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

BAPTISM
Baptisms are celebrated on the first Sun-
day 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
Phil Doolen at 455-7071, ext. 226. The
celebration of infant Baptism will be ar-
d ranged during the interview process.

MATRIMONY
The prospective bride or groom must
contact one of the parish priests or dea-
cons at least 6 months in advance.

FUNERALS
Families should contact the Church Of-
ce 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 Wednes-
day 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.
5th Sunday of Lent, Year B

Our Responsorial Psalm this weekend comes from Psalm 51, perennially referred to as the Miserere, which is the first word of the psalm in Latin and means “mercy.” This is a very penitential psalm, as the author, King David, reveals the conviction he was feeling due to his sin. The psalm also shows hope and trust in God’s infinite mercy.

It is the Church’s understanding that David wrote this psalm after his sin with Bathsheba. To refresh our memories, David lusted after Bathsheba, who was married to Uriah, one of his soldiers. So David arranged for him to be killed in battle to cover up their sin of adultery. Once the prophet Nathan revealed this sin to him, he felt deep sorrow for offending God, and did repent of it.

Another interesting fact about this psalm is that the priest quotes this at every Mass as he washes his hands. He says, “Wash me O Lord from my iniquity and cleanse me of my sins.” This is a ritual washing, and is to help remind the priest to be clean of mind and always, most especially so that the particular sacrifice of the Mass he offers will be pure as well. To be sure, the Mass is always objectively pure, as it is Christ who does the offering and is Himself the offering. I’m referring to the subjective purity of the priest.

During the Season of Lent we are especially reminded of our sin. We all have sinned in the past, and still do sin from time to time. Lent forces ourselves, if we allow it, to focus on our habitual sins, so that we can develop a battle strategy to root them out of our lives. Feeling conviction from our sin is a good thing if we use it to help motivate us to avoid it in the future.

As we are reminded of our sin, we are also reminded of the infinite mercy of God. God’s love and mercy is bigger than our sin, which is very comforting, especially if we are preparing for Sacramental Confession. In her diary, St. Faustina reminds us that there is an ocean of mercy ready to wash over us in the confessional. Jesus is just waiting there for us to have an intimate conversation with our heart, so that we can be healed of the wounds that sin inflicts upon us, so that He can lift that burden off our shoulders that sin imposes upon us.

May we all be reminded of God’s great mercy during Lent, but at all times. And may we not be afraid of running to Our Lord in the Confessional. This coming Wednesday is the last of the three Wednesdays that every church in the diocese will open for Confession from 5-6:30pm. We would do well to go to Confession during this great season, and I encourage everyone who has not gone to seriously consider going. As Psalm 51 says, in Confession He washes of our guilt and cleanses us of our sins.

Reflection by Fr. Braud
We are collecting Palms for Palm Sunday, please place them in the baskets in the back of the Shrine. Thank You!

If you are interested in registering your child for St. Ann School, it may not be too late. Please call the school office at 455-8383 as there is some availability in some grade levels. Next week is Faculty and Staff Appreciation Week. The St. Ann School students benefit from our dedicated faculty and staff members. The Home and School Club will provide many treats for the staff this week. The Grandparents Club will provide a delicious luncheon for the faculty and staff on Thursday. We are happy to provide a means for our students’ grandparents to be part of our St. Ann School family. This Friday, March 23 is St. Ann night at City Park. This is a fun, community event for our students and their families.

Fr. Braud will begin a book study on Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist by Dr. Brant Pitre beginning on Monday of Holy Week, March 26, at 6:30 p.m. Please read Chapters 1 & 2 before the meeting and subsequent meetings will be:

April 9th - Chapters 3 & 4
April 23rd - Chapters 5 & 6
April 30th - Chapters 7 & 8

in the Parish Ministry Center. Each participant is responsible for purchasing a copy of the book before the study begins. You can purchase the book at Pauline’s, Barnes & Nobles and on Amazon. Please sign up on the parish website or contact the parish office 455-7071.

Monday, March 26th
✦ Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM

Tuesday, March 27th
✦ Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM & 7:00 PM
✦ 40 Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 6:30 AM Mass until 10:00 PM on Wednesday in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel ONLY
✦ Mass of Chrism at St. Louis Cathedral: 10:00 AM

Wednesday, March 28th
✦ Masses: 6:30 AM & 8:45 AM

Holy Thursday, March 29th
✦ Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM
✦ Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:00 PM followed by procession to the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight.

Good Friday, March 30
✦ Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM
✦ Celebration of the Lord's Passion: 3:00 PM
✦ Stations of the Cross: 7:00 PM

Holy Saturday, March 31
✦ Morning Prayer [Liturgy of the Hours] 8:45 AM
✦ Easter Vigil: 8:00 PM. The entire celebration of this Vigil should take place at night, that is, it should begin after nightfall and end before dawn. The Easter Vigil is not to be celebrated at the time of day that is customary to celebrate anticipated Sunday Masses. [No 3:00 PM Confessions or 4:00 PM Mass]

Easter Sunday, April 1th
✦ Masses: 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM [No 5:00 PM Mass]
This Lent, become companions on the journey through
Daily prayer
Weekly fasting
Almsgiving that changes lives
Jesus gives us the example of the Good Samaritan. With CRS Rice Bowl as our guide, we set out to encounter and love our neighbor.
Learn more at crsricebowl.org

DON’T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR RICE BOWLS ON HOLY THURSDAY AT THE EVENING MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER, THANK YOU!

ENCOUNTER ALEFA/ Visit crsricebowl.org.
We encounter Alefa in Malawi, where seeds are helping her family survive an uncertain climate. How can you care for God’s creation this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Preparing for Holy Week
“Father, forgive them….” As we enter the most important week of our Christian faith, we will spend time with Jesus preparing for Holy Week. Our time of prayer will invite us to experience and embrace the faith, hope, love and forgiveness offered to us from the cross. Sr. Gloria Murillo, STJ, presenter. Wednesday March, 21, 2018, 9:30-11:30am at the Archdiocesan Spirituality Center 2501 Maine Avenue Metairie. Cost $25.00 (Adjustments can be made.) Register on the web: https://asc.arch-no.org, email: archspirctr@arch-no.org or telephone (504) 861-3254.
This Week at Home

Monday, March 19

Solemnity of St. Joseph

Only a few passages in Scripture provide a glimpse into the person of St. Joseph. His care for Jesus and the Blessed Virgin speaks volumes about his character and devotion to God. As you reflect on the Gospel today, pay attention to the words or images that stir within you. What do they invite you to understand about Joseph? Consider taking part in a St. Joseph table in your community.

Today's Readings: 2 Samuel 7:4 – 5a, 12 – 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2 – 3, 4 – 5, 27 and 29; Romans 4:13, 16 –18, 22; Matthew 1:16, 18 – 21, 24a or Luke 2:41– 51a.

Tuesday, March 20

Son of Man

The desert of the Lenten season might find us complaining as did the children of Israel. Our parched hearts yearn for drink. In the desolation of the desert our hearts and minds can be free to seek God. The First Reading foreshadows the life-giving event of Christ’s death and Resurrection. Just as the serpent was raised and healed the Israelites, so too was the Son of Man raised so that whoever believes in him will be saved. What have you learned in the desert this season? Plant some seedlings, nurture them in the coming days, and watch your desert bloom.


Wednesday, March 21

Fiery Furnace

The three men in the First Reading refuse to worship the idol. They had faith that God would protect them from death in the furnace. Even the king is transformed when he learns of the angel of the Lord walking among them and protecting them. The Psalm response, “Glory and praise for ever,” is a portion of the song of praise the men sing. Pray the Psalm at mealtime and name something for which you would like to praise God.


Thursday, March 22

I AM

Today’s Gospel presents another encounter between Jesus and the Jews. The passage helps to affirm the divinity of Jesus once again, even though his audience struggles to understand. For the third time in John’s Gospel Jesus says, “I AM.” By saying this, Jesus equates himself with God. This was radical and not well-received. Jesus truly reveals God to us. Place yourself in the story. What do you hear? What do you see?

Today’s Readings: Genesis 17:3 – 9; Psalm 105:4 – 5, 6 –7, 8 – 9; John 8:51– 59.

Friday, March 23

Son of God

Jesus’ adversaries question whether he is truly the Messiah. Jesus skillfully explains that he is the Son of God. He wonders why the works he performed are not proof enough that he reveals the one true God. The Jews in John’s Gospel account think this is blasphemous and try to arrest him once again. The end of the Gospel reminds us that Jesus’ ministry reveals God’s power and so many come to know God. At the Stations of the Cross this evening, meditate on how Jesus did the work of the Father as he carried the cross.

Today’s Readings: Jeremiah 20:10 –13; Psalm 18:2 – 3a, 3bc – 4, 5 – 6, 7; John 10:31– 42.

Saturday, March 24

One Nation

Ezekiel paints a great picture of what life will be when all heed God’s voice. In Christ, God will gather all peoples unto himself. God will heal them and restore them to life. They will flourish and God will dwell among them. This is a hopeful image. No matter how far away we are, God promises to bring us home and make us holy. As the week ends, think about how you will observe Holy Week.

St. Ann Church and Knights of Columbus Offer Local Media

St. Ann Church and the Knights of Columbus are offering a unique service to those in our community! Tune your car radio to 87.9 FM for a Christ-centered message as you are 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 “Evangelization” campaign. We hope you find the messages spiritually uplifting! The messages will change for each liturgical season. Thank you and God bless!

Vacation Bible School

Plans for VBS 2018 are currently being planned. Our theme has been set, our adult leaders have been selected and beginning next week, applications for student volunteers and campers will be able to be submitted. We will host the events July 2-13 (TWO WEEKS!!!) and participants will have the option of half or full day program. The two options are 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon, or 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The program will include Bible stories, games, snacks, crafts and drama skits. Children entering pre-K (four years old) through 4th grade are welcome to participate as campers and students entering grades 5-12 are encouraged to volunteer as group leaders and station assistants. Every effort will be made to accommodate anyone wishing to be a part of this year's program. Look for registration info in next week's bulletin! If you have questions, please forward them to David Wilson at 455-7071, ext. 225

Parish Faith Formation

The Parish Faith Formation efforts at St. Ann Church encompass a variety of activities designed to bring all people to a better understanding of God and His all encompassing Love. The Parish School of Religion seeks to form the faith of students in grades Kindergarten through high school. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults works to help non-Catholics discern entry into the Catholic Church. There are many other efforts that attempt to help all people to better understand God, His Church, and how we are to live our Christian faith. If you wish to become involved in any of these ministries, simply contact the church office at 455-7071, ext. 225 and we’d be happy to share how you can get involved. Spreading the faith is the role of every Baptized Catholic!
Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

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Date: March 18, 2018

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

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Special Instructions: