

**JANUARY, 14, 2024 — SECOND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

## *St. Mary of the Angels*



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

### 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.

#### PARISH STAFF

Fr. Francis Kamau, FMH.....Pastor  
Br. Daniel Barrett, OFM.....Pastoral Associate  
Br. Juniper Crouch, OFM.....in Residence  
Vanessa Matthews.....Director of Religious Ed  
Jeffrey Duplessis.....Director of Music Ministry  
Paulette Duplessis.....Secretary  
Lisa Alexander.....Financial Manager  
Saundria Washington.....Housekeeper

#### PARISH COUNCIL

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

#### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass.....4:00 p.m.  
Sunday Gospel Mass.....10:00 a.m.

#### Community Center Rental

504.945.3186

#### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**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.

#### 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

January 14, 2024  
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus.*  
*John 1:40–42*

Andrew was a follower of Saint John the Baptist until John directed him to Jesus. One day John saw Jesus walk by and pointed to Jesus, telling Andrew and another disciple, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples followed after Jesus. After spending the day with Jesus, Andrew was so impressed that the next day he excitedly went to find his brother, Simon Peter, to tell him about Jesus. As is mentioned in the passage above, he enthusiastically tells Peter, "We have found the Messiah." Then, once Peter meets Jesus, Peter also becomes His disciple.

A similar experience occurs between the brothers Philip and Nathanael (see [John 1:43–51](#)). Jesus calls Philip to follow Him, and he does. After coming to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, Philip goes to tell his brother Nathanael that he has found "the one about whom Moses wrote in the law, and also the prophets." Nathanael believes and follows our Lord. Thus, a series of conversions began after John the Baptist gave testimony that Jesus was the "Lamb of God."

Though we can be certain that Jesus did not need the testimony of John the Baptist to convert Andrew, nor the testimony of Andrew to convert Simon Peter, nor the testimony of Philip to convert Nathanael, this is how it happened. Jesus chose to use these three to bring about the conversion of others.

In God's divine plan of salvation, He regularly uses the mediation of others to bring forth the conversion of hearts. We see this on many levels. First and foremost, He uses our Blessed Mother as the Mediatrix of Grace to bring forth His grace upon us all. She is the instrument and Jesus is the source. Through her mediation, there are other saints who act as intercessors. And there are countless angels who also act as distributors of God's grace and mercy. God is the source of all but uses the heavenly hosts to bring forth His grace upon us all.

The same is true within our earthly existence. In addition to the numerous angels and saints who act as intercessors and mediators, God uses each one of us to bring about His Kingdom here and now in the lives of many. Every time we speak God's words or witness to God through our actions, we become instruments of God's mercy. And if we fully commit ourselves to the divine will, there are many who will be converted by God's grace through us.

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

Stewardship  
January 7, 2024

What we need each week.....	\$3,600.00
Envelopes & loose received .....	\$3,760.00
<b>Online Giving</b> .....	<b>\$200.00</b>
What we are <i>over</i> this week .....	<b>\$360.00</b>
Envelopes used .....	107
Weekend Masses attendance .....	104

[smaneworleans.org/give](http://smaneworleans.org/give)

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.



January 14, 2024 – January 20, 2024

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

*Each Mass is offered for the intentions of all present and for the following: "Deceased Parishioners" will be remembered on every date when a specified Mass intention is not requested.*

Sunday.....	<i>Parishioners of SMA</i>
Monday.....	<i>Glenna Page</i> <i>Janice Moller</i>
Tuesday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners</i> †
Wednesday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners</i> †
Thursday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners</i> †
Friday.....	<i>Deceased Parishioners</i> †
Saturday .....	<i>Deceased Parishioners</i> †



ORDINARY TIME

Catholic Charities

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



### **"Christmas at Greccio" Indulgence**

This year is the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Christmas in Greccio. Greccio is the city in Italy where St. Francis of Assisi displayed the very first nativity scene. Pope Francis recently granted to all churches entrusted to Franciscan care (like St. Mary of the Angels in New Orleans; also the Poor Clare Monastery on Henry Clay) the possibility for all faithful Catholics to receive a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, from December 8, 2023 to February 2, 2024. An indulgence is God's remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven in the Sacrament of Penance.

The "usual conditions" are:

- \*a Catholic in the state of grace
- \*an indulgence can be gained only once a day
- \*recent reception of the Sacrament of Penance
- \*recent reception of Holy Communion
- \*a prayer for the intentions of the Pope

It will be very convenient for any SMA parishioner, or any other person seeking the indulgence, to complete these "conditions" before or after any weekday or Sunday Mass before the deadline.

### **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

### **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

### **Emmanuel 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



### **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.  
**\*parishioner.**

Danielle Davis\*  
Taylor Brown  
Beverly Bierria\*  
Althea Augustine\*  
Darril Frick\*  
Gary Medley\*  
Patrick Maheia\*  
Dana Roy  
Shirley Ellsworth\*  
Corey Lee  
Leslie Duplessis\*  
Audrey County\*  
Yvonne Dukes\*  
Rudolph McCormick\*  
Very Rev. Henry Davis, S.S.J., V.F.

Bonito J. Manego  
Shirley Hawkins\*  
Vertner Woods\*  
Patricia Eugene\*  
Geraldine Aguiard\*  
Ronald Cavalier  
Janice Nadler\*  
Mary Nadler  
Helen Legier\*  
Lym Evans\*  
Jacquelyn Buggage\*  
Albert Evans, Jr.\*  
Shirleen Polite  
Lorenzo Esteen\*

Claude Wiltz\*  
Henry Butler\*  
Aline Robinson\*  
Dorothy Grant\*  
Victor Jackson  
Gerald Cavalier  
Lorraine Jackson\*  
Kent Landry\*  
Robin Jackson  
Jaden Coleman  
Thelma Hall\*  
Patricia Parker  
Anna Cavalier\*

### **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)

### **Calling All Keys**

In preparation for the arrival of our new and permanent pastor, it is common practice for all parishioners who have keys to church buildings to return those keys, so that the new pastor may issue those keys to whom he wishes. Accordingly, if you are a parishioner with church keys, please turn them in to the Church Office.



### **"SOME THOUGHTS ON STEWARDSHIP"**

Jesus sent his followers in many directions to many places "like lambs among wolves" with no money, no provisions, no sandals, and they were to avoid greeting people on the way. They had only their faith in Jesus, what they heard him say and what they saw him do. He knew that armed with only that faith they could do great things. And they did great things because of their faith in Jesus and were amazed at what they had done in His name? Do we do great things because of our faith in Jesus? Do we fail to do great things because of our lack of faith? Or do we act, despite some doubts, amazed at what we can accomplish when we have faith in Jesus? As a result of our Baptism it is our responsibility to nurture our faith in Jesus so we can constantly be amazed at what we can accomplish in His name.



### **SMA FOOD PANTRY**

In order to feed the poor who knock at our door, we need your help in restocking our non-perishable food supplies in the church's food pantry.  
*Thank you for your support and concern.*



### **PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY**

Quentin Green  
Edjunique Francois  
Michael Anthony McCormick, II  
Kenneth Cuneo  
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 **January**:

Althea Augustine, 15	Rudolph McCormick, 3	Helen Legier, 12
Patrick Maheia, 9	Kenneth Nadler, 15	Naomi Farve, 19
Rosalie Hom, 22	Vaughn Valeary, 13	Darren Hagan, 11
Dwayne Mallet, 25	Michael Turner, 4	Candice Ebbs, 11
Kevin Herring, 4	Jordan Johnson, 6	Landon Davis, 18
Saundria Washington, 2	Sheryl Henry-Batiste, 2	Henry Butler, 28

## PARISH CALENDAR

Religious Education Class, contact *Vanessa Matthews*

Choir Rehearsal, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm.

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

Food for Seniors, **Tuesday, January 30**, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Emmaus Ministry, **Wednesday, January 24, 2024**, 10:00 am.

Rosary & Adoration, 2nd Friday of every month at 12:00 noon

*The Sanctuary Lamp is a wonderful way to remember, to pray for and to honor a deceased loved one. Please consider making a donation to keep the light burning for the next two weeks.*

## REFLECTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - JANUARY 21, 2024 – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### THE FIRST READING

#### JONAH 3:1-5, 10

*The word of the Lord came to Jonah. So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the Lord's bidding.*

When God called him,  
Jonah at first ran away.

God calls us to turn to  
him instead  
of running away.

Lord,  
when we think we have turned  
as far and as often  
as we can, help us turn again.

### THE SECOND READING

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

*I tell you, my brother and sisters, the time is running out.*

Yes,  
time flies.  
—At warp speed.

Christ, let us not cling  
to this world.

Help us detach  
from  
everything  
but love.

### THE GOSPEL

#### MARK 1:14-20

*"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.*

Jesus called  
Simon and Andrew, fishermen.

It was radical.

They dropped their nets.  
James and John left their boats,  
and also their father,  
who was sitting in a boat too.

Jesus, we know  
that you are calling us also,  
(as unlikely a choice as were the fishermen),  
to take your word and grace to everyone.

We want to leave our boats  
and drop our nets.  
Choose us, please.

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

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*"Peace is not merely a distant goal that we seek, but a means by which we arrive at that goal."*

*-Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Today we celebrate the birthday of a man who only lived on this earth for 39 years. But a man chosen by God to deliver a message of peace, love and understanding to all humanity, especially for those who stand in need. The Civil Rights movement was about equality for all, no matter the color of your skin.

Many of us and our parents lived through the Civil Rights era and are better people because of it. We all have reason to celebrate Dr. King's legacy of peace and equality for all.

This same sentiment of peace continues to be echoed by individuals today, including, Pope Francis, leader of our Catholic Church:

"God is peace: Let us ask him to help us to be peacemakers each day, in our life, in our families, in our cities and nations, in the whole world. Let us allow ourselves to be moved by God's goodness."

*-Pope Francis*

On the anniversary of his ninety-fifth birthday, we are called to carry on his message and be witnesses of peace in our families, in our communities and in our world.

*Happy Birthday Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*Vanessa Matthews*