

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 —

SECOND SUNDAY of LENT

St. Mary of the Angels



PHONE: 504-945-3186

3501 N. MIRO STREET, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70117

FAX: 504-945-9115

WEBSITE: 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
Joffre 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 Duroncelet.....Community Life
Vaughn Valeary.....Evangelization
TBA.....Justice & Charity
Embra Bridges.....Respect Life
Lynn Duroncelet.....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

February 25, 2024
Second Sunday of Lent



Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. **Mark 9:2-3**

Just six days prior to this glorious event of the Transfiguration, Jesus spoke for the first time to His disciples about His pending crucifixion and death. He taught them that “the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days” (**Mark 8:31**). Recall that Peter had a difficult time accepting this teaching. Jesus went on to rebuke Peter for his refusal to accept this prophetic teaching and further explained that “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me” (**Mark 8:34**). These disciples then had six days to ponder this prophecy of our Lord before witnessing the Transfiguration.

In your life, is there something that God is trying to say to you that you have difficulty accepting? If so, it will most likely be related to God’s call to you to take up your cross and follow Him. The Cross of Christ comes in many forms throughout life. It might be experienced when we allow the passion of anger to die so that pure mercy can be offered to one who has hurt us. Or it might be that God is calling you to step out in faith to embrace some endeavor that requires courage and trust. Or it might be that God is calling you to accept some hardship in life that is difficult to accept, such as the loss of a loved one, an illness, the loss of a job or any other difficulty that you struggle to accept with love and trust. Bitterness, resentment, anger, fear and the like are often the most difficult crosses we are called to embrace and let die.

If this resonates with you, then this story of the Transfiguration is for you. After giving these disciples six days to ponder the difficult news of His coming Cross, Jesus gives them hope and inspiration through this sacred encounter. Though it lasted for only a short time, this manifestation of Jesus’ glory was all that these disciples needed to begin to accept Jesus’ prediction of His passion. On one hand, they feared what Jesus said was going to happen. But on the other hand, they saw His glory and majesty. By combining these two experiences, these disciples were given a new hope and strength to trust that whatever was to happen in the future, God was in control.

If life is good for you right now, then rejoice that you are currently sharing a taste of the glory of the Transfiguration. Give thanks to God and tell Him with Saint Peter, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here!” Give thanks to him for the joy and consolation you currently experience. But if life is difficult for you right now, ponder those six days during which the disciples struggled with the prediction of the Lord’s passion. Think about their confusion, doubts and fear. As you do, turn your eyes up the mountain. Know that the glory of God awaits you and that He wants to free you from all fear and anxiety. The mountain is climbed by a firm faith that is grounded in prayer. Make that journey with our Lord through prayer.

mycatholiclife.com

Stewardship
February 18, 2024

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| What we need each week..... | \$3,600.00 |
| Envelopes & loose received | \$2,653.00 |
| Maintenance..... | \$179.00 |
| Online Giving..... | \$630.00 |
| What we are under this week..... | \$138.00 |
| Envelopes used | 92 |
| Weekend Masses attendance | 112 |

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.



February 25, 2024 – March 2, 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..... | Parishioners of SMA |
| Monday..... | Yavanna Johnson † |
| Tuesday..... | Deceased Parishioners † |
| Wednesday..... | Deceased Parishioners † |
| Thursday..... | Deceased Parishioners † |
| Friday..... | Deceased Parishioners † |
| Saturday | Josephine Baptiste † |



The **Sanctuary Lamp** light will bum daily during the month of *February* for the souls of **Lenora L’Herisse** requested by **Geraldine Aguiard** and **Rowena Hinds** requested by **Mary Hinds**.

Catholic Charities

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

LENTEN SCHEDULE 2024

Fridays of Lent: 5:30 PM Adoration and Benediction; 6:00 PM

Stations of the Cross on March 1, March 8, March 15 and March 22.

Confessions... Wednesday, March 6, March 13, and March 20, 5:00-6:30 PM.

Fasting and Abstinence... fasting is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not 59. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to each one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years or older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and on all Fridays of Lent. The determination of certain days as obligatory days of penance should not be understood as limiting the occasions for Chris-

Opportunities For Spiritual Growth During Lent

Abstinence from meat Ash Wednesday and all Lenten Fridays (all Catholics 14 yrs and older)

Fasting Ash Wednesday and Good Friday (all Catholics 18-59 yrs old)

Weekday Mass 8:00 AM (MON, TUES, Wed, Thur, Fri.
Confessions Saturdays 3:30 PM; Sundays 9:30 AM



Baby Bottle and Baby Shower Campaign. The annual SMA Baby Bottle/Baby Shower Campaign will begin on Saturday, January 29th and run through Thursday, February, 29th. Parishioners are invited to donate baby items such as diapers, clothes, bottles, etc. Or we will have baby bottles available on the display table, if you prefer to donate a financial gift. Your gifts will be distributed to agencies serving mothers and their babies. Thank you for participating in this worthwhile endeavor. Please call the church office if you have any questions.

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*
Verner Woods*
Patricia Eugene*
Geraldine Aguiard*
Ronald Cavalier
Janice Nadler*
Mary Nadler
Helen Legier*
Lynn 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*
Percy Alexander

"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;
website: www.franciscan.org

Archdiocese of New Orleans: vocations@archdiocese-no.org;
nolapriest.com

Adrian Dominican: vocations@adriandominicans.org

Lenten Rice Bowl... please be generous in your giving.

Palms... we are gathering palms for Palm Sunday. If you have palms and would like to donate them, please bring to the church.

Altar Server Awards Mass will be celebrated at 5:30 PM on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at St. Rita Church, New Orleans.

Maintenance Envelope... a maintenance envelope has replaced the utility envelope in your 2024 offering box. This monthly envelope will be used for church repair projects and to support our up-coming 100 year centennial in 2025. **Please be generous in your giving.**

The **Order of St. Louis IX Ceremony** will take place on Sunday, March 3 at 2:30 p.m., St. Catherine of Siena Church, 105 Bonnabel Blvd., Metairie. Congrats to *Eglah Devezin*.

Fr. Daniel Green is the facilitator for the merging of the current churches of Our Lady Star of the Sea and St. Mary of the Angels. The first meeting with **SMA parishioners** is schedule for Saturday, March 2, after the 4:00 pm Mass. Fr. Green will answer all questions or issues you may have concerning this merger. Your presence and input is needed to help with the transition of our new parish. Thank you. **Fr. Francis.**



What is Operation Rice Bowl?

Operation Rice Bowl is the Lenten solidarity program of Catholic Relief Services. Through the Eucharist we have a spiritual connection with all of humanity. Operation Rice Bowl connects our Lenten activities to our brothers and sisters in need worldwide.

We **pray** as a community, **fast** in solidarity with those who are hungry, and **give** concrete assistance to those most in need, while we **learn** about the joys and challenges in the lives of our brothers and sisters around the world.

The theme of Operation Rice Bowl is *We are Disciples for all Nations*. Through participation in the program, Catholics grow in solidarity with their own faith communities and reach out in solidarity to people who live in communities far away.



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 | Kenneth Cuneo |
| Edjunique Francois | Christina Valeary |
| Michael Anthony McCormick, II | Tyler J. McCormick |

BIRTHDAYS

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

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Henry Scott, 2 | Shirley Hawkins, 27 | Enola Helmstetter, 3 |
| Anna Cavalier, 28 | Geraldine Aguillard, 4 | Janice Nadler, 28 |
| Jerri Merridy, 9 | Beverly Bierria, 16 | Mary Hinds, 19 |
| Wardell Carriere, 10 | Elijah Scott, 7 | Tommy Pugh, 7 |
| Diane Pugh, 24 | Sean Johnson, 12 | Nayvi Hawkins, 25 |
| Thelonius Green, 15 | Paula Arceneaux, 17 | Kristyana Johnson, 2 |
| Rose Santa Cruze, 17 | Darrin Duroncelet, 18 | |

PARISH CALENDAR

Religious Education Class, contact *Vanessa Matthews*

Choir Rehearsal, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm.

Senior Bingo/Luncheon, **Thursday, March 21**, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Food for Seniors, **Tuesday, March 26**, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Emmaus Ministry, **Wednesday, March 27** 2024, 11:30 am

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

REFLECTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - MARCH 3, 2024 – Third Sunday of LENT

THE FIRST READING

EXODUS 20:1-17 OR 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

Strike the rock and water will flow from it for the people to drink.

They dragged themselves across the desert dying of thirst.

They had to question, whether the Lord was still with them.

Yes, God was there, but something had drained their souls of sight.

So too with us. It can be hard to find God in these arid days of our lives.

Help us, please.

Be fresh water to our dry days.

THE SECOND READING

ROMANS 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit.

Spirit of God,
We hope in you.
You never disappoint.
Your love descends on us like rain.

You want us to be graceful gardens.

But our roots need rain!
Please bathe them in your goodness.

THE GOSPEL

JOHN 4:5-42

"But whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life."

Lord, when you declare to a woman at the well everything about her life, we think of our own lives as well.

You know each of our ins and outs too, when we sit and when we stand. when we yearn for light, love, beauty and peace, for worship of you in Spirit and truth. Still, often we remain dry! Come, Lord Jesus, quench our thirst for life within your living water.

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

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Dear friends at St. Mary of the Angels,

My departure from New Orleans in late January was so challenging that I am only now getting a chance to say a proper "Good Bye" and "Thank You" to you. Please excuse my tardy communication with you. You don't need to know all the unexpected difficulties I encountered in making this transfer, but I am now comfortably settled with five other Franciscans in my new home in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

My two years living and ministering with you at SMA were wonderful and memorable, and I'm heartbroken that we Franciscans were unable to continue our presence with you after 98 years of consecutive and uninterrupted service. It was truly an honor and a privilege to meet, to minister, and to be with you throughout these past two years – celebrating weekend Masses, baptizing a few children, and burying many of your loved ones. I pray God's blessings and guidance upon you as you work together to form one new merged church family with your sisters and brothers from the former Our Lady Star of the Sea.

We Franciscans here in ABQ are involved in "supply ministry" – we preside at Masses in parishes where the pastor might be ill or unavailable for some reason or other, and a substitute priest is needed. Last weekend I celebrated Masses at three different Native American settlements about 40 miles west of Albuquerque.

Please keep me in your prayers; you're in mine. Know that you are lovingly and fondly remembered.

Fr. Mike Haney, OFM
Casa Guadalupe
1204 Stinson Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87121

ST. MARY OF THE ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISHIONER CONTACT SIGNUP



SCAN ME WITH your PHONE

