ST. ANN CHURCH & NATIONAL SHRINE
4940 Meadowdale St.,
Metairie, LA  70006
504-455-7071
stannchurchandshrine.org
contact@stannchurchandshrine.org

Pastor: Fr. Billy O’Riordan
Parochial Vicar: Fr. Vincent Nguyen

CHURCH HOURS
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 6:00 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday 6:00 am to 8:15 pm

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST
Monday - Friday:
6:30 am & 8:45 am
Tuesday:  7:00 pm

WEEKEND EUCHARIST
Saturday: 7:30 AM Mass
4:00 pm Vigil Mass
Sunday Masses:
8:00, 9:30,11:00 am & 5:00 PM

RECONCILIATION
Tuesday: 6:00 to 7:00 pm
Saturday: 3:00 to 4:00 pm
or by appointment

EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT
Tuesday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm
ending with Benediction
First Friday: 9:15 - 10:00 am

St. Ann School
stannschool.org
4921 Meadowdale St.
504-455-8383
Lindsay Guidry, Principal

Pray with us on Saturdays!
Chaplet of Divine Mercy 3:00 PM
Rosary 3:20 PM
Mass 4:00 PM

December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday
of Advent

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.”
Matthew 1:23
Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Ann Parish,

Greetings in Christ, the Son of God! The above words by our beloved St. Teresa of Calcutta is what Christmas is all about. Merry Christmas! With the passage of years, maybe I'm getting cranky and less patient with politically correct greetings as Christmas draws near. The one I can't stand is Happy Holidays. With a certain Irish grin, I always say: Merry Christmas to you! I know for some Christmas will be draped with some sadness as we remember loved ones taken from us this year. However, I think Christmas is a great time to bring them to Mass with us in our thoughts and remember them prayerfully ... Remember, Jesus Christ came so that all can 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, and the prayers of many, I continue as Pastor of St. Ann Parish as well as Director of Seminarians at Notre Dame Seminary for the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Currently we have 34 seminarians studying for the priesthood for the archdiocese. Please remember them in your prayers and check out the seminarian posters at the church doors. Encourage others to study for the priesthood also. St. Ann School continues to grow in the number of students. I take this time to thank our new Principal Lindsay Guidry and Assistant Principal Janie Leingang, our beloved and dear teachers and staff - they do a great job every day.

Take this Christmas Season to say “Thank You!” and to give thanks. As Christmas draws near, greet others with a joyous and festive Merry Christmas, and remember that these final days of Advent is our time to reflect on 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 make room for Jesus Christ in our lives. With that, and on behalf of Fr. Vincent, our deacons, our staff in church and school, I wish ya’ll a Merry Christmas and a New Year of peace, joy and gladness. Continue to remember us priests and deacons in your prayers, and be assured of our prayers for you especially at the Candlelight Christmas 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 life.


Rev. Billy O’Riordan
Pastor & Director of Seminarians

“Christmas is the day that holds all time together.”
Alexander Smith

---

**Mass Intentions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>December 22</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>George A. Sanderson, Jr., Bob &amp; Jean Segura, Delta Tabor, Ernie Becnel, Ferdinand Berry, Jillan Clark, Gardner &amp; McCleland Families, George Sens Jr., William P. Patterson, Mr. &amp; Mrs. Manuel Reyes &amp; Family (SI), Albert F. Hezeau Jr., Karen Klotz, Frances Dauphin Blanke, Vincent Salamone, John Noble Hezeau, Albert Temes Sr., Margaret Canale, Bridget Indovina, Giorgina Valobra, John Seabury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Lois Lagarde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Patrick O’Riordan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Robert C. Haughton, Msgr. W. Wendell Sontheimer, Salvador D’Amico, George Sens Jr., Ferdinand Berry, Clarence F. Schlamp Jr., Tran Family (SI), Frances Dauphin Blanke, Geraldine Rogers, Linda &amp; Dawn Boteler &amp; Family (SI), Alfred Tortorich, Christa Mosshammer, Ricky Oddo, Laura McGinnis, Heidi Nuss Morice (Health), Gale Oddo, John Mancuso Sr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>December 23</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Robert Ponti Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Aubrey Mire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>December 24</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Gardner &amp; McCleland Families, Mr. &amp; Mrs. H. C. Alexander, Ferdinand Berry, Nofie Alfonso, William P. Boutte Jr., Gale Oddo, Linda Hayden (Health), Paul Kiff, Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joe Rotollo (Thanksgiving), Mr. &amp; Mrs. John Moncado (Thanksgiving), Gail Nebel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>John Downing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>Ralph Tortorich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>December 25</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Anna M. Boudreaux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>December 26</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Don Deckelman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Mike Curry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>December 27</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Tran Family (SI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Jillian Clark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>December 28</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>James Kenneth Morris</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
It’s December 22nd and in two days we will begin celebrating Christmas once again. Christmas Masses will be at 4:00 PM, 6:00 PM, a Candlelight Christmas Mass at 10:00 PM, and on Christmas Day at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. Christmas is a time of remembering, getting together, and telling stories. Sadly, for some of us we will mourn the loss of loved ones this year, and Christmas will not be the same without them this Christmas. We will miss them with a certain sadness and with grieving hearts but will pray for them as we remember them to Almighty God as we gather to pray at Mass on Sunday, and especially on Christmas Day.

As we celebrated The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and reading the Office of Readings for the day, I was amazed in a way unlike before when I read a sentence from a sermon by Bishop St. Anselm. It said “... and Mary gave birth to God.” Today’s Gospel announces: “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” And, Mary gave birth to God … The God who made all things gave himself form through Mary in the birth of Jesus Christ. Through Mary, God re-created the world, and all things were given a new life … So, let’s take this thought a step further in that we too are called to be the difference that makes a difference in the world. Are we ready to be that presence in and through whom Christ is made present? We have to become men, women and children of God’s presence in the world. With that, I recall the words attributed to St. Teresa of Avila:

“Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.” … and Mary gave birth to God, and so must we. As St. Teresa of Calcutta used to say: “It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you.”

Reflection: Fr. Billy
### Readings for the Week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66</td>
<td>2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79</td>
<td>Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]</td>
<td>Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22</td>
<td>1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8</td>
<td>1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18</td>
<td>Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20</td>
<td>Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20</td>
<td>Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20</td>
<td>Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20</td>
<td>Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### office hours

The parish office will close Tuesday, December 24th at Noon in observance of the **Solemnity of the Nativity of our Lord, a Holy Day of Obligation**. The office will close at Noon on December 31st and will re-open January 2nd in observance of the **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**, also a **Holy Day of Obligation**.

#### Mass Times

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Solemnity of the</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nativity of Our</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lord Christmas</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vigil Masses</td>
<td>4 PM, 6 PM, &amp; 10 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, December 25th</strong></td>
<td>8 AM &amp; 10 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Solemnity of</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mary, Mother of God</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>New Year’s Day</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vigil Mass</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, December 31st</strong></td>
<td>8:45 AM &amp; 7 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Our gift to you!**

St. Ann Parish has purchased a subscription to FORMED which is a Netflix-type platform with “**The best Catholic Content all in one place.**” We invite you to sign up for free using our link:

[https://stannchurchandshrine.formed.org](https://stannchurchandshrine.formed.org)
ST. ANN SCHOOL REGISTRATION – 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR

Walk Through Tours
Every Monday and Thursday - 9:30am - School Office

Open House
January 8, 2020 - 7:30pm - Cafeteria

ONLINE Registration for Returning Students - January 20-24, 2020
Registration, Non-Support and iPad Fees due by Friday, Jan. 24, 2020
Tuition due by May 1, 2020

New Student Registration
February 3, 2020 - 6:00-7:00pm - Cafeteria
Registration and Non-Support Fees collected
We are currently accepting early applications for our
PK2, PK3, and PK4 Programs

PK2 - PK3 - PK4 PROGRAMS
Children must be potty-trained for the PK3 and PK4 year old programs. Child must reach age 2, 3 or 4 years old by September 30, 2020. Uniforms are required for all grade levels - PK2-7th Grade.

Early Application Fee: PK2 / PK3 / PK4 - $25.00 (non-refundable but applied to Registration Fee)
Registration Fee: PK2 / PK3 / PK4 Programs - $175.00 per child (non-refundable)
Tuition: 2, 3 or 4 year old - Full Day (5) - M-T-W-T-F - $5790. per child
2, 3 or 4 year old - Full Day (3) - M-W-F - $3790. per child
2 or 3 year old - Half Day (3) - M-W-F - $2590. per child

PK2, PK3 and PK4 programs are separate from Kindergarten-7th grade. Families with children in both will not be offered a family tuition rate.

KINDERGARTEN – 7TH GRADE
Kindergarten - child must be 5 years old by September 30, 2020. Readiness skills are expected.

Registration Fee: $165.00 - 1 child / $150.00 - each additional child (non-refundable)
Non-Support Fee: $350.00 per child (non-refundable)
iPad Fee: $170.00 annually for 5th-7th grades

Tuition: 1 child - $ 5590.
2 children - $10,580. = $5590. (1st) + $4990. (2nd)
3 children - $14,270. = $5590. (1st) + $4990. (2nd) + $3690. (3rd)

Non-Catholic families do not receive the family tuition discount.

St. Ann School continues to strive to keep tuition costs manageable. We are mindful of the investment that you are making in your child’s future. Please know that tuition alone does not cover the cost of educating your child.
**Ministry Spotlight**

**St. Ann Men’s Club**
The St. Ann Men’s Club members include grandfathers, fathers, uncles, brothers, sons and friends of St. Ann parish. They have a long tradition of service to the St. Ann community and play a vital role to serve and support the activities of the Parish including the Family Fest, the Crawfish Rumble and Men’s Club Golf Tournament, the parish Thanksgiving Dinners, parish donut breakfasts, Lenten Seafood Dinners, the Breakfast with Santa, the Father & Child Movie Night, and the Summer Cabbage Ball League.

Visit www.StAnnMensClub.org
Email us StAnnMensClub@gmail.com

---

**Dear Annie . . .**

These articles will endeavor to collect and answer your common questions regarding our Faith, practices or Church. Submit your questions to stannreled@bellsouth.net or call the church office and leave a message on extension 2225.

Dear Annie,
Last Sunday, I noticed the priest wearing pink vestments. Why is that? Signed, Pretty (confused) in Pink

Dear Pretty (confused) in Pink,
First of all, the color you are referring to is “rose” and not pink! Most priests are quick to remind us of that! While purple is worn during Lent and Advent, both seasons offer an option for priests to wear the rose-colored vestments one week of each season as they near its end. This color is traditionally associated with a sense of joy amidst a season of penance. On both Sundays (Gaudete in Advent and Laetare in Lent), rose is worn to remind us that the season of preparation is coming to a close, and the great feast is swiftly approaching.

While penance (purple) is associate with preparation in both seasons, these two dates (and rose vestments) give us joy that our time of preparation and penance is near its end. We should rejoice that our Savior is near and that our time of waiting is almost over. Joy should fill our hearts always, but especially as we near the end of our waiting. “Come Lord Jesus!” (Rev. 22:20)

---

**Men’s Spiritual Retreat**

All men of St. Ann parish are invited to participate in the archdiocesan Men’s Spiritual Retreat, entitled: “Mission Possible: Personal Holiness.” Our council of the Knights of Columbus will pay 60% of the cost of the retreat for any man of our parish wishing to attend. Your cost will be just $15 for the entire day. This will be held March 7 at St. Catherine of Sienna church and includes lunch. Guest speakers include Jack Del Rio, Peter Herbeck, and Curtis Martin. More information is available online at https://www.neworleanscatholic.com/. Contact the church office at 455-7071 to sign up. Reservations are limited!

---

**Instead of Putting the Elf on the Shelf, Put Jesus in your Heart!**

**Knights of Columbus**

Our council of the Knights of Columbus is looking for a few Godly men. From the moment of our founding in 1882, charity has been the first principle of the Knights of Columbus. We are Catholic men of faith and men of charitable action. If you would like to be a part of an international organization of nearly 2 million Catholic men whose principal work involves helping others in need, we would like to meet you and invite you to join us. To learn more, call 455-7071 or check out our website at www.kc3465.org

---

**LAST CHANCE!!!**

**Purchase YOUR Knights of Columbus Charity Calendar TODAY in the church office!!!**

$20/Calendar (That’s a NICKLE a drawing!) $15,970 in Cash Prizes!!!
Proceeds benefit our KC Council and its Charitable Programs

$20 enters you into drawings for cash prizes held each day of the year
You can win more than once during the year!
Your ticket stays in the raffle every day - even if you won!

**Prizes**

$2,000 Columbus day
$1,000 New Year’s Day
$250 April 1 & December 1
$150 1st day of Feb, Mar, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, & Nov.
$100 Saturdays (51 drawings)
$ 20 All other days (301 drawings)