**The seed sown on rich soil**

is the one who hears the word of the kingdom and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.

Matthew 13:23

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**ST. ANN CHURCH & NATIONAL SHRINE**

4940 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA 70006

504-455-7071

[stannchurchandshrine.org](http://stannchurchandshrine.org)

contact@stannchurchandshrine.org

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**WEEKEND EUCHARIST**

Saturday: 7:30 AM Mass

4:00 pm Vigil Mass (Live-Stream)

Sunday Masses:

8:00 AM, 9:30 (Live-Stream), 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM

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**WEEKDAY EUCHARIST**

Monday - Friday:

6:30 AM 8:45 AM (Live Stream)

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**RECONCILIATION**

Saturday: 3:00 (In the Sacristy)

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**TEMPORARY WEEKDAY CHURCH HOURS**

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:30 am - 6:00 pm

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**Pray with us on Saturdays!**

Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00 PM

Rosary at 3:20 PM

Mass 4:00 PM

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**Updates on parish activities with regard to coronavirus precautions can be found on our website:**

[stannchurchandshrine.org/coronavirus-updates](http://stannchurchandshrine.org/coronavirus-updates)

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**Pastor:** Fr. Billy O’Riordan

**Parochial Vicar:**

Fr. Vincent Nguyen

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**St. Ann School**

stannschool.org

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**4921 Meadowdale St.**

504-455-8383

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Lindsay Guidry, Principal
Sunday July 12

4:00 pm Vigil
George A. Sanderson, Jr., Bob & Jean Segura, Amalia Martinez, Claire Shaw, Sidney Zaffuto, Ernie Becnel, Rosalie & Tony Benigno, Verna & Ken McElrath, Jerome & Mary Centanni, Ray Bollinger, Tony & Maria Ricotta, Tu Tran, Thien Tran, Marian Lacoste, Shirley Kellarhs, Enola Hoppe, Lucian Castro, Terry P. Quinn, Linda & Dawn Boteler & Family (SI), Arthur E. Brewster

8:00 am Albert M. Johns
9:30 am Parishioners
11:00 am Luis Toca, Dinh Tran, Tu Tran, Thien Tran, Terry P. Quinn, Souls in Purgatory, Bill Althans, Nowel Koll, Joyce Elizabeth Hurtel Spains, Norma Mulligan, Vernon Higgins, Byron Marse, Glenda Bolin, Jules Albert, Jr. (SI), Julie Ann Roser Bourgeois

5:00 pm Bill Elliott

Monday July 13

6:30 am Frank Mason
8:45 am Katherine Montague

Tuesday July 14

6:30 am Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander
8:45 am Katherine Montague
7:00 pm Bill Elliott

Wednesday July 15

6:30 am Gertrude McDermott
8:45 am Adelaide P. Watermeier

Thursday July 16

6:30 am Gertrude McDermott
8:45 am Merle Kirchem

Friday July 17

6:30 am Julie Bourgeois
8:45 am Katherine Montague

Saturday July 18

7:30 am Kelly Maggio Roppolo Families

Any meetings on St. Ann Parish campus must be cleared through the parish office and scheduled on the calendar to assure you have ample space to respect social distancing. If your ministry has a meeting, please wear masks out of Christian charity for the good of others around you.

If you have fever or any symptoms at all, please STAY HOME.

July 12 ~ July 18, 2020
Sanctuary Light (Church)
Dinh Tran
Sanctuary Light (Chapel)
Joyce Elizabeth Hurtel Spains
Brothers and sisters, and sowers of the Word, don't forget that our St. Ann Novena begins on Saturday, July 18th with Fr. Stan Fortuna.

Today's gospel contains a core teaching. It is about Jesus' message being given to us, and the ways in which we respond to it. Jesus' message is available to all, and when he has spoken he stands back and awaits our response, which can range from a full response, to a half-hearted and lukewarm one, or none at all. The big question always remains: What is my response?

We are not saints and none of us can claim to be perfect ground to receive God's word. However, it is consoling that what Jesus called good ground produced different levels of results, some 30%, some 60%, and some 100%. Even the 30% was considered good ground. The ground produced something. It did not lie idle and produce nothing. **Maybe, you should look around you and see if the world where you live is any better because you are part of it.**

Even though there is no substitute for hearing God’s word as a worshipping community in church, the richest soil in any parish is in every home - the domestic church. **The Church is a family of families, constantly enriched by the lives of those domestic churches.** The home, more than any place else, is the ideal place for growth. If space is made for God in the home, if parents pray with their children from an early age, if parents treat one another well, if the relationships within the home are basically sound, if Mass, as Christ's memorial, is seen to matter to parents on Sunday, then there is a fairly good chance that in the hearts and minds of the children, the seed will take root and grow. It doesn’t always happen, but if we do the best we can, there is a fair chance it will. **What kind of world do you want your child to grow up in? You are holding the key …**

Somebody has said that education is what remains when you have forgotten everything else. We forget so easily what was said in church or school. But, we never forget what happens in the home. The hate, the tension and the fighting or the hope and the love …

Belonging to the kingdom of God imposes responsibilities on all of us. Many people simply give up the struggle and abandon themselves to the darkness, and, I dare say, excuse themselves by believing that following Christ is an impossible dream to begin with or only for the chosen few.

Where must the seed be sown so as to bring the most fruit when it is grown? Plant it in the heart of a child.

Reflection: Fr. Billy
ST. ANN NOVENA 2020

July 18 - 26, 2020 - Masses at 10 AM and 7 PM
St. Ann Church & National Shrine
stannchurchandshrine.org        504-455-7071

FR. STAN FORTUNA C.F.R.
HOW GOD SPEAKS TO US

As from the first, God speaks to his Church through the Bible and through sacred Tradition. To make sure we understand him, he guides the Church’s teaching authority—the Magisterium—so it always interprets the Bible and Tradition accurately. This is the gift of infallibility.

Like the three legs on a stool, the Bible, Tradition, and the Magisterium are all necessary for the stability of the Church and to guarantee sound doctrine.

Sacred Tradition (CCC 75–83)

Sacred Tradition should not be confused with mere traditions of men, which are more commonly called customs or disciplines. Jesus sometimes condemned customs or disciplines, but only if they were contrary to God’s commands (Mark 7:8). He never condemned sacred Tradition, and he didn’t even condemn all human tradition.

Sacred Tradition and the Bible are not different or competing revelations. They are two ways that the Church hands on the gospel. Apostolic teachings such as the Trinity, infant baptism, the inerrancy of the Bible, purgatory, and Mary’s perpetual virginity have been most clearly taught through Tradition, although they are also implicitly present in (and not contrary to) the Bible. The Bible itself tells us to hold fast to Tradition, whether it comes to us in written or oral form (2 Thess. 2:15, 1 Cor. 11:2).

Sacred Tradition should not be confused with customs and disciplines, such as the rosary, priestly celibacy, and not eating meat on Fridays in Lent. These are good and helpful things, but they are not doctrines. Sacred Tradition preserves doctrines first taught by Jesus to the apostles and later passed down to us through the apostles’ successors, the bishops.

Scripture (CCC 101–141)

Scripture, by which we mean the Old and New Testaments, was inspired by God (2 Tim. 3:16). The Holy Spirit guided the biblical authors to write what he wanted them to write. Since God is the principal author of the Bible, and since God is truth itself (John 14:6) and cannot teach anything untrue, the Bible is free from all error in everything it asserts to be true.

Some Christians claim, "The Bible is all I need," but this notion is not taught in the Bible itself. In fact, the Bible teaches the contrary idea (2 Pet. 1:20–21, 3:15–16). The "Bible alone" theory was not believed by anyone in the early Church. It is new, having arisen only in the 1500s during the Protestant Reformation. The theory is a "tradition of men" that nullifies the Word of God, distorts the true role of the Bible, and undermines the authority of the Church Jesus established (Mark 7:1–8).

Although popular with many "Bible Christian" churches, the "Bible alone" theory simply does not work in practice. Historical experience disproves it. Each year we see additional splintering among "Bible-believing" religions.

Today there are tens of thousands of competing denominations, each insisting its interpretation of the Bible is the correct one. The resulting divisions have caused untold confusion among millions of sincere but misled Christians.

Just open up the Yellow Pages of your telephone book and see how many different denominations are listed, each claiming to go by the "Bible alone," but no two of them agreeing on exactly what the Bible means.

We know this for sure: The Holy Spirit cannot be the author of this confusion (1 Cor. 14:33). God cannot lead people to contradictory beliefs because his truth is one. The conclusion? The "Bible alone" theory must be false.

The Magisterium (CCC 85–87, 888–892)

Together the pope and the bishops form the teaching authority of the Church, which is called the Magisterium (from the Latin for "teacher"). The Magisterium, guided and protected from error by the Holy Spirit, gives us certainty in matters of doctrine. The Church is the custodian of the Bible and faithfully and accurately proclaims its message, a task which God has empowered it to do.

Keep in mind that the Church came before the New Testament, not the New Testament before the Church. Divinely-inspired members of the Church wrote the books of the New Testament, just as divinely-inspired writers had written the Old Testament, and the Church is guided by the Holy Spirit to guard and interpret the entire Bible, both Old and New Testaments.

Such an official interpreter is absolutely necessary if we are to understand the Bible properly. (We all know what the Constitution says, but we still need a Supreme Court to interpret what it means.) The Magisterium is infallible when it teaches officially because Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to guide the apostles and their successors “into all truth” (John 16:12–13).

Theology of the Body

Discovering the Mystery of the Human Person &
Our Vocation to Love

Adult JPII Study Course

What does it mean to be made in the image and likeness of God? How do we live this reality in our everyday lives?
All adults of St. Ann Church, and friends of St. Ann, are invited to a study of one of John Paul II’s most influential theological studies, which was entitled “Theology of the Body.” Between 1978 and 1984, Pope St. John Paul II delivered a series of Wednesday audiences that eventually became known as the Theology of the Body. This profound teaching offered what St. John Paul called an “adequate anthropology”—an examination of what it means to be human, made in God’s image and likeness, and how that reality is made visible in our human bodies.

Confirmation Registration

All incoming 11th grade students wishing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Ann Church should register for preparation classes that will begin in the Fall using the link below. The sacrament of Confirmation is received in the eleventh grade year for all students in a formal religious education program (including Catholic high schools). Contact the church office at 455-7071, ext. 2225 if you have any questions or concerns. To register, visit the church website at https://stannchurchandshrine.org/confirmation

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Do you want to know more about the Catholic Church? The parish faith community of St. Ann Church invites you or someone you may know to a series of inquiry sessions that will invite inquirers to explore the church in a non-committal way. Invite someone you know who may be interested in the Catholic Church. Your invitation may be the one they are waiting for! Call us at 455-7071, ext. 2225 for more info.

Live such that those who do not know Christ might come to know Christ by knowing you!

The Stuff of Life  Attributed to Lisa Beamer (wife of Todd Beamer)

I had a very special teacher in high school many years ago whose husband died suddenly of a heart attack. About a week after his death, she shared some of her insight with a classroom of students. As the late afternoon sunlight came streaming through the classroom windows and the class was nearly over, she moved a few things aside on the edge of her desk and sat down there. With a gentle look of reflection on her face, she paused and said, “Class is over. I would like to share with all of you, a thought that is unrelated to class, but which I feel is very important.”

“Each of us is put here on earth to learn, share, love, appreciate and give of ourselves. None of us knows when this fantastic experience will end. It can be taken away at any moment. Perhaps this is the powers way of telling us that we must make the most out of every single day.”

Her eyes, beginning to water, she went on, “So I would like you all to make me a promise. From now on, on your way to school, or on your way home, find something beautiful to notice. It doesn't have to be something you see, it could be a scent, perhaps of freshly baked bread wafting out of someone's house, or it could be the sound of the breeze slightly rustling the leaves in the trees, or the way the morning light catches one autumn leaf as it falls gently to the ground.”

“Please look for these things, and cherish them. For, although it may sound trite to some, these things are the ‘stuff’ of life. The little things we are put here on earth to enjoy. The things we often take for granted. We must make it important to notice them, for at any time. It can all be taken away.”

The class was completely quiet. We all picked up our books and filed out of the room silently. That afternoon, I noticed more things on my way home from school than I had that whole semester. Every once in a while, I think of that teacher and remember what an impression she made on all of us, and try to appreciate all of those things that sometimes we all overlook.

Take notice of something special you see on your lunch hour today. Go barefoot. Or walk on the beach at sunset. Stop off on the way home tonight to get a double dip ice cream cone. For as we get older, it is not the things we did that we often regret, but the things we didn't do.

Remember, life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

“Therefore, we who are receiving the unshakable kingdom should have gratitude, with which we should offer worship pleasing to God in reverence and awe.”

Hebrews 12:28

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