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

Church:
3601 Transcontinental Dr.
Office:
4940 Meadowdale St.
Metairie, LA 70006
504-455-7071
Website:
stannchurchandshrine.org
Email:
contact@stannchurchandshrine.org

Updates on parish activities with regard to coronavirus precautions can be found on our website:
stannchurchandshrine.org/coronavirus-updates

TEMPORARY WEEKDAY CHURCH HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY
8:30 am - 6:00 pm

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 3:00

St. Ann School
4921 Meadowdale St.
504-455-8383
stannschool.org

Lindsay Guidry, Principal

ST. ANN CHURCH
& NATIONAL SHRINE

Watch live Facebook @StAnnChurchandShrine
Website https://stannchurchandshrine.org/videos-mass-and-evening-prayer

Daily Mass
8:45 AM
Weekend Masses
4:00 PM Vigil Saturday
9:30 AM Sunday Mass

Evening Prayer
Monday-Friday & Sunday
6:00 PM

Confessions
Saturday 3:00 PM
Outside on the Transcontinental side of the Church

The church will remain open daily for private prayer.
Easter Sunday! Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple whom Jesus loved and told them: “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him.” [John 20:1-2] These words come from the beginning of today’s Gospel - Easter Sunday! As I think about Easter Sunday, my mind also wanders to what is usually going on in our beloved city of New Orleans. Normally, Easter Sunday in New Orleans mean crowds of people in churches, egg hunts, and parades. White dresses and seersucker suits come with Easter, and Easter Sunday grows festive in a mostly Catholic city with parades and any excuse for a party - it doesn’t take much for a party to begin! Many famous restaurants serve special brunches and many show off their Easter bonnets and other finery. Families go to amusement parks like City Park where thousands of colored eggs are hidden for the children to discover, and jump with joy as a result of their find …

Take a look at the joy of a child finding a colored egg - the joy and excitement, the delight and elation of finding something that was hidden. Now, let’s go back to Mary of Magdala going to the tomb of Jesus early in the morning to pray and most likely to grieve, but the stone was removed and Jesus was no longer there. I think there was a fierce sadness at first in finding an empty tomb, but as we know angels appeared to her and said: “Do not be afraid! I know you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said … and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.” [Matthew 28:5-7] I find it interesting, mindful of our need for social distancing at this time of the coronavirus, that there was no one there to see Jesus’ resurrection. In a sense, the resurrection of Jesus 2020 has no crowds either … We can only actively participate by praying together as families and joining our fellow parishioners of St. Ann Church & Shrine through watching the Easter Ceremonies livestream on Facebook and on our website. It’s strange isn’t it? There is a certain emptiness in us too as we wait for the “stone of the coronavirus” to be rolled back and we are free once again to celebrate and actively participate in the celebration of Mass. Fr. Vincent and I, along with our deacons, long for that day when we can joyfully proclaim the Risen Lord.

You know, with this social distancing it’s interesting to see how families are praying together and connecting with each other ... I have seen families cycle their bikes, sit on the steps outside of church and talk together - the phones seem to be put away and people are talking, telling stories, readings books to their children, praying together before meals and at night before going to bed. The stone has been rolled back revealing different insights about what is important in this life as we prepare for eternal life. Do not be afraid … Don’t be afraid to start over. It’s a new chance to rebuild what you want.

God’s Blessing to you and your family on this Easter Sunday 2020!

Fr. Billy
Mary Magdalene went to the tomb at dawn on the first day of the week when it was still dark. There was also the darkness of sadness and of mourning covering her heart and soul. Just a few days ago, she stood at the foot of the Cross, seeing her Beloved Lord suffered and died. That Sunday morning, she went to the tomb to mourn the death of Jesus. Having arrived at the tomb, she saw something extraordinary: **The stone was removed and the tomb was empty!**

Mary Magdalene was the first person to come to Jesus while the male disciples were probably still hiding in fear. Mary could not wait to go to the tomb. Fear of death could not stop her from going to see her Lord. Since she was the first one to come to the tomb, she was the first person seeing the resurrected Jesus after He rose from the dead. Since Mary put Jesus in the first place of her life, she had the privilege of being the first one to see the Risen Lord.

The Resurrection of Christ is the defining moment of our Christian faith. We are the People of the Resurrection. Our Lord and God is a living God. Christ Jesus is not only a great teacher. He is not only a miracle worker. Our Lord Jesus who once died for our sins is now alive. Since the fall of Adam and Eve, the gate of heavens had been closed to us. Now the Risen Christ has opened wide the gate of heavens for those believing in Him.

Saint Paul says: *“If Christ has not been raised from the dead, empty is our preaching and empty is your faith. If Christ has not been raised, we are the most pitiable people of all”* (1Cor 15: 14-19). If Jesus had not risen from the tomb, we would have been living in despair because death would be our final destination. But we know that our Redeemer lives. He is our hope; the Risen Lord is our only hope.

At the Easter Vigil, the Paschal Candle is lighted in the darkness of night. The light of Christ has dispelled the darkness of death. Death no longer has power over us. We now live in the light of the Resurrection. Let us never return to the darkness. On the same night, we will renew the promises of Baptism. We will renew our faith in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We will renew our faith in Jesus Christ, who suffered death and was buried, rose from the dead.

Like Mary Magdalene who saw the Risen Lord on that Easter morning, we have encountered the Risen Lord in His Word and especially in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood. We no longer live in the darkness of sins and death but we now live in the light of the Resurrection. Let the light of the Risen Christ shine through us. We need to lead others to encounter the Risen Christ. The joy of Easter needs to be passed on from heart to heart. Like Mary Magdalene who was sent by Christ to tell the message of the Resurrection to the Apostles, we are sent to our sisters and brothers, especially those who not yet believe. Learning from Mary Magdalene, the first announcer of the Resurrection, we are to say to the world: **“I HAVE SEEN THE RISEN LORD.”**
**PARISH CALENDAR**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday**
- Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

**Mass Intentions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Name and Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Parishioners St. Ann, Helen Petrie, George A. Sanderson, Jr., Bob &amp; Jean Segura, Mr. &amp; Mrs. H.C. Alexander, Jules Albert, Jr. (SI), St. Joseph (In Thanksgiving), Laura McGinnis, Ernie Becnel, Miriam Marchese, Rosalie &amp; Tony Benigno, Jerome &amp; Mary Centanni, Tony &amp; Mary Ricotta, Marian LaCoste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Parishioners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Lester R. Tillman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Marie Russell, Anna M. Boudreaux, Luis Toca, Charles Detraz, Poor Souls in Purgatory, A. J. Achary, Howard Babin, Earl Bellanger, Gerry S. Blanke, Tim Scholl (Health)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mary Geraldine &amp; Leon Feugas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Lainie C. Selle (SI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H.C. Alexander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Katherine Montague</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Luu Phan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Pat Bontempo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Marjorie Woods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. George M. Gilbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Katherine Montague</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 27</td>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Shirley &amp; Joe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Katherine Montague</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 28</td>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Ed Curry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PARISH CALENDAR**

- All meetings and events have been canceled in accordance with the guidance of the Archbishop with regard to the restrictions set forth by the President and the Governor for no gatherings of more than 10 people.
- Masses and Evening Prayer are being live-streamed on Facebook and our website. [https://stannchurchandshrine.org/videos-mass-and-evening-prayer](https://stannchurchandshrine.org/videos-mass-and-evening-prayer)
- Please refer to our website for schedule updates. [https://stannchurchandshrine.org](https://stannchurchandshrine.org)

**REandas for the Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-21; Mk 16:9-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**April 12 - April 18, 2020**

**Sanctuary Light (Church)**
- Ollie French, III

**Sanctuary Light (Chapel)**
- Katherine Montague
Did you know, if at any time you cannot go to Mass, in or out of this season of the coronavirus, you can still unite to the Eucharist through making a Spiritual Communion?

By making an Act of Spiritual Communion, we express our faith in Christ’s Real Presence in the Eucharist and ask him to unite himself with us.

You may also make this Spiritual Communion anytime you need it and as often as you need it.

Note: If you are dispensed from your Sunday obligation (undue risk to one’s health/safety or the health/safety of another is a grave reason right now and a legitimate excuse to stay home) you must still honor the Lord’s Day and keep the Sabbath holy such as praying, watching Mass or spending time worshipping God.

Please remember that for the faithful of the Archdiocese of New Orleans the obligation to attend Mass has been dispensed. Since no public Masses may be celebrated, we are live-streaming daily Mass on our Facebook page and website at 8:45 AM, Weekend Masses at 4 PM Vigil on Saturday and 9:30 AM on Sunday, and you can make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

We have had several people ask about how to make contributions.

Just as we are unable to have public Masses, we are unable to pass the basket for your generous and kind weekly offering, and obviously, our expenses continue. It is preferred that you use electronic giving for your support at this time, if possible. However, you are welcome to mail your envelopes to the parish office as well.

The link for electronic giving is https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stannchurch

The office address is 4940 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA 70006.

Let us continue to pray deeply during this time of great difficulty, especially for those who work in the medical field and those in hospitals at this time.

- St. Ann, Mother of the Mother of God ... Pray for us!
- St. Michael ... Pray for us!
- St. Roch ... Pray for us!
- Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos ... Pray for us!
- Our Lady of Prompt Succor ... Pray for us!

---

**A Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

— St. Alphonsus de Liguori

---

**Prayer to your Guardian Angel when you cannot attend Mass**

O HOLY ANGEL at my side,
Go to Church for me,
Kneel in my place, at Holy Mass,
Where I desire to be.

At Offertory, in my stead,
Take all I am and own,
And place it as a sacrifice
Upon the Altar Throne.

At Holy Consecration’s bell,
Adore with Seraph’s love,
My Jesus hidden in the Host,
Come down from Heaven above.

Then pray for those I dearly love,
And those who cause me grief,
That Jesus’ Blood may cleanse all hearts,
And suffering souls relieve.

And when the priest Communion takes,
Oh, bring my Lord to me,
That His sweet Heart may rest on mine,
And I His temple be.

Pray that this Sacrifice Divine,
May mankind’s sins efface;
Then bring me Jesus’ blessing home,
The pledge of every grace. Amen
Religious Education Classes CANCELLED Until After Easter!

Due to the Coronavirus Epidemic, all classes for Parish School of Religion will follow the directives put forth by the Governor and Archdiocese and will not meet in class until Tuesday, April 21st. We pray for all those affected, will be affected and victims of this disease. Our Lady of Prompt Succor, Hasten to Help us!

New Video-led Adult Bible Study
At St. Ann Church

At every Sunday Mass, Catholics confess that Jesus came down from heaven "for us men and for our salvation." But what does "salvation" mean? Find out the answers in this Lectio series on Salvation. Participants have the option of attending either Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or Tuesday mornings, at 9:45 a.m. in the Parish Ministries Center (located just behind the church). These sessions will begin at a date later to be determined!

In this remarkable 10-part video series, Scripture scholar and theologian Michael Patrick Barber provides a thorough, deeply Catholic, and deeply biblical, answer. There is no cost to attend and refreshments are provided!

Knights of Columbus Presents
Sock It To Me!
For Toes In Need!!!

Collecting New Socks for Men, Women and Children in Need
Drop off your NEW socks in the collection boxes at any entrance to the church. These will be donated to local homeless shelters

Socks will be collected all during Lent and will conclude on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19th. Thank you! From your local KC council.

Parables4Today

Birds of a Feather
Author Unknown

There was once a tiny bird who lived on a cactus plant in the desert. Being a desert, there was little food and water but with some extra effort, the tiny bird was able to make do just fine. There were almost no other birds or animals in which the bird could call friend, but he was content all the same. Sure, he had to fly a bit longer and search a little harder for the things he life he needed, but he was not one to complain. He was happy and content to be where he was.

But one day, a strong sandstorm erupted in the area, and before it was over, the cactus, along with the bird’s house was completely destroyed. As the bird surveyed the damage, he realized that there was little he could do but begin to look for another home. And so, he took to the air and began flying. He flew for many days which seemed endless, but before losing hope, he saw in the distance, an oasis.

He flew towards the island of plenty and finally reached a paradise of fulfillment. Here was everything a bird could hope for. There was plenty of food and water, and dozens of birds that he could call friends. As the bird flew onto a branch, he looked over his new surroundings and was overwhelmed. Just days ago, he remembered how content he was in the desert. Had it not been for the sandstorm, he never would have left his cactus home to find this paradise of joy.

And so it is with us. Life’s trials and seemingly disasters often cause us grief and pain. But sometimes, without our little "sandstorms,” we would never leave our contented, but less than perfect surroundings. Without something to push us along, we would simply stay put and just work needlessly harder at trying to make things work, when God calls us to paradise through our trials.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways—oracle of the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, my thoughts higher than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8-9)
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