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

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.

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.

Pastor
Rev. Billy O’Riordan  
455-7071, ext. 223

Parochial Vicar
Rev. Colin Braud, ext. 224

Deacons
Mr. Philip Doolen, ext. 231
Mr. Tom Fox, ext. 257

Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry
Mr. David Wilson, ext. 225
e-mail: stannreled@bellsouth.net

Director of Liturgical Music
Trish Foti, 559-8637
e-mail: tfoti@stannchurchandshrine.org

Office Manager
Mrs. Debbie Sommers, ext. 221

Facilities/Maintenance
Dave McCloskey, ext. 226

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

St. Ann School - 455-8383
Mrs. Susan Kropog, Principal
www.stannschool.org

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 the Baptism and a Preparation Seminar, call Deacon Phil Doolen at 455-7071, ext. 231.

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).
Peace be with you!
Those are the words of the Risen Lord to the disciples. It’s not just a greeting. It is the wish of Jesus Christ for the world. Peace!

One day I would like to turn on the T.V. and hear that there is peace on earth. To bring peace into this world requires making Jesus the Lord of your life. This is the only way we can have peace with each other. When you bring peace to your past, you can move forward to your future. **Forgiveness is the key to experiencing peace.** I have shared the following quote in a homily or two: “Don’t let anyone rent a space in your head unless they are a good tenant.” **Forgiveness is the key to experiencing peace.**

A few days ago I read a comment by Pope Francis: “When I get angry I lose peace. When my heart is troubled, it is because I am not open to the peace of Jesus.” Peace is not to be found in other people. Too often our peace depends on what others say and do. Is that who you are? Comparing yourself to others, what they say and do is an act of “violence” and a disrespect to Genesis 1:27. Happiness and peace is found when you stop comparing yourself to others. Your true friend is Jesus Christ and to him you shall give an account of yourself. Allow Jesus into the locked rooms of your life. Let Jesus spend some time with you. Let Jesus do the talking and bring a notebook. Let Jesus, the light of the world, cast out any darkness and fears in your life, otherwise the room of your life will be haunted by absence. Don’t be wounded by fear, doubt, guilt, and despair. Take down the barrier. Jesus didn’t wait for the disciples to come to him. He came to them in their fear - locked away and still fearful. Some wounds in life are not so visible - take down the barrier and let Jesus in. Jesus was there for the disciples. He is here for us!

Reflection: Fr.Billy

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**Please join us for a Parish Reception for**

**Deacon Ray Bertin’s retirement!**

**on**

**Saturday, April 21st after the 4 PM Mass in the school cafeteria**

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**April 15—21, 2018**

“Sanctuary Candle” In Memory of Ruth C. Duvic

“Altar Decorations”

In Memory of Aline G. Richards
**Parish Calendar**

**4/15**
- Knight of Columbus Membership Drive/All Masses

**4/16**
- 9:30 AM Come and See
- 10:30 AM First Communion Practice/Church
- 7 PM Baptismal Seminar/JPiI
- 7 PM Men's Club Meeting/Cafeteria

**4/17**
- 9:15 AM Adoration in Chapel
- 10:30 AM First Communion Practice/Church
- 5 PM RCIA/JPiI
- 6:15 PM PSR Classes/Cafeteria/Classrooms
- 10:30 AM First Communion Practice/Church
- 1 PM Sewing Seams of Faith Class/St. Raymond
- 6:30 PM CS Pack Mtg./Cafeteria
- 7 PM Pastoral Council Mtg./St. Raymond
- 7 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal in Church
- 7 PM Adult Choir Reh./St. Cecilia

**4/18**
- 9:30 AM Adult Catechism/St. Raymond
- 10:30 AM First Communion Practice/Church
- 3 PM Beginner Choir Reh./Church
- 7 PM - 8:40 PM St. Ann-Cyo Volleyball in Gym
- 7 PM St. Ann Faith Sharing/JPiI

**4/19**
- 7:30 PM School Advisory Council/Parish Office

**4/20**
- 9:30 AM Second Grade Preparation Day/Church

**4/21**
- Second Collection-Dioecesan Priest Retirement
- 9:30 AM Altar Society Mtg./St. Raymond
- 10 AM First Communion (2B, 2D & PSR)/Church
- 1 PM First Communion (2A & 2C)/Church
- 4 PM Parish Reception for Deacon Ray After Mass
- 6 PM Fair Committee Mtg. In Cafeteria

**School News**

Support St. Ann School by purchasing books at Barnes and Noble this week through April 20th. You can visit the store or go to www.BN.com/bookfairs to buy books online. The Bookfair ID is 12335667.

The students in grades 3-6 will be participating in standardized testing this week. We are very proud of our students and very proud of their test scores! We will have middle school career day on Wednesday. We thank the many parents and community members who participate in this.

Fr. Braud book study continues on Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist by Dr. Brant Pitre at 6:30 p.m. The next meetings will be Monday:

- April 23rd on Chapters 5 & 6
- April 30th on Chapters 7 & 8

**Third Centennial Interfaith Prayer Service**

Celebrating Communities of Faith in New Orleans

Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 7 pm
St. Louis Cathedral

Join Archbishop Gregory Aymond as he leads a gathering of interfaith clergy and leadership in an evening of prayer to give thanks for 300 years and ask God's blessings on the city's future. Cultural and interfaith representation will include Native Americans, Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Baha'is, and Muslims. All are welcome!

For more information or to participate in the prayer service, call (504) 341-9522. More information about Tricentennial activities is available online at http://nolacatholic.org/tricentennial-celebrations.

Please Join in our prayer for those struggling with Infertility during the month of April...

Mother of Christ, you were graced by God with the privilege of bearing our Divine Savior. You experienced the joys and challenges of being a parent. Your life was blessed with seeing Jesus grow from infancy and childhood, into his adult years of teaching a ministry. With St. Joseph, you created a home for your family to love and share together. Please intercede before the God of all life, that those struggling with infertility may conceive a baby and raise healthy children, with whom they can share the Lord's good gifts. May their children honor them and You by lives of virtue and caring for others. May their home be holy and their family be blessed with health, happiness and abiding love. And for those for whom conceiving a child is not possible may their love for each other be fruitful. Help them not to become bitter when they encounter others who devalue life. May those who cannot give birth to a child see other ways in which they can give life to others. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Third Sunday of Easter

**Glory**

God of our fathers,
by raising Jesus from the dead,
you have glorified your Son and author of life.
We offer you thanks and praise
for your countenance shining upon us
with this great gift of love.
Like the Apostles in the Upper Room,
give us your peace as we stand in
amazement of your glory.
With hearts transformed,
urge us to go forth preaching Jesus’
Holy Name
and bear witness to his healing love
and peace.
Bind up our wounds
so that, bearing the marks of the cross,
we may be found strong in faith,
persevering in hope, and filled with the
fire of your love.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, April 15, 2018**

**Witnesses**

*Today’s Readings: Acts 3:13 –15, 17–19; Psalm 4:2, 4, 7– 8, 9; 1 John 2:1– 5a; Luke 24:35 – 48.* The last line of today’s Gospel states, “You are witnesses of these things.” This statement is an invitation to reflect on all that Christ has revealed to us. His passion, death, and Resurrection are at the core of our witness because in Baptism, we were immersed into the Paschal Mystery of Christ.

After the Resurrection, Jesus encounters the disciples and tries to help them understand and unpack their lived experience before his death, what his death means, and the new life promised in the Resurrection. The events that unfolded in Jerusalem over the past few days have dramatically affected their lives and the lives of all believers.

We, too, are witnesses to these things. Think about all the times your encounters with Christ transformed your heart. Often we don’t notice these encounters at the time, but upon reflection our hearts burn with the zeal and presence of Christ. Because we have seen and heard the Good News, we cannot be silent. Our life in Christ demands that we work for justice and facilitate peace. The love of Christ compels us to reach out to the poor and marginalized to hear their stories and work to meet their needs.

The verse that precedes the Gospel, asks Jesus to “make our hearts burn” as he speaks to us in Scripture. How might you listen to the Word this week?
This Week at Home

Monday, April 16
Stephen Faces Trial
The account about Stephen’s trial is similar to the trial Jesus faced when accused of blasphemy. Some falsely witnessed against him. The Spirit was with Stephen as he debated with those who were against him. The early Christians, along with their message of Jesus, were not always welcomed. Even today, Christians and other religious groups face persecution. Let us pray for those who face trial and hardship because of their faith.


Tuesday, April 17
Martyr
The First Reading provides an account of Stephen, the Church’s first martyr. Place yourself at the scene and try to imagine what it must have been like to hear Stephen preach. Would you have received his message or covered your ears? Stephen witnessed God’s abundant love in his care for the community, even though they struggled to hear the Good News. Nourished by the Bread of Life, the Church continues to go forth sharing the Gospel. Is there a modern-day martyr you could read about? Today’s Readings: Acts 7:51 — 8:1a; Psalm 31:3cd – 4, 6 and 7 and 8a, 17 and 21ab; John 6:30 – 35.

Wednesday, April 18
Sing with Joy
Today’s Psalm captures the spirit of the Easter season. All of creation sings with joy to God for all his marvelous deeds. With the busyness of our lives, it may be hard to remain focused on Easter. If we believe that Christ has saved us from sin and death, then how can we not rejoice and raise our voices in praise? For your prayer at mealtime today, sing your favorite hymn of praise. Today’s Readings: Acts 8:1b – 8; Psalm 66:1–3a, 4 – 5, 6 –7a; John 6:35 – 40.

Thursday, April 19
Catechesis
The account of Philip and the eunuch is a story of conversion. The eunuch is reading from Scripture, but is unaware of the meaning the story holds. Philip, moved by the Spirit, goes to him and begins to teach him about the Christ who gave his life for the life of the world. Filled with faith, the man asks for Baptism. Each of us is called to teach the faith. Today, pray for catechists, teachers, and those in the Christian initiation process. Today’s Readings: Acts 8:26 – 40; Psalm 66:8 – 9, 16 –17, 20; John 6:44 – 51.

Friday, April 20
Conversion of Paul
The story of Paul’s conversion is beautiful. One striking image is that of the scales falling from his eyes. Our Lenten journey has allowed us to contemplate the sin that blinds us to faith. During Easter, are there still “scales” that need to fall from our eyes so that we might see and believe? Might we be called to assist others on their faith journey, just as Ananias assisted Paul? Paul’s encounter with Christ changed him so much that he heeded the call to go to all nations proclaiming the Gospel. In prayer, close your eyes and put yourself in Paul’s place and visualize his conversion. What did you learn? Today’s Readings: Acts 9:1– 20; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; John 6:52 – 59.

Saturday, April 21
Spirit and Life
In the Gospel, Jesus notes that his words are spirit and life. This may seem abstract, but consider the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. The Word proclaimed is the living Word that resonates in our hearts and stirs us from our complacency. It is the Good News of Jesus Christ that enlivens our hearts and fills us with the Spirit so that we may not only have everlasting life but also share with others the saving Word. How can you make God’s Word more a part of your life? Today’s Readings: Acts 9:31– 42; Psalm 116:12 –13, 14 –15, 16 –17; John 6:60 – 69.
This Week's forecast:
God reigns and the Son shines!

St. Ann Family Feast Seafood and Wild Game Cook-Off
Saturday April 28th will host the parish’s first ever Family Feast Seafood and Wild Game Cook-off! The event will begin at 12:00 noon and will go on until 6:00 p.m. It is hosted by St. Ann Men's Club, and the Festival entry is FREE! It is a Family Friendly Event and includes a Seafood & Wild Game Cook-Off. Samples will be available for purchase. There will be Kid friendly food options as well. There will be Music and Kids Inflatable Zone. Event Sponsorships and Cook-Off Team Entries Still Available. Contact the Men’s Club at stannmensclub@gmail.com for more info. We hope to see you there!

Vacation Bible School
Plans for VBS 2018 are underway! Our theme for this year is VBS Beach Party! Registration for campers and student volunteers are now open! The registration link can be found on the church website at: http://stannchurchandshrine.org/vacation-bible-school
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. Registration for volunteers is at: https://www.signupforms.com/registrations/13765. Every effort will be made to accommodate anyone wishing to be a part of the program. If you have questions, please forward them to David Wilson at 455-7071, ext. 225

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St. Ann Altar Society
The Altar Society prepares the worship environment for the Sunday Eucharist and the major feasts and seasons. The Society is comprised of volunteers dedicated to serving the Lord and St. Ann Parish through involvement in one or more of the following committees: Linens, Plants, Decor and Housekeeping. Throughout the years, as members became unable to continue their tasks, they have dropped off of the volunteer list. The Altar Society would love to welcome new members who would have a talent or interest in making our worship space beautiful. Call the church office at 455-7071 to volunteer to help!

Make Mass More Meaningful!
St. Ann Church will be offering a video-led series with a focus on the Mass and Eucharist. This series is narrated by Dr. Brant Pitre and will be offered on Tuesday evenings beginning May 22 in the Parish Ministries Center. There is NO COST to participate and all materials and refreshments will be provided. Acclaimed author and teacher Dr. Brant Pitre rigorously digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, the Gospels, and Apostolic teaching. We'll discover firsthand how Christ's Body and Blood are an integral and wondrous part of God's plan for our salvation. Join us May 22nd to Make Mass More Meaningful!