PM CYO CHRISTMAS PARTY/YOUTH HOUSE

Our annual Parish/School Christmas Pageant is this Sunday, Dec. 10 at 7:00 pm in the gym. The fifth graders will reenact the Nativity. The band and choir will perform Christmas songs. All are invited to the performances and to the cafeteria after for refreshments.

Mark your calendars now.
Save the date!

Eric McCrary
Leader of our grade worship for the 4th (Infant) Mass on Saturday. A 6:30 Thursday Mass and Director of the Teen Choir and Band at this year’s Sunday Mass.

Annual Christmas Concert
Friday, December 15 at 7 p.m.
St. Ann Church

There will be a special children’s section this year with audience participation and a caroling sing-a-long. Spread the word to your family and friends.
It’s always a wonderful evening of great music and a fantastic way of getting into the Christmas mood.
We hope to see you there.

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
December 10, 2017

Help religious communities.
“Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry,” writes a religious sister. Your gift to today’s collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!

As we close out this Liturgical Year, St. Ann Parish’s focus on Evangelization also comes to a close. Mindful that we should never truly cease to focus ourselves on evangelization, at the guidance of Fr. Billy, the Pastoral Council’s focus for St. Ann Parish this Liturgical Year will be dedicated to the Eucharist and the Mass. In the coming weeks and months we will showcase various Eucharistic Miracles. Look for displays at the church entrances and check our website and Facebook page. You will also find in the bulletin articles regarding the Eucharist and the Mass. We will have speakers and small group opportunities. We are hoping to have a Eucharistic Procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi. Look for short videos by our Priests, Deacons and Staff answering some common questions regarding these topics. If you have a particular question regarding the Eucharist or Mass contact us at contact@stannchurchandshrine.org and we will get back to you with an answer. Please pay attention to the announcements before Mass, the Bulletin, our web site www.stannchurchandshrine.org, Facebook, and other social media platforms for information.

With the completion of our new Adoration Chapel, we have a wonderfully beautiful and holy space for private and group adoration. With our focus on the Eucharist, please consider spending some time quiet time with our Lord this year in the chapel. Adoration as a family is very rewarding. Even a few minutes spent each week with the Lord will enrich your life more than you can imagine.

We wish all of you a very happy and holy Advent and a very Merry Christmas.

The St. Ann Pastoral Council
Eucharistic Prayer Service

Join us this Sunday evening as our CYO youth group is hosting a Eucharistic prayer service with Adoration following the rosary after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. This month’s focus will be on “God Become Man” in Jesus Christ who would become our Eucharist. Our CYO will host a similar event each second Sunday of the month following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. In this dedicated Year of the Eucharist, come spend time in Adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. We look forward to having you join us! The service includes a guided meditation, music and silent prayer time.

Mary wrapped the very first Christmas Present!

Calling ALL High School Students!

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 10—Rosary for Peace and Healing 6:00 p.m.
Followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 7pm
CYO Spiritual Night in church with snacks.

December 17—Bake Sale after all Masses
CYO Christmas party with food in Youth House.

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.

January 21—CYO Topic Sharing Night with food

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!!!

Keep Christ in Christmas!

St. Ann Church and the Knights of Columbus are offering a unique service to those in our community! Tune your car radio to 91.9 FM for a Christ-centered message as you within 1/2 mile of St. Ann Church. These messages are provided at no cost to the parish courtesy of our local Knights of Columbus council as part of their “Keep Christ in Christmas” campaign. We hope you find the messages enlightening and entertaining! Thank you and God bless!
Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve

You may wonder:

Christmas Day falls on a Monday and it is a Holy Day of Obligation. If a person normally goes to evening Mass on Sunday, will he fulfill his Sunday obligation on December 24, 2017 and at the same time fulfill the Christmas Day obligation (being that it will be the Christmas vigil Mass at 4 pm, 6 pm, or 10 pm Sunday)? Or does he have to go to an early Sunday Mass (before the Christmas Vigil) to fulfill his Sunday obligation (and of course go to another Mass for Christmas)?

You’ve got several options for how to fulfill your Sunday and Christmas obligations this year:

1) Go to a Saturday evening Mass (Sunday obligation) and a Sunday evening Mass (Christmas obligation)
2) Go to a Saturday evening Mass (Sunday obligation) and a Monday Mass (Christmas obligation)
3) Go to a Sunday morning Mass (Sunday obligation) and a Sunday evening Mass (Christmas obligation)
4) Go to a Sunday morning Mass (Sunday obligation) and a Monday Mass (Christmas obligation)

Mass Times at St. Ann:

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Saturday, December 23rd
Vigil Mass 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 24th Sunday Masses
8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord
Vigil Masses, Sunday, December 24th
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Masses, Monday, December 25th
8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
This Week at Home

Monday, December 11
Incredible Things
Today’s Gospel concludes with the phrase, “We have seen strange things today.” As we begin the second week of Advent, it is important to recall the marvelous things our God has done for us in Jesus Christ. Through his Paschal Mystery, we are saved from death and share in eternal life. Jesus comes to heal or liberate us from all that paralyzes us and that keeps us from living the Good News. What incredible things have you seen? Around the Advent wreath, share ways you have been saved by God. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 35:1–10; Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11–12, 13–14; Luke 5:17–26.

Tuesday, December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Mary’s message is one of hope and assurance. Appearing as a pregnant woman, she reveals that the child she carries will free the poor and oppressed. In the second option for the Gospel, John, who is in Elizabeth’s womb, leaps with joy as Mary greets Elizabeth. Consider the times you have leapt with joy when you encountered Christ. Today’s Readings: Zechariah 2:14–17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Luke 1:26–38 or Luke 1:39–47.

Wednesday, December 13
St. Lucy
In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells those who are burdened to come to him so they can find rest. Jesus is explaining to the crowds that he is the new law (yoke); to gain wisdom is to learn from him and follow him. St. Lucy, whom we honor today, understood this invitation. Lucy heeded Jesus’ call and found rest/life with him. Take time today to research Lucy and the traditions surrounding her feast; for example, bake braided bread. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 40:25–31; Psalm 103:1–2, 3–4, 8 and 10; Matthew 11:28–30.

Thursday, December 14
St. John of the Cross
The psalm refrain today tells us that God is gracious, merciful, slow to anger, and kind. It recalls God’s saving deeds when he rescued his people from exile and slavery. It is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving to tell of the faithfulness of God. The psalmist wants to tell everyone of God’s Kingdom. In the Gospel, those who oppose John’s message and eventually Jesus’ message are attacking God’s Kingdom. Advent calls us to announce the coming of God’s Reign. Write a poem of thanksgiving today and be mindful of God’s infinite love and mercy. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 41:13–20; Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10–11, 12–13ab; Matthew 11:11–15.

Friday, December 15
Wisdom
We are invited in today’s readings to contemplate the Wisdom tradition in the Scriptures. Those who follow the Christ are taught the right path. They live in the light. Listening to the voice of Wisdom brings the fullness of life. Take time to listen to Christ’s voice. Reconnect with a wisdom figure in your life. Today’s Readings: Isaiah 48:17–19; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4 and 6; Matthew 11:16–19.

Saturday, December 16
In Plain Sight
Today’s readings connect back to the readings from Thursday. John the Baptist, like Elijah, has announced the coming Reign of God, but some did not recognize him. It can be easy to miss what is in plain sight. Jesus also tells his disciples that he will suffer. Whom do you recognize as one who announces the coming of Christ? Let the refrain of the psalm be your prayer today so that we might see the living God and be saved. Today’s Readings: Sirach 48:1–4, 9–11; Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15–16, 18–19; Matthew 17:9a, 10–13.
St. Ann Church and Shrine

Date: December 10, 2017

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

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Special Instructions: