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

ISSUE 51
December 23, 2018

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

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 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).

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.

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Dear Parishioners & Friends of St. Ann Parish,

Greetings in Christ, the Son of God! For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given ... a silent night, a star above, a blessed gift of hope and love, and a blessed Christmas to you!

I write this Christmas message mindful of how quickly time passes. Time passes, things change, but memories will always stay where they are - in the heart! It’s hard to believe that my Dad died December 22nd one year ago. I am mindful of those family members who have died over the last year here at St. Ann. They will have a prayer in my mind and heart at Christmas Masses. You, who grieve, I will hold up to God in prayer because Christmas will not be the same without that person in your life. However, we must remember that we are not going from the land of the living to the land of the dying. We are going from the land of the dying to the land of the living because of one person - the person of Jesus Christ, the Son of God! In John 12:32, Jesus said: “I will draw all things to myself ...” These words are full of promise and hope. He came so that we could be “drawn” to him and “lifted up” with him to the holy presence of God our Heavenly Father.

By God’s grace and daily blessings I continue as Pastor of St. Ann Parish as well as Director of Seminarians at Notre Dame Seminary - we have 41 seminarians this year for New Orleans. Our seminary serves other dioceses too, and continues to grow in number - now the second largest seminary in the USA! So, in 2019 we are looking forward to eight fellows being ordained priest on June 1st. Deacon David Frank, our intern over the summer, will be ordained priest on that holy and sacred day in June. We are blessed to have a parish seminarian - Peter Vale, originally from Boston, who moved with family to Florida, a Harvard grad, studied for the priesthood in Rome for a few years, and is now back in seminary for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. We are blessed! Please pray for our seminarians and for those who may be discerning this calling. Some may be waiting on your prompting and invitation to think about entering the seminary to study for the ordained priesthood - support them!

On behalf of St. Ann Church and staff, I send greetings and thanks from Fr. Michael Nixon, Pastor of St. Dominic Church in Panama City, FL for the wonderful gift of $30,000.00 that was given in a special collection a few weeks ago to help them in their recovery from damage done by Hurricane Michael. You will be blessed in your giving! Giving is not just about making a donation. It's about making a difference. Thank you!

Take this Christmas Season to say “Thank You!” and to give thanks. As a Christian speak up to those who say “Happy Holiday” and give them a joyful and festive “Merry Christmas” with a cheerful heart.

These final days of Advent is our time for remembering God’s vision for the world ... Advent is not so much our waiting on God, but God’s waiting on us to prepare a place for the Word made Flesh and to find “room” for him in our lives. With that, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a New Year of peace, joy, and gladness. May God bless you and yours! Continue to remember us priests and deacons in your prayers and be assured of our prayers for you, especially at the Candlelight Christmas Eve Mass at 10:00 PM.

May the joy of Christmas give you a key to every closed door and a light to dispel any darkness in your own life!

Le gach dea Ghuí gcoir na Nollag agus na hAth bhliana
Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Rev. Fr. Billy O’Riordan
Pastor & Director of Seminarians
**Parish Calendar**

**12/24** CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE:
4 PM MASS, 6 PM MASS, 10 PM VIGIL MASS

**12/25** SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
8 AM AND 10 AM MASS

**12/26** 9:30 AM ROSARY PRAYER GROUP/ST. RAYMOND
1 PM SEWING SEAMS OF FAITH CLASS/ST. RAYMOND
6:30 PM CUB SCOUT PACK MTG./CAFETERIA
7 PM ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL/ST. CECILIA
7 PM YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL/CHURCH

**12/27** 9:30 AM ADULT CATECHISM/ST. RAYMOND
6 PM KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS/ST. RAYMOND
7:30 PM ADULT CHOIR REH./ST. CECILIA

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sunday  December 23</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Vigil</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Roberto C. Haughton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Salvador D’Amico, Georgiana “Georgia” Sylvester, Lelia DuValle, Dee Dee Enright, Ralph Tortorich, Sr., Josephine Guevara, Azze-Tillan Family, Tu Tran, Harold Gomez, Lester Palmisano, Charlotte Fritz, Cliff Reis, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Margaret Kinler</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Monday December 24</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Cherly Saunee Orillion</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Luis Toca, George Sanderson, Jr., Carrie Labruzzo, Lelia DuValle, Mildred &amp; Daniel Kelly, Margaret Kingston, Rev. Fr. Anthony Nguyen Van Tho, Nofie Alphonso, Clarence Sclamp, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Jacqueline Mocklin, Ida Hyver, Frank Mason, Bob &amp; Margaret Kinler</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>Louis M. Duvic, Jr.</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Tuesday December 25</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. William Welsh, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>William Welsh, Jr., Buddy Hyver, Margaret Kingston, Harold Gomez, Lester Palmisano, Charlotte Fritz</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Wednesday December 26</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Anna Margaret Boudreaux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Hans Fink</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Thursday December 27</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H. C. Alexander</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Luis Toca</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Friday December 28</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Antoine (Andy) Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>George Pabst, Jr.</td>
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**MASS INTENTIONS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Saturday December 29</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Felipe Alvarez</td>
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**2018**

**ST. ANN CHURCH & SHRINE**

**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord**

**Monday, December 24th**
NO 6:30 a.m. Mass
There will be 8:45 a.m. Mass

Vigil Masses:
4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

**Candlelight Christmas Mass**
10:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, December 25th**

**Christmas Day Masses**
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

**New Year's Day**

**Monday, December 31st**
NO 6:30 a.m. Mass
There will be 8:45 a.m. Mass

Vigil Mass 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 1st**

**New Year's Day Masses:**
8:45 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

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**December 23 - 29, 2018**

“Sanctuary Candle”

*In Memory of Michael Bonura*
St. Ann School Liturgies and Activities to Promote Catholic Identity

• Frequent Masses or liturgies for students in kindergarten through seventh grades. Included in the Masses are Holy Days of Obligation (if school is in session) as well as at the Opening of School, the End of School and Catholic Schools Week Masses.

• Reconciliation during Advent and Lent

• Stations of the Cross during Lent

• May Crowning

• Schoolwide Rosary at least four times per year.

• Eucharistic Adoration during Lent and other times throughout the year

• Organized prayers in the morning, before lunch and at the end of the day. Morning prayers include a reading about the Saint or other liturgical events celebrated that day.

• Yearly theme, based on the Catechetical Sunday theme, which is discussed in the classrooms and displayed throughout the school.

• Monthly aspirations serve as spiritual goals for the students. The aspirations are coordinated with the yearly theme and are displayed throughout the school.

• Assemblies with student plays centered on the current aspiration

• Respect Life Month in October includes a theme, a Respect Life Mass and other liturgies, rotating take home family rosaries and classroom discussion on the value of life.

• Priests visit the classrooms during the year to discuss church teachings and liturgies as well as answer questions from the students about their faith.

• Family Sunday project to celebrate the family and its place in the faith formation of the students.

• During Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus on Christmas. Advent activities include a theme, a daily reading, a classroom activity and the lighting of the Advent Wreath.

• Living Nativity (fifth-grade participants) with two presentations for the students and adults

• Activities to foster diversity and respect for fellow students such as classroom discussions, guest speakers, studying role models such as Saints and special programs during Black History Month

• Observance of Catholic Schools Week through special activities such as Mass, a Buddy event, daily prayers and announcements and attendance at the Archdiocesan CSW Mass

• Feast of St. Blaise throat blessing

• Ministers-in-training and recorder program Mass for third grade students

• Buddy program to promote sharing and mentoring between older and younger students

• Anti-bullying programs, speakers and counseling to foster a culture of respect for fellow students

• St. Joseph’s Altar and blessing

• Program for Lent includes a theme, faith building activities and daily prayers

• Blessing of the Pets (stuffed animals) on the Feast Day of St. Francis (Kindergarten)

• Participation in the Archdiocesan Missionary Childhood Association and other mission activities and fundraisers

• Vocation Week activities, including guest speakers, Mass and prayers to promote vocations.

• Mary’s Club for girls in third- through fifth- grade promotes devotion to Mary.

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St. Ann School Liturgies and Activities to Promote Catholic Identity

• Joseph's Club for boys in third- through fifth-grade promotes devotion to St. Joseph through service to the community.
• Junior Service Club to promote volunteer service to the school community.
• Service hour requirements for Middle School students to promote service to others.
• Builder's Club, for students in sixth- and seventh-grade, is a community service organization that has established a fellowship with an Orleans Parish Catholic school. Club members perform a monthly service activity for the students and several members then visit the school to distribute the donations. Also, there is an Annual Middle School Christmas Collection for the school.
• National Junior Beta Club, for students in the sixth- through seventh-grade, is a scholarship, leadership and service organization that performs community service including a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the needy.
• The Middle School Student Council serves the school community by decorating the St. Ann tree for Celebration in the Oaks in New Orleans City Park, assisting at Grandparents Day, attending the Archdiocese Catholic School Week Mass and performing other service related duties.
• Student Ministry Club in 6th and 7th grade promotes Catholic Identity throughout the school and encourages students to take leadership roles in school Masses.
• Faculty includes a full-time Religion Coordinator who is dedicated to preparing and implementing the school liturgies, fostering the spiritual growth of the students and faculty and coordinating all the religious activities of the school.
• School wide response to the needs of our community which have included food drives for Second Harvest and St. Ann Church food banks, coat drives for the homeless and book and sporting equipment drives for needy schools.
• Grandparents Mass for Middle School students and Grandparents Prayer service for grades 1-4.
• Participation in the Keep Christ in Christmas and Respect Life programs sponsored by the Archdiocese.
• Students serve at school liturgies as readers, gift bearers, altar servers and in the choir.

Tuesday Morning Catholic Bible Begins New Program on January 8th

ANY ADULT is invited to a Catholic-Based Adult Bible Study program here at St. Ann church on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Ministries Center (located just behind the church). This Bible Study will take an in-depth look at books of Luke and Acts of the Apostles. This open to anyone wishing to gain a firm foundation on HOW to read Scripture, Understand the HISTORICAL and CULTURAL significance of the Gospel, and learn how to APPRECIATE the revelation of God’s Word in Scripture. This topic of Scripture will last about 10-12 weeks. Participants will have the option of continuing with a new topic after the conclusion. We will meet every Tuesday following the 8:45 a.m. Mass. Coffee and refreshments will be provided. Come Joins Us!
This Week at Home

Monday, December 24  Giver of All Gifts
Our gifts are bought and ready to be presented to loved ones. David, too, wants to give a gift—a house for God. God reminds David that God is the giver of all gifts, that all David has is from him. God shows his generosity by promising David a different kind of “house”—a kingship through his descendants that will last forever. Jesus, King over all peoples, fulfills the promise. We give thanks for God’s extravagant gift of his Son. Today’s Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16; Psalm 89:2–3, 4–5, 27 and 29; Luke 1:67–79.

Tuesday, December 25  The Nativity of the Lord
Finally the waiting is over and we celebrate the birth of Jesus. When you place the image of the Infant Jesus in the manger of your crèche, remember this is no ordinary child! Jesus, the Word, was present in the beginning; and the world was created through him. “And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” How blessed we are that our God desires to dwell with us. Let us rejoice that Emmanuel—God with us—is born!

Wednesday, December 26  St. Stephen, the First Martyr
Even as the Church joyfully celebrates the birth of Jesus for three more weeks, the feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr, refocuses us on the cost of discipleship. Stephen, a deacon in the early Church, was stoned by a mob while preaching the Gospel. With his dying breath, he begged God to forgive his killers. What is the cost of discipleship for us? Do you need to forgive someone who has wronged you? Today’s Readings: Acts 6:8–10, 7:54–59; Psalm 31:3cd–4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Matthew 10:17–22

Thursday, December 27  St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
John and his brother James were fishermen who abandoned their nets and their father when Jesus called them to follow him. Although the authorship of the Gospel of John has been debated since ad 200, many Church fathers have attributed it to the Apostle John. The “beloved disciple” mentioned several times is believed to be John himself, who rested on Jesus’ breast during the Last Supper, remained with him at the Cross, and “saw and believed” at the empty tomb. Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:1–4; Psalm 97:1–2, 2b–3, 5–6, 11–12; John 20:1a, 2–8.

Friday, December 28  The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Today we remember the boys Herod slaughter when he learns that Jesus, the “newborn king,” has escaped his grasp. He cannot abide a rival king even though his own people are joyful at Jesus’ birth. When we believe someone has taken something that is rightfully ours, we too can become enraged. What a different response Jesus counsels—to turn the other cheek! Today’s Readings: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Psalm 124:2–3, 4–5, 7b–8; Matthew 2:13–18.

Saturday, December 29  Living in the Light of Christ
John juxtaposes light and darkness to compare our words with our deeds: “Whoever says he is in the light, yet hates his brother, is still in the darkness.” The Church continues to celebrate this holy Christmas Time; lights still brighten our homes and yards to welcome Christ, our Light. But do we truly live in the light? The test given by John is whether we harbor hatred for anyone. It is never too late to request or give forgiveness, to give up a grudge, to reconcile with another. Only then will we truly live in the light of Christ, whose forgiveness and mercy toward us have no bounds. Today’s Readings: 1 John 2:3–11; Psalm 96:1–2a, 2b–3, 5b–6; Luke 2:22–35.

St. Ann Alumni, this is a new event created with you in mind. Spread the word and come and catch up with friends and play some kickball! You can sign up here: https://stannchurchandshrine.org/young-adults-reunion.

WE NEED YOUR PINE STRAW AND CYPRESS LEAVES!
St. Ann Church can use your pine straw or cypress leaves falling from your trees as mulch in our church gardens. Please drop off at the Ministry Center anytime.
Thank You!

St. Ann Young Adult Gathering
It’s Just Kickball!
Friday, January 4, 2019
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
St. Ann Blacktop
(Gym if bad weather)
RSVP: Call or Text
Jill Hitchins at 504.228.2883

The parish office will close Friday, December 21 at 4 PM and will re-open on Thursday, December 27 at 9 AM in observance of the Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord.

Mass Times
Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas
Vigil Masses, Monday, December 24th
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., & 10:30 p.m.
Christmas Day Masses, Tuesday, December 25th
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

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Information Page

St. Ann Church and Shrine

024225

Date: December 23, 2018

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

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Special Instructions: