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

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

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

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

EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSSED SACRAMENT
Tuesday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm
ending with Benediction
First Friday: 9:15 - 10:00 am
When God the Father sent His Son into the world, He prepared for Him a human family. He made sure that His Beloved Son would be born and raised by faithful and loving parents. He entrusted His Son to the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph form a family which becomes the model for all families. The foundation of the Holy Family is Love. Jesus who is Love Himself is born into a community of love. He is born into a family, and by doing so, He sanctifies the sacrament of marriage. In the Holy Family, each member loves the other two more than himself or herself. Mary loves and cares for Jesus and Joseph more than herself. Joseph loves and protects Jesus and Mary more than himself. Above all, Jesus loves his parents and dies for them.

When we look at the Holy Family, they seem to have nothing. Joseph, even though he came from the royal family, is a poor carpenter. Mary is a housewife. When Mary and Joseph present their Son in the Temple, they could not afford a lamb; they could only bring “a pair of turtledoves.” The only thing they have is love. God the Father does not send his Son into a wealthy family. Instead, He entrusts his Son to a young and poor couple. Mary and Joseph might be poor in the eyes of others. But in God’s eyes, they are so rich because they have love: love of God and love of others.

In the second reading from St. Paul’s letter to the Colossians, we read: “Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them.” What does Paul mean when he told wives to be subordinate to their husbands? Is his teaching outdated because he promoted the domination of the husband over the family? Two things we need to consider here. First, if Paul wanted to promote the supremacy of the husband over the family, he would have addressed the husband first. But in fact, he addresses the wife before addressing the husband, and in doing so he broke the tradition of his day. Second, why did Paul tell the wife to subordinate to her husband while telling the husband only to love his wife? We need to understand what love truly is. To love is to will the good of the other as other. In order to will the good of the other, we need to put the other before ourselves. In this sense, “to love” and “to be subordinate” have similar meaning. “To love” or “to be subordinate” is to humbly regard the other as more important than oneself. Paul by no means tries to endorse the domination of the husband over the wife. For more evidence, you can turn to Paul’s letter to the Ephesians where he writes: “Be subordinate to one another out of reverence for the Lord.” Paul truly wants to promote mutual love and respect between wife and husband in his teaching.

In today’s Gospel, Saint Matthew recounted the journey of the Holy Family fleeing from king Herod. The news of the birth of a new king of the Jews troubled Herod greatly. In order to find and kill the newborn king, Herod “ordered the massacre of all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity two years old and under.” Like every human family, the Holy Family had to experience difficulties of life and they were able to overcome these trials and tribulations because they did it together.

There are two things that make a family holy: love and prayer. We see it clearly in the Holy Family. When we build our families upon love and prayer, God will remain in our families and we in Him.

Reflection by Fr. Vincent
**Mass Intentions**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Names and Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>George Sanderson, Bob &amp; Jean Segura, Ernie</td>
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<td>Becnel, Gardner &amp; McCleland Families, Jillian</td>
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<td>Clark, George Sens Jr., Ferdinand Berry,</td>
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<td>Vincent Salamone, Rene Rodrigue, John</td>
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<td>Seabury, Burch Jones, Richard Darling, Giorgina</td>
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<td>Eugene Hickey</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H.C. Alexander, Clarence F. Schlamp Jr.,</td>
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<td>Frances Blanke, Ferdinand Berry, Linda &amp; Dawn</td>
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<td>Boteler &amp; Family (SI), Alfred Tortorich, Heidi</td>
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<td>Nuss Morice (Health), Laura McGinnis</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Manuel Reyes &amp; Family (SI)</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Bill Patterson</td>
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<td>Ray L. Gumpert, Sr.</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Linda &amp; Dawn Boteler &amp; Family (SI)</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Frances Blanke</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Frances Blanke</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Vincent Salamone</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Joseph Maggio</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Jeanne Welcker</td>
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**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12</td>
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Thank you to the St. Ann Men’s Club for a great Breakfast with Santa. Thank you to the Confirmation candidates who helped and a very special thanks to Santa and his helper!

St. Ann 5th Grade students did a great job enacting the Nativity at our annual Christmas Pageant.

Thank you to the Confirmation candidates who helped us get the books ready to give away at Christmas!
Be sure to get your copy of Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary following Christmas Mass!

Volunteers delivered your donations from the Angel Giving Tree to Hope House. Thank you for your generosity!

Use the gifts you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.
ST. THERESI OF LISIEUX

The Knights of Columbus Council #3465 Baby Bottle Campaign collected $4,338 for the Women’s New Life Center. Thank you once again for your generosity in giving.
Date Night is limited to 75 couples. Last year, this even sold out, so be sure to purchase your tickets early!

Tickets are available on our website or in the parish office 504-455-7071.

https://stannchurchandshrine.org/marriage-family-life-1

Sponsors are welcome and appreciated to help offset the cost of this event. Please see our website for details or call the parish office.

https://stannchurchandshrine.org/date-night-sponsors
Knights of Columbus Council #3465
Presents Their 3rd Annual Super Bowl Dance
Saturday February 1st 2020
7:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Tickets: $15.00 Each / $25.00 Couple
Table reserved with purchase of 8 tickets
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David Wilson: (504) 338-5229 text or call, email kc3465@gmail.com

Pre-sale tickets available
NOW in the Church office!

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!

When things don't seem to be going your way, always know that God has a plan for you. If you place your trust in Him, God will give you great gifts. Each of the trees got what they wanted, just not in the way they had imagined. We don’t always know what God’s plans are for us. We just know that His ways are not our ways, but His ways are always best.

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!

Arrived Safely
Mother and Child Are Doing Well!

The Dream of the Trees
Once there were three trees on a hill in the woods, discussing their hopes and dreams. The first tree said, “Someday I hope to be a treasure chest. I could be filled with gold, silver and precious gems, decorated with intricate carving so everyone would see the beauty.” Then the second tree said, “Someday I’ll be a mighty ship. I will take kings and queens across the waters and sail to the corners of the world. Everyone will feel safe in me because of my strength.” Finally the third tree said, “I want to grow to be the tallest and straightest tree in the forest. People will see me on top of the Hill and look up to me as the strongest tree of all time and people will always remember me.”

After a few years of praying that their dreams would come true, a group of woodsmen came upon the trees. When one came to the first tree he said, “This looks like a strong tree, I think I should be able to sell the wood to a Carpenter,” and he began cutting it down. The tree was happy, because he knew that the carpenter would make him into a treasure chest. At the second tree the woodsman said, “This looks like a strong tree. I should be able to sell it to the shipyard.” The second tree was happy because he knew he was on his way to becoming a mighty ship. When the woodsmen came upon the third tree, the tree was frightened because he knew that if they cut him down his dreams would not come True. One of the Woodsmen said, “I don’t need anything special from my tree, but I’ll take it and store the wood for use later,” and he cut it down. When the first tree arrived at the carpenters, he was made into a feed box for animals. He was then placed in a barn and filled with hay. This was not at all what he had prayed for.

The second tree was cut and made into a small fishing boat. His dreams of being a mighty ship and carrying kings had come to an end. The third tree was cut into large pieces, and left alone in the dark. The years went by, and the trees forgot about their dreams. Then one day, a man and woman came to the barn. She gave birth in the stable and they placed the baby in the hay in the feed box that was made from the first tree. The man wished that he could have made a crib for the baby, but this manger would have to do. The tree felt the importance of this event and knew that it had held the greatest treasure of all time.

Years later, a group of men got in the fishing boat made from the second Tree. One of them was tired and went to sleep. While they were out on the water, a great storm arose and the tree didn’t think it was strong enough to keep the men safe. The men woke the sleeping man, and He stood and said “Peace” and the storm stopped. At this time, the tree knew that it had carried the king of kings in its boat.

Finally, someone came and got the third tree. It was carried through the streets as the people mocked the man who was carrying it. When they came to a stop, the man was nailed to the tree and raised in the air to die at the top of a hill. When Sunday came, the tree came to realize that it had been strong enough to stand at the top of the hill and be as close to God as ever, because Jesus had been crucified on it.

When things don't seem to be going your way, always know that God has a plan for you. If you place your trust in Him, God will give you great gifts. Each of the trees got what they wanted, just not in the way they had imagined. We don’t always know what God’s plans are for us. We just know that His ways are not our ways, but His ways are always best.
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