



# ST. ANN

— CHURCH & SHRINE —

Anchored in Faith, Your Soul...Our Mission

FEBRUARY 26, 2023 | FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

# LENT

prayer • fasting • almsgiving

Scan the QR Code to visit the Lent & Easter page of our website.



## MASS SCHEDULE

### Weekend Masses

Saturday | 7:30am, 4:00pm Vigil  
Sunday | 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

### Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday | 6:30am, 8:45am

### Reconciliation

Saturday | 3:00pm  
Tuesday | 6:00pm  
Other | By Appointment

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)

Tuesday | 9:30am-6:00pm (Followed by Benediction)  
First Friday | 9:30am-10:30am (Church)

## PARISH CLERGY

### Pastor

Rev. Billy O'Riordan

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael Lamy

### Deacons

Deacon Tom Fox  
Deacon Gerard "G" Gautrau  
Deacon Phil Doolen (Retired)  
Deacon Ray Bertin (Retired)

### St. Ann Church Information

Church | 3601 Transcontinental Dr., Metairie, LA  
Office | 4940 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA  
504-455-7071 | [stannchurchandshrine.org](http://stannchurchandshrine.org)  
[contact@stannchurchandshrine.org](mailto:contact@stannchurchandshrine.org)

### St. Ann School Information

4921 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA  
504-455-8383 | [stannschool.org](http://stannschool.org)  
Principal | Lindsay Guidry





# 2 | THIS WEEK

St. Ann Church & Shrine | [stannchurchandshrine.org](http://stannchurchandshrine.org)

## PARISH CALENDAR

### Sunday 2/26

### Monday 2/27 | St. Gregory of Narek

9:30 am | Walk Through Tours - School Office

7:00 pm | Home & School Club Meeting - Cafeteria

### Tuesday 2/28

#### Parish Office Closed - Staff Day

9:30 am | Adoration in the Chapel until 6:00 pm

#### 6:00 pm | Confessions - Church

6:45 pm | PSR Classes - Cafeteria & Classrooms

7:30 pm | Boy Scouts - St. Ann Room

### Wednesday 3/1

#### World's Finest Chocolate Sales End

9:30 am | Rosary Prayer Group - St. Raymond

1:00 pm | Sewing Seams of Faith - St. Raymond

2:30 pm | Stations of the Cross - grades 2 - 7

7:00 pm | Choir Rehearsal - St. Cecilia

### Thursday 3/2

9:30 am | Adult Catechism - St. Raymond

9:30 am | Rosary to the 7 Sorrows of Blessed Mother - JP II

9:30 am | Walk Through Tours - School Office

3:00 pm | Girl Scouts - St. Ann Room

6:00 pm | Knights of Columbus - St. Raymond

7:00 pm | Adult Faith Formation - JP II

### Friday 3/3 | St. Katharine Drexel

9:30 AM | First Friday Adoration - Church until 10:30 am

9:30 am | Jerry Talbot Outreach - St. Raymond

2:15 pm | 4th Grade Assembly - Gym

#### 6:00 pm | Men's Club Seafood Dinner - Cafeteria

#### 6:40 pm | Rosary for Peace in Ukraine - Church

#### 7:00 pm | Stations of the Cross - Church

### Saturday 3/4 | St. Casimir

#### 3:00 pm | Confessions

5:00 pm | Rosary Prayer Group - JP II

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday 2/26

**4:00 pm** | Mr. & Mrs. Bernard P. Puccio, Philip M. Kelly, Jr., Joseph Albert Sclafani, Sr., Ernie Becnel, Jonelle Rene Schmidt, Vickie Smith Mire, Bruce Charles Kincade, Dr. Ben J. Guilbeau, Erin Fury Parkinson, Ronald Charles LeBlanc, Robert Cummiskey, Ellen Lovell (SI)

**8:00 am** | Parishioners

**9:30 am** | Ethel Landry

**11:00 am** | Michael Bonura, Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Alexander, Cheryl Cummiskey, Msgr. W. Wendell Sontheimer, Cheryl French, Joycelyn Koll, Betty Davis (SI), Stevan Verneuil, Simone Verneuil (SI), Robert English, Chris Alessi, Eileen Guidry, Claire Adams (Health), Bryan Eichhorn, Anthony "Tony" Damiano, Max Verret, Fulcher (SI), Mariana Chief, Bob Cummiskey, Juana Martinez, Garry Michael Beckman, George Ramirez

**5:00 pm** | Elizabeth Miranne

### Monday 2/27

**6:30 am** | Cheryl Cummiskey

**8:45 am** | Drew Aucoin

### Tuesday 2/28

**6:30 am** | Cheryl Cummiskey

**8:45 am** | Rita Meilleur

### Wednesday 3/1

**6:30 am** | Jennifer Courville

**8:45 am** | Roberto C. Haughton

### Thursday 3/2

**6:30 am** | Mr. & Mrs. Edward H. Watermeier

**8:45 am** | Roland J. Molinaro

### Friday 3/3

**6:30 am** | Jack Voelkel

**8:45 am** | The Alphonso Family (Health)

### Saturday 3/4

**7:30 am** | Pat O'Riordan



*Aloha!*

Come Hula With Us!

**DATE NIGHT**

**SATURDAY**  
**JULY 8, AT 6:30 PM**  
**ST. ANN CAFETERIA**

**Tickets \$50 Per Couple**  
**Sales begin April 15**  
**Online and In Parish Office**  
**Get your tickets early!**  
**This event will sell out!**



## SANCTUARY LIGHT Church

Claire Adams (Healing)

# ANCHORED IN FAITH, YOUR SOUL...OUR MISSION

February 26, 2023 | First Sunday of Lent



## First Sunday of Lent Year A

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Romans 5:12-19

Mark 4:1-11

The madness of Mardi Gras is finished for another year. Obviously, I am not a big fan even though I have been to a few family parades including the Girl Scouts parade at St. Ann School. However, Lent is here and on Ash Wednesday, priests, deacons, and lay ministers gather ashes from last year's Palm Sunday branches and make the sign of the cross on the foreheads of the faithful while citing Genesis 3:19: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" or "Repent, and believe in the Gospel." It's noteworthy to mention that in Rome ashes are administered by sprinkling them on the crown of the head rather than marking the forehead with a cross. Sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head recalls the biblical method of putting on sackcloth and ashes as a sign of penance. [Nehemiah 9:1] Ashes accompanied sackcloth in times of national disaster or repenting from sin, and as a sign of humility. [Esther 4:1] **God responds to genuine repentance.**

I take note while preaching on Ash Wednesday that in the Gospel [Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18] that Jesus said to the disciples, "Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them ..." and then we impose ashes for all to see. I can tell stories about the intentions of some who don't seem to have the slightest care about the Mass as long as they can sport ashes on Ash Wednesday drawing attention to themselves. It's not a reminder of death, mortality in such cases, or the desire to repent and be faithful to the Gospel. **Pope Francis says: "Lent comes providentially to reawaken us, to shake us from our lethargy."** Pope Benedict XVI said: "Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, and what path we must take in life."

Lent ends on Holy Thursday at the beginning of The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper [the only Mass allowed on that day] and the beginning of the Easter Triduum, which ends after the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. There is no Mass on Good Friday, the only day Mass is not celebrated.

In short, the first reading today speaks of the serpent tempting Adam and Eve and their fall for the lie. You know, Satan calls us by our sins. God calls us by name. The psalm asks for the Lord's mercy for we have sinned. The second reading speaks about the transgression of Adam and Eve and how it has brought about condemnation, but Jesus Christ brings mercy. The Gospel speaks of Jesus' 40 days in the desert and how Satan tries to tempt him. Satan tempts us too in all kinds of ways. I often think of the last words of the Act of Contrition as we pray: "I firmly resolve with the help of your grace to sin no more and avoid **the near occasion** of sin." What is **your near occasion** of sin? That is where you are being called to be holy in your life - there lies the challenge!

I share these words of Pope Francis ... Each year, the Gospel of the First Sunday of Lent sets before us the narrative of the temptation of Jesus, when the Holy Spirit, having descended upon him after his Baptism in the Jordan, prompts him to confront Satan openly in the desert for 40 days, before beginning his public ministry.

The tempter seeks to divert Jesus from the Father's plan, that is, from the way of sacrifice, of the love that offers itself in expiation, to make him take an easier path, one of success and power. The duel between Jesus and Satan takes place through strong quotations from Sacred Scripture. The devil, in fact, to divert Jesus from the way of the cross, sets before him false messianic hopes: economic well-being, indicated by the ability to turn stones into bread; a dramatic and miraculous style, with the idea of throwing himself down from the highest point of the Temple in Jerusalem and being saved by angels; and lastly, a shortcut to power and dominion, in exchange for an act of adoration to Satan.

Resisting the devil must be accompanied by submitting to God.

Reflection: Fr. Billy



# 4 | ANCHORED IN FAITH, YOUR SOUL...OUR MISSION

St. Ann Church & Shrine | [stannchurchandshrine.org](http://stannchurchandshrine.org)

## GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Eucharist when we receive Holy Communion. We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly and frequently. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should not be conscious of grave sin and normally should have fasted for one hour. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive the Body and Blood of the Lord without prior sacramental confession except for a grave reason where there is no opportunity for confession. In this case, the person is to be mindful of the obligation to make an act of perfect contrition, including the intention of confessing as soon as possible (canon 916). A frequent reception of the Sacrament of Penance is encouraged for all.



The norm established for the dioceses of the U.S. is that Communion is to be received standing, unless an individual member wishes to receive Communion while kneeling (GIRM 160). When receiving Holy Communion, the person approaches the minister and bows his or her head before the sacrament as a gesture of reverence. While the sign of reverence used to be a genuflection, for the sake of unity, the U.S. bishops asked that the faithful bow their head instead.

When the Communion minister says, "The Body of Christ" or "The Blood of Christ," we respond "Amen" as a sign of our belief in the true presence – the body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. By our "Amen," we are saying, "I believe."

The consecrated host may be received either on the tongue or in the hand, at the discretion of each communicant. If receiving it on the hand, it is customary to place your left hand on top of your right hand, thus creating a throne for the Eucharist. After the host is placed in your left hand, you take it with your right hand and place it in your mouth to consume the host. If you are receiving on your tongue, it is important to stick your tongue out far enough for the minister to place the host on your tongue.

When receiving the Blood of Christ, after bowing and receiving the chalice in your hands, communicants drink the Blood of Christ and carefully return the chalice to the minister.

If you are not prepared to receive Communion or if someone with you is not Catholic, they can still approach the priest or deacon and receive a blessing. It is customary to cross your arms across your chest as a sign of your desire for a blessing.

Upon receiving the Eucharist, it is appropriate to return to your pew and spend some quiet time in prayer. Some people might prefer to silently pray a spontaneous prayer of thanksgiving or recite a traditional one from memory, while others might prefer to sit in silent communion with Jesus, whom they have just received. Another option is to participate in the singing of the hymn, if one is being sung

Even though Mass ends shortly after receiving Communion, it is important to stay for the end of Mass, which includes a closing prayer, announcements (if any), and a final blessing. Having heard and reflected on the Scriptures and received Jesus in the Eucharist, the congregation is blessed and sent to go out into the world and announce the Gospel through the way they live.

**st. Joseph Altar 2023**

**St. Ann Ministry Center**

<b>Friday, March 17</b> Altar Blessing 9:30AM School Visits Only 10-3PM 3-7PM Public Viewing Seafood Dinner 5:30-8PM	<b>Saturday, March 18</b> Noon - 6PM 	<b>Sunday, March 19</b> 10:30 - 6PM St. Joseph Lunch in Cafeteria following 11AM Mass 
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**Candles \$10 Available in March**

Scan the QR Code to visit our web page: [stannchurchandshrine.org/st-joseph-altar](http://stannchurchandshrine.org/st-joseph-altar)



### ARCHDIOCESAN GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, June 25, 2023 | St. Philip Neri

If you will be celebrating your 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2023 (married in the year 1973) or were married before 1973 and wish to attend, please register with the parish office no later than **Tuesday, March 7, 2023**. Please note: This celebration is a **prayer service and not a Mass**. Attendance of Mass for Sunday obligation will have to be met within one's parish.



ST. ANN CYO

**FAMILY LASER TAG NIGHT**

MARCH 20 ADVENTURE QUEST LASER TAG 4:00 - 9:00 PM  
1001 Elmwood Park Blvd

Support the CYO in a fundraiser and enjoy 5 hours of unlimited attractions for only \$20

# ANCHORED IN FAITH, YOUR SOUL...OUR MISSION



February 26, 2023 | First Sunday of Lent

## FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.



For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church.

If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

### LENTEN FASTING & ABSTINENCE FOR CATHOLICS WHEN?

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday = Fasting & Abstinence  
Every Friday = Abstinence

### WHO?

Catholics 14+ practice abstinence,  
Catholics 18 - 59 practice fasting

### WHAT IS FASTING?

One full meal & two smaller meals ≠ one full meal

### WHAT IS ABSTINENCE?

No meat

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF February 26, 2023

Sunday	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/ Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11
Monday	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday	Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday	Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/ Mt 7:7-12
Friday	Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 507a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday	Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sun	Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 (22)/2 Tm 1:8b- 10/Mt 17:1-9

## Lent | Triduum | Easter

Everything you need to know about Lent, Triduum, & Easter

[stannchurchandshrine.org/lent-easter](http://stannchurchandshrine.org/lent-easter)

## Lenten Dinners

All Dinners Begin at 6 PM

3/3	<b>Dine In or Drive Through</b>		
	<b>Fried Fish Plate</b>	\$12	
	<b>Fried Shrimp Plate</b>	\$12	
	<b>Combo Plate</b>	\$14	
3/10	<b>Fish Fry   Dine in or Take Out</b>	\$12	
	<b>Proceeds benefit St. Terese Academy</b>		
3/17	<b>Dine In or Drive Through</b>		
	<b>Fried Fish Plate</b>	\$12	
	<b>Fried Shrimp Plate</b>	\$12	
	<b>Combo Plate</b>	\$14	
3/24	<b>Dine in or Take out</b>		
	<b>Seafood Dish TBD</b>	\$12	
3/31	<b>Dine In or Drive Through</b>		
	<b>Fried Fish Plate</b>	\$12	
	<b>Fried Shrimp Plate</b>	\$12	
	<b>Combo Plate</b>	\$14	

## Lenten Mission | March 27 - 29

Fr. James Kubicki, S.J. | Our Baptismal Call  
Mission Mass Times March 27, 28, & 29:  
10 AM & 7 PM (No 8:45 Mass)

## Evenings of Confession | 5 - 6:30 PM

Every Parish in the Archdiocese of New Orleans  
March 15 | March 22 | March 29

Resources for preparing to make a good Confession can be found on our website

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

## Rosary & Stations of the Cross | Fridays

Rosary for Peace in Ukraine | 6:40 PM  
Stations of the Cross | 7:00 PM

We will once again pray the Rosary for Peace in Ukraine just before we begin Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent.



# 6 | FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL AGES

St. Ann Church & Shrine | [stannchurchandshrine.org](http://stannchurchandshrine.org)



## Saint Spotlight

### St. Katharine Drexel—March 3

Born in Philadelphia in 1858, Katharine Drexel had an excellent education and traveled widely. As a rich girl, Katharine also had a grand debut into society. But when she nursed her stepmother through a three-year terminal

illness, she saw that all the Drexel money could not buy safety from pain or death, and her life took a profound turn.

Katharine had always been interested in the plight of the Indians, having been appalled by what she read in Helen Hunt Jackson's *A Century of Dishonor*. While on a European tour, she met Pope Leo XIII and asked him to send more missionaries to Wyoming for her friend Bishop James O'Connor. The pope replied, "Why don't you become a missionary?" His answer shocked her into considering new possibilities.

Back home, Katharine visited the Dakotas, met the Sioux leader Red Cloud and began her systematic aid to Indian missions. Katharine Drexel could easily have married. But after much discussion with Bishop O'Connor, she wrote in 1889, "The feast of Saint Joseph brought me the grace to give the remainder of my life to the Indians and the Colored." Newspaper headlines screamed "Gives Up Seven Million!"

After three and a half years of training, Mother Drexel and her first band of nuns—Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for Indians and Colored—opened a boarding school in Santa Fe. A string of foundations followed. By 1942, she had a system of black Catholic schools in 13 states, plus 40 mission centers and 23 rural schools. Segregationists harassed her work, even burning a school in Pennsylvania. In all, she established 50 missions for Indians in 16 states.

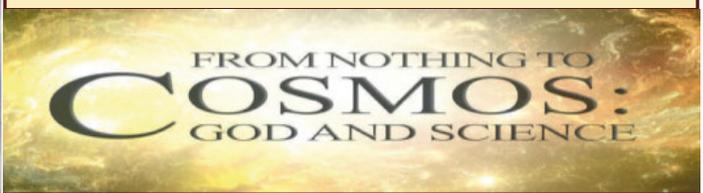
Two saints met when Mother Drexel was advised by Mother Cabrini about the "politics" of getting her order's Rule approved in Rome. Her crowning achievement was the founding of Xavier University in New Orleans, the first Catholic university in the United States for African Americans.

At 77, Mother Drexel suffered a heart attack and was forced to retire. Apparently her life was over. But now came almost 20 years of quiet, intense prayer from a small room overlooking the sanctuary. Small notebooks and slips of paper record her various prayers, ceaseless aspirations, and meditations. She died at 96 and was canonized in 2000.

Courtesy of: [www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day](http://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day)



**JOIN US** as we begin a new series of our Catholic-based Bible Study with an in-depth study of the **Letter to the Hebrews!** Classes will be held on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. or Tuesday mornings at 9:45 a.m. beginning March 6th in the Parish Ministries Center. Bring your Bible or borrow one of ours! This Bible study provides an authentically Catholic, comprehensive, and simple way to understand the overarching theme of Hebrews. Those who receive this sermon/letter are reminded of the great heroes of faith found in the Old Testament and are urged to imitate their faithful endurance. Come alone, or bring a friend! Call 455-7071 for more info.



Imagine this: Your friend begins telling you about an article he read recently from an internationally-known scientist who said, "God is not necessary for the creation of our universe or mankind." How would you react? **Well, this really happened.** The scientist was Stephen Hawking, Ph.D. and many people are talking about it.

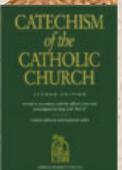
Fr. Robert Spitzer, the author of *New Proofs for the Existence of God* challenged Dr. Hawking on *The Larry King Show* and wants you to be aware of why. Using science, philosophy, medicine, the transcendental and metaphysical proofs, Fr. Spitzer lays out the truth of God's plan and how we are a part of it. Join us on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. beginning March 9th in the Parish Ministries Center as we begin a four-week study of how God did create the vast universe from nothing! We hope to see you there!

## The Cate-Corner

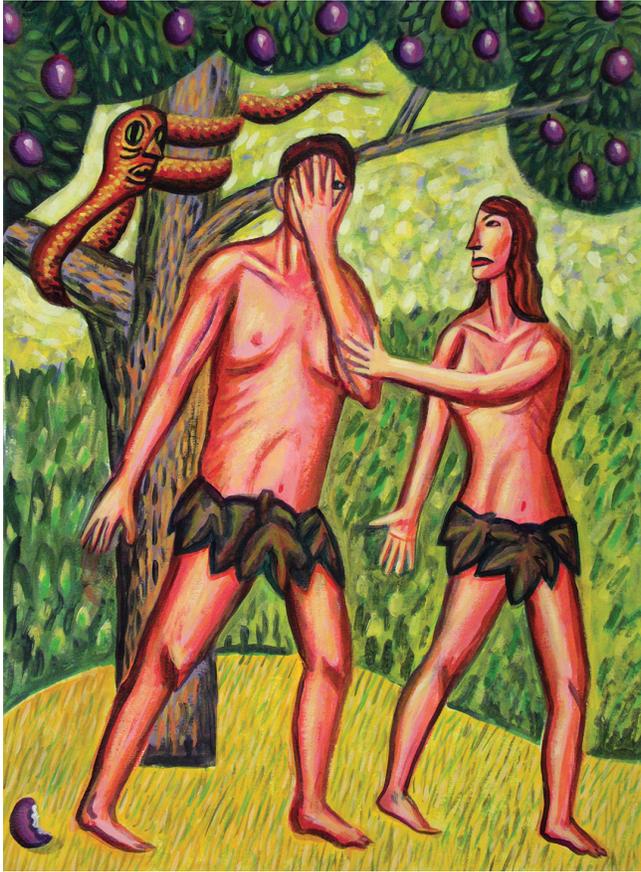
Here's another jewel from your *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Christ instituted the sacrament of Penance for all sinful members of his Church: above all for those who, since Baptism, have fallen into grave sin, and have thus lost their baptismal grace and wounded ecclesial communion. It is to them that the sacrament of Penance offers a new possibility to convert and to recover the grace of justification. The Fathers of the Church present this sacrament as "the second plank [of salvation] after the shipwreck which is the loss of grace."

CCC 1446



# FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



## The Lord Alone

Faithful God,  
from the very beginning  
you have called your people  
to worship you  
with single-minded focus.  
You are the one true God,  
source of all goodness and mercy.  
Grant us the strength  
to resist earthly temptations,  
the will to turn from distractions,  
and the desire to orient our lives  
toward loving you first.  
We ask for your patience  
as we seek to grow in holiness  
this Lent  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, February 26, 2023

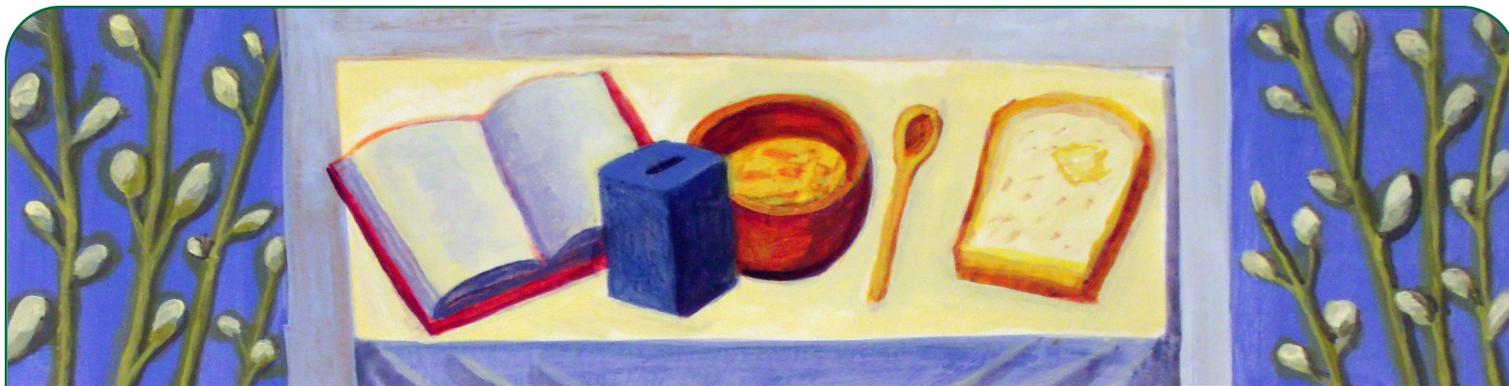
God First



*Today's readings: Genesis 2:7–9; 3:1–7; Psalm 51:3–4, 5–6, 12–13, 17; Romans 5:12–19 or 5:12, 17–19; Matthew 4:1–11.* Jesus gets the last word when the devil tries to lure him with earthly temptations. He quotes the Shema from Deuteronomy, chapter 6: “Hear O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone! Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength” (6:4–5). This most fundamental expression of faith orients our spiritual focus for the season of Lent. It is a clear invitation from the Scriptures to turn our hearts toward God.

A simple pie chart of how the majority of our time is spent during any week will reveal the priorities around

which our lives are ordered and what or whom we worship. Do we seek the accumulation of possessions or power; do we worship celebrities or ideologies; do we serve egocentric goals or addictions? Lent offers us the opportunity for *metanoia*, the profound transformation of mind and heart. Now is the time to take a self-inventory and make deliberate choices that place God first in our heart and mind. These choices are expressed in the activities and gestures of our daily living. Sketch out your pie chart and take an honest look at it. Then write a love letter back to God, telling him your plan for how you intend to place God at the center of your life this Lent.



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, February 27

#### Mercy Works

How shall we grow in holiness this Lent? We don't have to guess. Today's Scriptures lay out the blueprint. The instructions from Leviticus give clear direction for avoiding sin. Equally important, the Gospel passage from Matthew calls us to active engagement in the corporal works of mercy. We have six weeks before Easter. Pick one work of mercy to focus on each week of Lent; resolve to try the works of mercy you find most challenging first. *Today's readings: Leviticus 19:1–2, 11–18; Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 15; Matthew 25:31–46.*

### Tuesday, February 28

#### Our Father

Each Lent we are invited to deepen our prayer life. In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us exactly how to do just that through giving us the words of the Lord's Prayer. How can we magnify our prayer life? A possible start could be by praying the Lord's Prayer more intentionally. Write or type the prayer line by line on a sheet of white paper. Cut into strips. Reflect on each line of the prayer. Make the practice part of your daily prayer routine this Lent. *Today's readings: Isaiah 55:10–11; Psalm 34:4–5, 6–7, 16–17, 18–19; Matthew 6:7–15.*

### Wednesday, March 1

#### Create in Me A Clean Heart

Responsorial Psalm 51 is prayed repeatedly through the season of Lent because it expresses the humble stance we are called to assume: "A heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn." Catholics celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation each Lent as an essential step of spiritual preparation for Easter. Seek reconciliation early in Lent as a way to turn over the soil of your heart and make room for the new seeds of faith to grow in the coming weeks. *Today's readings: Jonah 3:1–10; Psalm 51:3–4, 12–13, 18–19; Luke 11:29–32.*

### Thursday, March 2

#### Ask, Seek, Knock

Today's Scriptures are deeply reassuring. The psalmist glorifies God, "on the day I asked for help, you answered me." Jesus promises, "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." What do you need to ask God for today? Write a letter to God and lay out all the burdens you carry. Ask for what you need with confidence in God's faithfulness. *Today's readings: Esther C:12, 14–16, 23–25; Psalm 138:1–2ab, 2cde–3, 7c–8; Matthew 7:7–12.*

### Friday, March 3

#### Time to Heal

Jesus reminds the disciples, and us, of how broken relationships harm the soul. Lent is the time for reconciliation with God and with the people in our lives. Do you have an estranged relationship? What steps can you take toward healing? For starters, name a relationship that seems to hold you in bondage. Ask God to guide you in seeking freedom from anger, judgment, frustration, and resentment. Attend to the ways God provides opportunities to take repairing steps in the coming days. *Today's readings: Ezekiel 18:21–28; Psalm 130:1–2, 3–4, 5–7a, 7bc–8; Matthew 5:20–26.*

### Saturday, March 4

#### Lifting Up a Relationship

The call to pay attention to difficult relationships in our lives continues in today's Scripture readings. Jesus tells us the first steps toward healing: pray for that person daily as part of your Lenten sacrifice. This can be challenging. Praying for those who cause us distress requires humility. Heed the advice of our Lord and take note of the movement of your heart as you do so in the coming weeks. *Today's readings: Deuteronomy 26:16–19; Psalm 119:1–2, 4–5, 7–8; Matthew 5:43–48.*





# St. Ann School

4921 Meadowdale Street, Metairie, Louisiana 70006  
(504)455-8383 Fax (504) 455-9572 www.stannschool.org

## WHAT IS THE ST. ANN SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL?

The Advisory Council is an advisor to the Pastor and the Principal. The Advisory Council is established to serve as a resource to the Principal in implementing Archdiocesan policies and in formulating policies on the local parish level. The Advisory Council consists of 9 members (with or without children at St. Ann School), the Principal, and the Pastor.

## WHO WOULD MAKE A GOOD SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER?

Qualifications of potential Advisory Council members include:

- A practicing Catholic attending mass weekly at St. Ann and supporting the parish
- Able to attend quarterly meetings, which typically take place on the third Thursday of the school month
- Willingness to serve on the Advisory Council's various committees and attend committee meetings
- Able to work cooperatively with others
- Accepting the Advisory Council's proper role as a policy-making body, not an administrative body
- Able to keep completely confidential those matters discussed in executive sessions
- Able to subordinate purely personal concerns as a parent from the overall welfare of all the students and the welfare of the parish and the school

*Please prayerfully consider the person or persons you feel have the necessary spiritual gifts and skills in our community to serve on the St. Ann School Advisory Council. List the name(s) below.*

### SELF-NOMINATIONS ARE WELCOMED AND STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.

If you have any questions or need further information about the Advisory Council, please contact:  
Megan Edwards megedwards7@gmail.com.

**Forms should be returned to the school office no later than Friday, March 17.**

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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## Session 1: Jesus: Model and Master of Prayer

In this episode of his course on the Our Father, Dr. Ben Akers teaches us what we can learn from the perfect model and master of prayer: Jesus himself.

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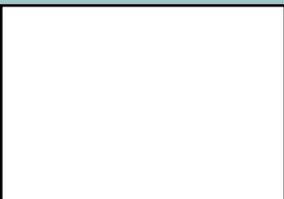
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