

**May 21, 2023 — SOLEMNITY of the ASCENSION of the LORD**

## *St. Mary of the Angels*



PHONE: 504-945-3186

3501 N. MIRO STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117

FAX: 504-945-9115

### MISSION STATEMENT

**“We are a welcoming community of believers who worship God and serve others.”**

#### OUR CORE VALUES

- We are Catholic.   ■ We are caring Christians.   ■ We give time, talent, treasure and witness.
- We share good news in word and deed.   ■ We reach out to the local community.
- We serve through social ministry by works of charity and justice.

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**PARISH STAFF**

Fr. Joseph Hund, OFM.....	Pastor
Fr. Michael Haney, OFM.....	Parochial Vicar
Br. Daniel Barrett, OFM.....	Pastoral Associate
Br. Juniper Crouch, OFM.....	in Residence
Vanessa Matthews.....	Director of Religious Ed
Jeoffre Duplessis.....	Director of Music Ministry
Paulette Duplessis.....	Secretary
Lisa Alexander.....	Financial Manager
Saundria Washington.....	Housekeeper

**BAPTISMS:** Baptisms are celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Parents are expected to call the parish office three months prior to the anticipated Baptism of the child. Baptisms are not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

**CONFIRMATION:** Classes are held for High School students grades 9th –11th following the guidelines of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. These classes are usually held on Wednesday nights.

**VISITATION OF THE SICK:** Please inform the parish office when someone is sick, shut-in, or in the hospital, and are unable to attend mass.

**RECONCILIATION:** Offered Saturday at 3:15 p.m. & Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

**FUNERALS:** Please inform the parish office as soon as possible when someone in the family dies, preferably before contacting the funeral home.

**MARRIAGE:** Engaged couples must call the parish office at least six months prior to the planned date of the wedding.

**RCIA:** Interested in knowing more about the Catholic Church, with or without the intention of becoming a member, please call the parish office.

### PARISH COUNCIL

Peggy Williams.....	Chairperson
Edwin Shorty.....	Vice Chairperson
Gail Winsey.....	Secretary
Gale Armant.....	Finance
Eric Bennett.....	Administration & Leadership
Darrin Duroncelet.....	Community Life
Vaughn Valeary.....	Evangelization
Marlene Robinson.....	Justice & Charity
Embra Bridges.....	Respect Life
Lynn Duroncelet.....	Religious Education
Debra Theard.....	Worship
Paula Arceneaux.....	Stewardship
Lynn Evans.....	Pastoral Care

### WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

(Enter church through side entrance of Friars parking area)

Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri.....8:00 a.m.

Tues.....8:00 a.m.

St. Anthony Devotion...Follows Tuesday Morning Mass

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass.....4:00 p.m.

Sunday Gospel Mass.....10:00 a.m.

### Community Center Rental

504.945.3186

SMA WEBSITE: [smaneworleans.org](http://smaneworleans.org)



May 14, 2023  
Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord



“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” **Matthew 28:19-20** (Year A)

Jesus completes His mission on Earth and ascends into Heaven to take His seat on His glorious throne for all eternity. Or does He? The answer is yes and no. Yes, He does take His seat on His glorious throne, but no, He does not complete His mission on Earth. The Ascension is both the end and the beginning. It's a transition to the next phase in the perfect plan of the Father. And understanding the way this plan unfolds should leave us in wonder and awe.

Sure, the Apostles were probably somewhat frightened and confused. Jesus was with them, then He died, then He rose and appeared various times, and then He ascended to the Father before their eyes. But He also told them that it is good that He goes. In fact, He said that it's better that He goes. They must have been confused. Jesus also told them His Advocate would come to lead them into all Truth. So the Apostles went from joy, to fear, to relief and more joy, to confusion and sorrow, to curiosity and uncertainty.

Sound familiar? Perhaps that's the way some find their lives to be. Ups and downs, twists and turns, joys and sorrows. Each phase reveals something new, something challenging, something glorious or something sorrowful. The good news is that the Father's plan is unfolding perfectly.

The part of the perfect plan we find ourselves in with this solemnity is the part where Jesus begins to direct His mission of establishing the Kingdom of God from Heaven. His throne is, in a sense, the driver's seat of our lives. From Heaven, Jesus suddenly begins to descend continuously into our lives fulfilling His mission in and through the Apostles, as well as all of us. The Ascension does not mean Jesus is gone; rather, it means Jesus is now present to each and every person who turns to Him and surrenders their life to His mission. From Heaven, Jesus is able to be present to all. He is able to live in us and invites us to live in Him. It's the new beginning of the Church. Now all the Apostles need to do is wait for the Holy Spirit to descend.

Reflect, today, upon the abiding and intimate presence of our Lord in your life. Know that Jesus invites you to share in His mission. From His glorious throne He wants us to “preach everywhere.” He wants to invite each one of us to do our part. The part of the Father's plan entrusted to each one of us is not entrusted to another. We all have a share in that plan. What is your part? How does Jesus direct His mission through you? Ponder this question today and know that He accompanies you as you say “Yes” to your part in the glorious unfolding of His perfect plan.

[mycatholiclife.com](http://mycatholiclife.com)

Stewardship  
May 14, 2023

What we need each week.....	\$3,600.00
Envelopes & loose received.....	\$4,278.00
<b>Online Giving.....</b>	<b>\$1,125.00</b>
What we are <i>over</i> this week.....	\$1,803.00
Envelopes used.....	113
Weekend Mass attendance.....	132

Our Family Prayer

Loving and faithful God, through the years the people of our archdiocese have appreciated the prayers and love of Our Lady of Prompt Succor in times of war, disaster, epidemic and illness. We come to you, Father, with Mary our Mother, and ask you to help us in the battle of today against violence, murder and racism.

We implore you to give us your wisdom that we may build a community founded on the values of Jesus, which gives respect to the life and dignity of all people.

Bless parents that they may form their children in faith. Bless and protect our youth that they may be peacemakers of our time. Give consolation to those who have lost loved ones through violence.

Hear our prayer and give us the perseverance to be a voice for life and human dignity in our community.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Our Lady of Prompt Succor, hasten to help us.

Mother Henriette Delille, pray for us that we may be a holy family.



May 21, 2023 – May 27, 2023

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Each Mass is offered for the intentions of all present and for the following:

Sunday.....	<b>Parishioners of SMA</b>
Monday.....	<b>Sara Allens</b>
Tuesday.....	<b>Sara Allens</b>
Wednesday.....	Special Intentions†
Thursday.....	Special Intentions†
Friday.....	Special Intentions†
Saturday .....	Special Intentions†

PRAYER LINE

If you know any parishioners who may be sick or in the hospital, please notify the Church office at 945-3186. The name (s) will be published in the bulletin and at the Masses so that the congregation can pray for them.

Danielle Davis	Bonito J. Manego	Kay Vincent
Taylor Brown	Shirley Hawkins	Henry Butler
Beverly Bierria	Vertner Woods	Aline Robinson
Althea Augustine	Patricia Eugene	Dorothy Grant
Darril Frick	Geraldine Aguiard	Victor Jackson
Gary Medley	Ronald Cavalier	Gerald Cavalier
Patrick Maheia	Janice Nadler	Lorraine Jackson
Dana Roy	Mary Nadler	Kent Landry
Shirley Ellsworth	Helen Legier	Robin Jackson
Corey Lee	Lynn Evans	Willie Caliste
Leslie Duplessis	Jacquelyn Buggage	Thelma Hall
Deneen Schexneider	Audrey County	Albert Evans, Jr.
Claude Wiltz	Henry Butler	Patricia Parker
Jaden Coleman	Roxanne L'Herrise	Jay Orman
Very Rev. Henry Davis, S.S.J., V.F.		Raymond Dumas, Jr.



### Interested in Joining A Ministry?

#### Altar Servers

Altar servers are students from grades 3rd to 12th and have made their First Holy Communion. For more information on the Altar Servers, please call the church office: 504.945.3186.

#### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion help distribute the Sacred Body and Blood during the masses celebrated in the church and also take communion to persons who are either hospitalized or homebound. The ministers must attend a workshop provided by the Archdioceses of New Orleans in order to be certified as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. For more information, please call the church office: 504.945.3186.

#### Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers)

There are ministers who help welcome and assist those attending all liturgical function of the parish, especially during the different masses celebrated. The ministers of hospitality are directed by Mr. Gale Armant, for more information, please contact him at the church office: 504.945.3186.

#### Ministers of the Word (Lectors)

The Ministers of the Word proclaim the Holy Scripture readings during the different liturgical celebrations of the church. The ministers must attend a workshop provided by the Archdioceses of New Orleans in order to be certified as Ministers of the Word (Lectors). For more information, please call the church office: 504.945.3186.

#### Ministers of Music and Worship (Choir)

The Ministers of Music and Worship help lead the congregation in song for the liturgy. They are committed to the values of spirituality, evangelistic leadership, fellowship and liturgical awareness for the SMA community.

#### Catechesis and Religious Education for Children (CCD)

Catechesis and Religious education: 504.945.3186.

#### Altar Society

works for the benefit of the church such as: maintain the priest vestments, upkeep of altar vessels and altar linens in preparing for Mass. Mrs. Debra Theard - contact the parish 504.945.3186

#### Bereavement

provides care for individuals and families especially when losing a loved one. Ms. Deirdre Landry, Chairperson - contact the parish 504.945.3186

#### Mighty Men's Ministry

faithful leaders working together to fill the gap where things are needed in the church: role models for the youth and support other ministries when needed. Mr. Vaughn Valeary, President - contact the parish 504.945.3186

#### Advocate for Persons with Disabilities

welcomes persons with disabilities into full participation in the life of the parish and offer them practical assistance, promotes awareness of the existence, concerns and gifts of parishioners and potential parishioners with disabilities. Contact Linda Minor and Vera Landry 504.945.3186

#### Emmaus Ministry Support Group

Grief comes in all forms and everyone of us handle it differently. If you have lost a loved one, a child, a spouse, a parent, a sibling or a friend, please join us. Contact Embra Bridges or Beverly Bierria. 504.945.3186

#### Catholic Charities

St. Mary of the Angels Head Start Program.....504.227.3470  
Catholic Charities Care Line.....866.891.2210

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Pray for Vocations" to Religious Life and the Priesthood and encourage our youth to think and pray about such a "vocation of life."

Franciscan Friars: [sibvocations@franciscan.org](mailto:sibvocations@franciscan.org);  
website: [www.franciscan.org](http://www.franciscan.org)

Archdiocese of New Orleans: [vocations@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:vocations@archdiocese-no.org);  
[nolapriest.com](http://nolapriest.com)

Adrian Dominican: [vocations@adriandominicans.org](mailto:vocations@adriandominicans.org)

Beginning with **Easter Vigil**, we will return Blessed Water to the holy water fonts at all the doors of our church. Everyone will have the option to bless themselves upon entering and leaving our church and some may choose not to bless themselves.

**Br. Herman D. Johnson, O.P.**, Mission Appeal on May 27-28, 2023.

**Parish Office Closed**...May 29, 2023 in observance of Memorial Day. The office will re-open at 9:00 AM, on Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

**Parish Hall** is open for booking. For more details call the parish office.



Remember to support our  
**Outreach Food Pantry**  
by placing your food items in  
the little red wagon.  
Thank You



### PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Quentin Green	Kenneth Cuneo
Edjunique Francois	Christina Valeary
Tyler J. McCormick	

#### St. Alphonsus Liguori's Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I  
cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually  
into my heart. As though You have already come, I  
embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to  
be separated from You.  
Amen.

## BIRTHDAYS

We wish to congratulate all of our brothers and sisters who are celebrating birthdays or an anniversary in May:

Jay Orman, 6	Wesley Ruffin, 11	Edwin Walker, 28
Sedric Stewart, 9	Gloria Gillard, 16	Cynthia Jones, 17
Victor Augustine, 27	Katherine Guccione, 11	Joanne Lewis, 28
Clementine Soniat, 9	David Eugene, 9	Paulette Duplessis, 11
Mervin Brochard, 18	Shelly Jones, 31	Kentral Hagan, 19
Roxanne L'Herisse, 9	Tiayana Marshall, 2	Fr Robert Seay, 17
Lyndon Guidry, 21	Bryce Eastwood, 3	Karlin Dukes, 8
Brian England, 26	Angel Washington, 19	Breyanne Johnson, 8

## PARISH CALENDAR

Religious Education Class, contact *Vanessa Matthews*  
Choir Rehearsal, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm.

Senior Bingo/Luncheon, Thursday, May 18, 11:00 - 1:00 pm

Food for Seniors, **Tuesday**, May 30, 10:00 am until 12:00 noon

Emmaus Ministry, Wednesday, May 24, 10:00 am.

Rosary & Adoration, every Friday in May at 12:00 noon

The Sanctuary Lamp light will burn throughout the month of **May** for the soul of

**Most Reverend Bishop Fernand J. Cheri, III, OFM.**

*"If anybody ask you who I am, tell them that I'm a child of God."*

and for the soul of **Walter County, Jr.**

*requested by his mother Audrey County*

## REFLECTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - MAY 28, 2023 - Solemnity of Pentecost

### THE FIRST READING

**ACTS 2:1-11**

*And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind.*

As fire surges in the wind,  
you blow through  
all creation.

Not just in that upper room,  
in one place and  
time,  
but  
everywhere.

Oh Spirit,  
set our hearts on fire  
every minute of every day.

Let us  
go with you to  
the ends of the earth.

### THE SECOND READING

**1**

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:3B-7, 12-13**

*We do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings.*

Spirit of Jesus,  
You know our prayers.  
Take our sighs up to the Father.  
Wrap our life around them.  
Let our spirits cry out  
in joyful harmony  
with you:  
Abba, Father!

### THE GOSPEL

**JOHN 20:19-23**

*And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."*

Fiery Spirit of Love,  
O Father of the Poor,  
Warmth in a Land of Chill,  
Comforter of all of us: rich, poor,  
prisoners of global violence, breathe your life  
into our dying hearts and souls.

Now, more than ever  
we need you to bestow upon us  
knowledge, wisdom, understanding, courage.  
Please send us out to the whole earth.

Let your fire smoldering in us  
light up all on our path.

We know that you hear us ...

"because the Holy Ghost over the bent  
World broods with warm breast and with ah!  
bright wings." \*

\*G. M. Hopkins

<http://liturgy.slu.edu/>

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our God is so good, isn't He? Rather than being distant or remote, He is present in our everyday encounters and experiences, smiling and delighting in our joys, offering comfort, strength and guidance in times of trial.

I know the faith community at St. Mary of the Angels has endured more than your fair share of challenges. In late August 2005, in my role as a staff writer for *The Catholic Telegraph*, newspaper for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, I somehow managed to reach Fr. Bart Pax as he and other hurricane victims awaited rescue on the roof of your parish school. I don't recall the specifics of our conversation, but will never forget his obvious love for the people of SMA and your neighbors and his determination to rebuild. I remember him also speaking of the faith and tenacity of parishioners.

Little did I know then that all these years later I would be visiting SMA to share the story of the faithful presence of the friars here, to get to know some of you, to experience and spread awareness of your enduring faith. Fr. Joe said it himself when I interviewed him shortly after Hurricane Ida: "The parish always endures."

During my time at SMA, what I experienced more than anything was your sense of joy: in God, in your relationships with one another, in the presence of the friars. That joy was so palpable at Sunday Mass on May 14. While I missed my faith community (Holy Trinity, Norwood, Ohio), being with all of you was indeed a blessing. Your choir is amazing!

Thank you for the warm welcome, for making me feel so much at home, your smiles, hugs, and most of all, your deep faith. I hope to return soon to your beautiful and lively parish community and city. Meanwhile, I will continue to be inspired by your sense of hope, your joy, your unwavering faith in our God who is with us always.

St. Mary of the Angels, St. Francis of Assisi and St. Angela Merici (foundress of the Ursuline Sisters),

Sr. Eileen Connelly, OSU

Director of Communications

Franciscan Friars of St. John the Baptist Province

[econnelly@friars.us](mailto:econnelly@friars.us)

