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

WEEKDAY EUCHARIST
Monday - Friday:
6:30 AM
8:45 AM  (Live-Stream)

RECONCILIATION
Saturday:  3:00

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

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

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

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

St. Ann School
stannschool.org

4921 Meadowdale St.
504-455-8383

Lindsay Guidry, Principal
Please note that the school children will be returning to Mass on Wednesdays beginning August 12th, and they will sit on the Meadowdale and Loveland sides of the church. We are asking parishioners who attend Daily Mass to please sit on the Transcontinental side of the church. Thank you for your cooperation. Remember, we still need to wear masks and practice social distancing.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading 1</th>
<th>Reading 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22; Ps 113:1-6; Mt 18:15-20</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 — 19:1</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 [59-63]; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28</td>
<td>Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Reading 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
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<td>Andrew Leaumont</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Noel Koll</td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Gertrude McDermott</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Margaret &amp; Edward Kelly Family</td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. H.C. Alexander</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Katherine Montague</td>
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<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Edmond Schellhaas</td>
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<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>Anna Rickoll</td>
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<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Vivian Lea</td>
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Well, here we are in the second week of August already. The month of August is dedicated by the Church to The Immaculate Heart of Mary. We are still in Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green - the symbol of hope. Hope is the color of sprouting seeds and arouses within us the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven. The intention of Pope Francis for the month of August is praying for all those who work and live from the sea.

This month is filled with various saints and feasts of the Church: St. Alphonsus Ligori, The Transfiguration of the Lord, St. Dominic, St. Clare of Assisi, The Assumption of Mary into Heaven, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Pius X, The Queenship of Mary, St. Monica, St. Augustine ... In remembering these saints and the Gospel message today, I take this time to share with you a quote by St. John Paul II. He said: “Do not be afraid to be saints. Follow Jesus Christ who is the source of freedom and light. Be open to the Lord so that he may lighten all your ways.” Are you ready to step into the water?

Today’s Gospel story dares us to trust Jesus and step into the water and storms we encounter in this life. It deals with the frustration and helplessness we sometimes deal with. It deals with the struggles of everyday life. It deals with the floods of problems that pour down upon us. It deals with the fact that there are difficult moments in life ... storms to the point that we feel like we are drowning sometimes, and yet Jesus dares us to walk on the water. We learn from the beginning of the Gospel that Jesus had just fed the 5000, and after doing so went up on the mountain by himself to pray. Meanwhile the apostles in a boat were being tossed about by the waves ... What will it take to make us call out to the Lord and trust his command to walk on water? Does it take a near-death experience? Do we have to lose everything to find ourselves? What will it take for politicians to listen to the majority instead of the “mousy” complaints and pressure of a few? Start praying and walk on water ...

Here’s a story for you ... There was once a sea captain who in his retirement skippered a boat taking day trippers to the Shetland Islands. On one trip the boat was full of young people. They laughed at the old captain when they saw him saying a prayer before setting out. The day was fine and the sea looked calm but when out at sea a storm suddenly blew up and the boat was being tossed around. The terrified passengers came to the captain and asked him to join them in prayer. He replied: “I say my prayers when it is calm. When it is rough I attend my boat.”

There is a lesson here for all of us. If we cannot or will not seek God in the quiet moments of our lives, we are not likely to find him when trouble strikes. We are more likely to panic and blame God for not coming to the rescue. Some people have adopted a 911 relationship with God. Most of us want Jesus to hurry and calm the storm, but maybe he wants us to find him in the midst of it.

Reflection: Fr. Billy

Sewing Seams of Faith

Since we were unable to meet for several months we worked from home, and during our June drop off/drive thru, we collected 92 prayer blankets: 6 for children, 41 for ladies, 30 for men and 8 for Children’s Hospital. These blankets were blessed by Father Billy and Deacon Michael.

We received a note from a lady who had been on oxygen for 10 years. After receiving a blanket from our ministry, she claims to no longer need oxygen. She donated fabric to the ministry in thanksgiving.

At our July meeting we collected 37 adult quilts, 7 baby blankets, and 5 for Children’s Hospital. Deacon Michael blessed our blankets. He brought the aspersorium (holy water bucket) and the aspergillum (implement used to sprinkle holy water) and asked for consolation for those who receive the blankets.

If you would like a blanket to give someone or for more information about our ministry, please call the parish office, 504-455-7071 or email contact@stannchurchandshrine.org.
Thank you to all of our 2019 Sponsors ~ Parishioners ~ Supporters who helped us raise over $11,000 for St. Michael Special School last year!

Spaghetti Dinner!

August 15, 2020
4pm - 7 pm
Drive-Through Only
(Meadowdale St. behind Cafeteria)
$10 Ticket - Spaghetti & Meatballs, Vegetable, Salad, Bread
50/50 $5/ticket, 5 tickets $20

Congratulations Class of 2020!

Fr. Billy reminded the students to be the difference that makes a difference, and left them with this quote, "Do not go where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

THINK! REACH! SHINE! ST. ANN PRAY FOR US!
The doctrine of the Assumption says that at the end of her life on earth Mary was assumed, body and soul, into heaven, just as Enoch, Elijah, and perhaps others had been before her. It’s also necessary to keep in mind what the Assumption is not. Some people think Catholics believe Mary "ascended" into heaven. That’s not correct. Christ, by his own power, ascended into heaven. Mary was assumed or taken up into heaven by God. She didn't do it under her own power.

The Church has never formally defined whether she died or not, and the integrity of the doctrine of the Assumption would not be impaired if she did not in fact die, but the almost universal consensus is that she did die. Pope Pius XII, in *Munificentissimus Deus* (1950), defined that Mary, "after the completion of her earthly life" (note the silence regarding her death), "was assumed body and soul into the glory of heaven."

The possibility of a bodily assumption before the Second Coming is suggested by Matthew 27:52–53: "[T]he tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many." Did all these Old Testament saints die and have to be buried all over again? There is no record of that, but it is recorded by early Church writers that they were assumed into heaven, or at least into that temporary state of rest and happiness often called "paradise," where the righteous people from the Old Testament era waited until Christ's resurrection (cf. Luke 16:22, 23:43; Heb. 11:1–40; 1 Pet. 4:6), after which they were brought into the eternal bliss of Heaven.

There is also what might be called the negative historical proof for Mary's Assumption. It is easy to document that, from the first, Christians gave homage to saints, including many about whom we now know little or nothing. Cities vied for the title of the last resting place of the most famous saints. Rome, for example, houses the tombs of Peter and Paul, Peter's tomb being under the high altar of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. In the early Christian centuries relics of saints were zealously guarded and highly prized. The bones of those martyred in the Coliseum, for instance, were quickly gathered up and preserved—there are many accounts of this in the biographies of those who gave their lives for the faith.

It is agreed upon that Mary ended her life in Jerusalem, or perhaps in Ephesus. However, neither those cities nor any other claimed her remains, though there are claims about possessing her (temporary) tomb. And why did no city claim the bones of Mary? Apparently because there weren't any bones to claim, and people knew it. Here was Mary, certainly the most privileged of all the saints, certainly the most saintly, but we have no record of her bodily remains being venerated anywhere.
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 that they are waiting for! Call us at 455-7071, ext. 2225 for more info.

Made in the Image and Likeness of God
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 Pope St. John Paul II’s most influential theological studies, entitled “Theology of the Body.” This study looks at the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God, and how all of us, young and old, are called to live out this reality. This profound teaching offered what St. John Paul called, “an adequate anthropology.” This session will be for three weeks on Thursday mornings from 9:30—10:30 a.m. beginning August 6th. This will be led by Deacon Michael Ramy, St. Ann’s seminarian intern.

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest
The Knights of Columbus are offering a Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest for all Catholic students in grades 8 through 12 who attend a public, private, or parochial school. The Theme for this year is: “Discuss how trusting in God during a difficult time has helped you or someone you know find the strength and hope to endure it.” More Information may be received in the church office or by emailing us at kc3465@gmail.com.