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

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.
Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11  I Thessalonians 5:16-24  John 1:6-8, 19-28
Advent enters its final phase, and the liturgy becomes more joyful, so to speak. The Church encourages us to persevere and remain faithful. Traditionally this Sunday was known as “Gaudete Sunday” from the opening words of the entrance antiphon for the mass “Gaudete in Domino,” “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice! The Lord is near.” Advent joy is born out of the belief that the Lord is very near. That nearness becomes more visible with the passing of time, and the lighting of another candle on the Advent wreath. The optional rose vestments and the lighting of the third candle with the rose-colored scarf announce that the season of waiting nearing its end. We also sense the coming of Christmas with people decorating their homes … Christmas cards arriving in the mail, and last minute shoppers rushing to get gifts at the Mall and online.

Today we read from the John’s Gospel of the function of the Baptist - to witness the light of God among us. The greatness of John the Baptist is evident in the utterly unselfish way that he hands over to Jesus - surely a lesson in humility! John is the lamp … Jesus is the light.

Our mission is to offer ourselves, like John, as witness to Jesus. We must be the lamp … Jesus is the light. I share these reflective words from Fr. Donal Neary, S.J.:

Witness for the Light
May my life speak as a witness for the light;
where there is darkness may I bring light,
where there is loneliness, may I bring companionship,
where there is pain, may I bring healing.
May my words bring comfort to others,
as the morning dawn lightens the darkness, and may my prayers bring hope to others as the moon gives its light to the city.
May my touch lighten the loneliness and fears
of young and old,
and may my sufferings and struggles, as these were part of the life of Jesus, and part of the life of Mary and Joseph,
bring hope and depth to others.
And when like the Baptist, I cry in the wilderness of anxiety,
fear and hopelessness, may I be heard by God
and may the light of Jesus lit in the love of Mary and Joseph,
shine through the ways I deal with pain,
and comfort the pain of another.
May I believe that each person, like John the Baptist,
is a voice speaking the word of God.
May the way of Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace, Son of God,
be bright in my soul and the souls of others.

Reflection: Fr. Billy

MASS INTENTIONS
Sunday
December 17
4:00 pm Vigil
Louis & Ruth Duvic, Robert Kinler, Robert McGinnis, Gardner & McCleland Families, Jeffrey Lambert, Shaye Beier, Tom Voltz, Charlotte “Chuckie” N. White, Anton Tangell, Ida Hyver, Kenny Ruiz, Christine Atwood, Joseph A. Berdini, Lisa Kroll (Health), Gail LeJeune (Health), June Plauche (Health), Ann Stansbury, Frank Mason, Warren Lemonier, Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Orrallana (S.I.), Oreyna Albarado
8:00 am Barbara Carriere (S.I.)
9:30 am Eugene Hickey
11:00 am Paul Brue, Clara Louise Deubler, Musette C. Barrouque, Catherine Linn, Rodney Pete McIntyre, Shirley Repak, Paul Boudreaux, Adolfo Bello, Charles Tracey, Sr., Danny Mack, Michelle Buisson and children (S.I.), Dorothy L. Benge (Health), Walter Parr, Earl Jacob, Jr., Sondra Tourne’ Cothern, Mr. & Mrs. G. Cox (S.I.), Mary Kay Woodruff
5:00 pm Parishioners

Monday
December 18
6:30 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger
8:45 am Dorothy L. Benge (Health)

Tuesday
December 19
6:30 am Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander
8:45 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger
7:00 pm Curtis Dupree

Wednesday
December 20
6:30 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger
8:45 am Thomas J. Kelly

Thursday
December 21
6:30 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger
8:45 am Carlos “Curley” Estrade

Friday
December 22
6:30 am Darlene DeHarde Faul
8:45 am Ann & Dewey Bobinger

Saturday
December 23
7:30 am Dorothy L. Benge (Health)
**Parish Calendar**

12/18  
12 NOON MONEY COUNTERS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON, JP II
7 PM BAPTISMAL SEMINAR/JP II ROOM
7 PM MEN’S CLUB MTG./CAFETERIA

12/19  
9:15 AM ADORATION IN CHAPEL
5 PM RCIA/ST. JOHN PAUL II

12/20  
10 AM SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT/CHURCH
SCHOOL EARLY DISMISSAL
1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND
7 PM PASTORAL COUNCIL CHRISTMAS POTLUCK/
7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL IN CHURCH

12/21  
9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM/ST. RAYMOND
7 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION/WC

**School News**

During this season of Advent, the students made many preparations for Christmas. Wednesday, Dec. 20th is the last school day before the Christmas holidays. The students will be treated to the reenactment of the Nativity by the fifth grade students and will celebrate with Christmas parties. School will resume on Thursday, January 3rd.

**#iGiveCatholic**

Thank you for your support and generosity on #GivingTuesday! We had 76 donations in the amount of $4,175 donated to St. Ann School via #iGiveCatholic. These funds will go to the St. Ann School Endowment Fund.


The next #iGiveCatholic day of giving will be November 27, 2018.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of St. Ann School. We are proud that we can continue to add to our Endowment Fund. The growth of the St. Ann School Endowment Fund helps assure our legacy for the future.

**Prepared the Way of the King**

Dr. Scott Hahn reveals what scholars now know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as you prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord.

This illuminating presentation from the Augustine Institute is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind—Jesus Christ.

To Register for FORMED: Go to Formed.org —Enter ST. ANN’S PARISH CODE XX87MF on the homepage—Create a personal account with your user name/email and password—Start enjoying the best Catholic content all in one place!
Confirmation Students assist with Breakfast with Santa

Students preparing to receive Confirmation here at St. Ann assisted with the recent Breakfast with Santa event hosted by the St. Ann Men’s Club. The event allowed children in our parish an opportunity for crafts, food and pictures with Santa. Thanks students for your selfless service. Your donation of your time and talent certainly gave our parish a great model of Christian service. God bless!

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!!!

When you can't sleep, don't count sheep! Talk to the Shepherd!

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!

ALL High School Students Invited!

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 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 6—Ice Skating in Baton Rouge
- 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
- January 28—Service Night in Youth House with snacks
- February 4—CYO Topic Night with Food in Youth House

ALL High School Students Invited!
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 18
O Lord
In this third week of Advent, the readings begin to focus more directly on the birth of Christ. In today's Gospel, Joseph learns how Mary conceived Jesus. Although Scripture does not provide a lot of insight on Jesus' foster father, the glimpse we get here shows an obedient, loving, and generous man. This passage helps us know that God, through the Incarnation, is truly with us. The praying of the “O” Antiphons begins this week. Consider using them with your meal prayer this week.


Tuesday, December 19
O Root of Jesse
The two readings today present God's awesome power to overcome any trial. First, we hear the story of the wife of Manoah who learns from an angel that she will bear a son. Second, the angel Gabriel tells Zechariah that his wife, Elizabeth, will conceive a son. Imagine how these two women, once barren, rejoiced at the news of conception. Upon their lips were songs of praise. Light candles and pray today for all the unborn and for those who are unable to conceive.


Wednesday, December 20
O Key of David
The Gospel Acclamation tells of the Key of David setting prisoners free. As we draw closer to Christmas, it is good to reflect on Christ, the Key who unlocks the gates of heaven. It is Christ, the descendant of David, who ransom us from sin and darkness so we can walk in the light of his countenance. Take your keys today and use them in your prayer as you do lectio divina with today's psalm.


Thursday, December 21
O Dayspring
This is the second time during Advent that we have heard this portion of the Gospel reading from Luke. Because John leapt in Elizabeth's womb, she seems to know that Mary is carrying the Christ. Her prayer, which we say in the Hail Mary explains it all. Mary's womb is blessed. Imagine if you were Elizabeth. How might you react to this news? Song of Songs provides images to ponder when we think of the bridegroom coming to be with us. How can we not leap for joy and sing a new song!


Friday, December 22
O King of Nations
Today we encounter Hannah, the mother of Samuel, and Mary. These two women sing the praises of God at the birth of their children. Listen carefully to the psalm response today and notice its connection to the Magnificat in the Gospel proclamation. Both texts praise God's power to cast the rich aside and raise up the poor. Jesus, the King of the Nations, has conquered the enemy — so let us rejoice. Today read a commentary on the Gospel and meditate on its rich imagery.


Saturday, December 23
O Emmanuel
In the First Reading, the prophet Malachi announces a messenger who will prepare the way for God's coming. The Gospel tells of the birth of John the Baptist, the one whose call to repent and prepare a way for the Lord began our Advent season. Have you listened to John's plea? Review your Advent journey tonight, and be attentive to the rough ways in your life that still need straightening. Praise God for the good works already accomplished.

Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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Date: December 17, 2017

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

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Special Instructions: