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

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 BLESSED SACRAMENT
Tuesday: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm
Ending with Benediction
First Friday: 9:15 - 10:00 am

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

WEEKDAY CHURCH HOURS
M - W - Th - Fri
6:00 am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday
6:00 am to 8:15 pm

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

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday</strong></td>
<td>George A. Sanderson, Jr., Bob &amp; Jean Segura, Mr. &amp; Mrs. H.C. Alexander, Vincent Salamone, Rita Baker, Ernie Becnel, Continued protection of the unborn, Jules Albert, Jr. (SI), Harold Lehmann, Robert Palmer, Sr., Tu Tran, Thien Tran, Jane Rogers, Dennis Raymond, Michael Cruz (Birthday), Gilvan Quinto deLuz, Bill Elliott, Joan Fontaine (Health), Mark Laborde, Bridget Roberts (SI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
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<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Gertrude Melancon</td>
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<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Roberto C. Haughton, Jennifer Courville, Gale Oddo, Joseph A. Verdini, Altobello &amp; Burst Families, Wayne Nolan, Lloveras Wegmann, Claudette Civello, Deacon Tom Fox (Health), Katherine Montague</td>
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<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Laura McGinnis</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Edward H. Watermeier</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Ray Gumpert, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H.C. Alexander</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Tu &amp; Thien Tran</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Marilyn Berry (Health)</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Gale Oddo</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>John Haddican</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Pat O’Riordan</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Steven Walch</td>
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<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Confirmation Candidates</td>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Gale Oddo</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Karen Kennedy Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Saturday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Frank Mason</td>
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</table>

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Mt 7:7-12</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Tm 1:8b-10; Mt 17:1-9</td>
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**March 3 - 7, 2020**

Sanctuary Light (Church)
Mark & Gertrude Melancon
Sanctuary Light (Chapel)
Marjory M. Woods
March 1, 2020

To: Clergy, Religious, and Laity in the Archdiocese of New Orleans

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we enter into this Lenten Season, God calls us to an honest, grace-filled assessment of our weakness and sins. The Church’s call to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving brings us to a conversion of heart and unites us to the love of Christ. I sincerely pray that your Lenten journey will be one that leads you to newness of life and blessings for you and your family.

With the technological advances in our culture and a growing awareness of the dangers that come with this, we as a Church are called to protect and promote unity and the need for strong relationships within the family. When a family is truly connected they are more aware of the ways in which their children and grandchildren are struggling, especially in regards to the effects of exposure to dangerous content online. This first Sunday of Lent, we in the Archdiocese of New Orleans invite all parents, parishes, schools, and all organizations to learn more about this common struggle and how we can protect and provide healing for our loved ones, especially our children.

Your parish has new resources to help you understand and confidently address this issue and act with God’s love and mercy toward those in your homes and organizations.

May Lent be a blessing for you and your family and a renewed experience of God’s mercy. Know that you will be remembered in my prayers, and please remember me in yours.

Wishing you God’s blessings, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond
Archbishop of New Orleans
Last week, my wife and I watched a program on the History Channel about President John Kennedy. The program was based on film footage from his presidential library, and in one of the scenes, he was giving his inaugural address in 1960. In that speech he gave us words that are now part of our history, "Ask not what your country can do for you, but rather what you can do for your country"... After hearing this, I began to think of other famous lines from famous speeches, such as:

- In 1941, after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin Roosevelt told the nation by radio that it was "a day that will live in infamy".
- In the mid-1980s, President Ronald Reagan, while in Berlin at the infamous wall said: "Tear down that wall, Mr. Gorbachev".
- Before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Patrick Henry, before the Virginia Convention said to "Give me liberty or give me death".
- In the mid-1960s, Martin Luther King gave his famous "I have a dream" speech. And on and on.

But long before these words were spoken, another man stood on the side of a mountain and gave us memorable spiritual words of encouragement. His name is Jesus and this was over 2000 years ago. Speaking before a large crowd, eight times He said, "Blessed are the", or "Blessed are they." These words still resonate with us today and are as important now as they were then.

Two weeks ago, Matthew once again re-introduced us to the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, the long speech on how to live. He begins with the Eight Beatitudes. These first words were of encouragement and compassion. Last week, continuing with this Sermon, Jesus kicks it up a notch by telling the people that they are the 'Salt of the Earth' and the 'Light of the World'. These were challenging words. This week, He drops the shoe. No words of encouragement or challenge. No, these are serious words of warning.

The Jews lived their lives under the strict Mosaic Law, the law given to Moses by God on Mt. Sinai. They believed that when the long-awaited Messiah came, he would abolish this law. Not so, says Jesus. He told them that He would not only NOT abolish the Law, but would fulfill it. He would expand it.

Fr. Duke, our founding pastor, had a favorite expression. He loved to say that Jesus was very direct. Well, that's true...to an extent. Frequently, He had to explain His parables to His disciples. Not so today! He is very clear and certainly very direct. Those people on the side of the mountain knew exactly what He was talking about because in many cases, the shoe fit.

Next week, the Sermon continues with the famous 'Eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth' segment. But for today, He is all about the warning.

If you were asked to attach a theme to today's first reading, the responsible psalm, and the Gospel, perhaps 'Sin and Commandments' would fit perfectly. Jesus talks about three kinds of sin and two of them are directly related. These two are certainly pertinent to our times.
The problem is that sin is never easy to talk about. It can make us squirm a little...make us uncomfortable. We live in difficult times. Look at the news...anywhere...on TV, or newspapers. Listen to the radio. The 6th and 9th Commandments are under attack...just what Jesus was talking about. Our human sexuality is under constant assault. Just a few examples:

* **Pedophilia.** The scandal of the Church, horrible by any measure, but sadly, our priests today are being painted with an old brush. The sins of years ago, terrible as they were, are not indicative of the reality of today. Much has been done to prevent such a scandalous thing to ever happen again. (Homilist footnote: Since the weekend, the news broke that the Boy Scouts of America have declared bankruptcy. And why? Because scoutmasters for years have been sexually abusing the young scouts in their care. The beat goes on!!)

* **Pornography.** This sin has almost reached epidemic proportions among men. The Archdiocese of New Orleans has recognized the severity of the problem and has initiated a ministry to combat it.

* **Human Trafficking.** This is the apparently lucrative practice of selling young girls and boys into sexual slavery. Unspeakable!

* **Co-habitation.** Adultery has a twin and its name is fornication...having sex outside of wedlock. In the Catholic Church, a couple wishing to be married in the Church, goes through six months of preparation with a priest, deacon, or married couple. In my own experience, at least one out of four couples are living together. These are good people! They are pleasant and decent. However, they are living in sin and apparently don't know it or don't care. They offer some excuses. They frequently say that it's economically feasible to live together or that it gives them a chance to get to know each other before committing. And the best of all: Everybody does it, nobody gets hurt, and no harm no foul!

There are others. Foul language, filthy song lyrics, graphic TV and so on.

So, what's next? Where do we go from here? What can we do? Is God talking to us? What is He saying? Are we listening? In the movie, The Two Popes - a story about the relationship between Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis- Pope Benedict is lamenting that he is spiritually empty and that he doesn't hear God talking to him. And then he says, "perhaps he needs a spiritual hearing aid." Maybe we need a spiritual hearing aid also.

So, what can we do? First of all, we have to know that we are the voice, hands, and feet of Jesus. If things are going to change for the better, it has to start with us. A few thoughts.

* **Speak out. If we see something wrong, say something.** A true story. A man who comes to Mass here, but is a parishioner elsewhere, recently told me a story. He said that for years he has been going to the same barber. Every time he goes in for a haircut, he is appalled about the display of Playboy, Penthouse, Hustler and other pornographic magazines on a table. Until now, he has never said anything. He said that two months ago he asked Al, the barber, why he had such material in this shop. He replied that 'his customers like them.' The man then told Al that it was possible he was leading them into sin and that in itself was a serious sin! In his next visit, he saw that the magazines were gone, and Al told him that he canceled the subscriptions. Speak out, especially as it concerns our young people. As Fr. Billy is fond of saying, "Be the difference that makes the difference."

* **Pray constantly.** Prayer should always be a part of this.

* **Support the several organizations that are working to eliminate some of these sins.**

* **Set an example. Again, especially with our children and grandchildren.**

Maybe if Jesus were to come back right now, He might give us a ninth beatitude:

"Blessed are they who thirst and work and pray for a change in our moral culture, for they shall see God."
LENTEN REMINDERS
Ash Wednesday
February 26, 2020
Liturgy Schedule
Masses
6:30 AM, 8:45 AM, 6:00 PM
Liturgical of the Word
with Distribution of Ashes
12:00 PM and 3:00 PM
Please remember the importance of fasting and abstinence on this day and a strong spirit of prayer, fasting, and charity throughout Lent.

The guidelines for Catholics on fasting and abstinence are as follows: Fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one’s needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years or older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and on all Fridays of Lent. The determination of certain days as obligatory days of penance should not be understood as limiting the occasions for Christian penance.

Lenten Mission
March 9, 10 & 11
Masses at 10 AM & 7 PM
See flyer for details

Confessions in Every Parish
March 18, March 25, and April 1
5:00 PM to 6:30 PM
The Archdiocese of New Orleans will offer Confessions in every parish on three consecutive Wednesdays:

Lent Friendly Meals
Every Friday of Lent
6 PM

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday of Lent
St. Ann Church ~ 7:00 PM

St. Ann Family Feast
Hosted by
St. Ann Men’s Club
stannmensclub.org
Saturday, March 14, 2020
12:00 - 6:00 PM

St. Ann Parking Lot
Kid Zone $10 entire event
Cook-Off samples $2
additional food
and snacks available
$5 Raffle on a
Big Green Egg cooker

To learn more, call 338-5229 or check out our website at www.kc3465.org.
Be a real man! Be a Knight!