

**MARCH 31, 2024 — EASTER SUNDAY of the RESSURECTION of the LORD**

*St. Mary of the Angels*



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FAX: 504-945-9115

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  
Jeoffre Duplessis.....Director of Music Ministry  
Paulette Duplessis.....Secretary  
TBA.....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

March 31, 2024  
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord



*"Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him.' Behold, I have told you."* **Matthew 28:5-7**

The Lord has truly risen! Alleluia! Sin and death have been destroyed, and new life has been offered to all who cling to the Savior in faith. What a glorious day we celebrate today!

Matthew's Gospel, quoted above, is read at the Easter Vigil Mass. Prior to the reading of this Gospel are seven Old Testament readings, each followed by a psalm, as well as a New Testament reading, another psalm and the Gospel. There are seventeen readings in all at the Easter Vigil! For that reason, the Easter Vigil is called "the mother of all vigils." Though many people have not had the opportunity to participate in the Easter Vigil, it is helpful to understand it, because its structure and length reflect the awe and wonder we must have at the Resurrection of Christ.

The Vigil Mass begins in darkness, after the sun sets, with all the lights out in the Church. Outside, a new "blazing fire" is lit and blessed that symbolizes the Light of Christ that dispels all darkness. From that fire, the Easter candle and other candles held by the faithful in the church are lit, and the new light illuminates the church. The procession into the church with the candles is followed by the singing of the ancient hymn the *Exultat*. That hymn is the Church's announcement of the Resurrection of Christ and is filled with profound theology, presented with youthful excitement and amazement. The tabernacle remains empty as a way of inviting the faithful to anticipate the celebration of the Eucharist once again. The lengthy Liturgy of the Word follows, as it recounts the history of God's plan of salvation. Finally, the Sacraments of Initiation are celebrated within the Mass that culminates with the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist.

Why is so much solemnity given to this celebration? Because Easter is worth it! Nothing ever has been and nothing ever will be more glorious than the triumph of the Son of God over sin and death. Easter must fill us with awe and wonder. Because of His death and Resurrection, our lives are changed forever. Therefore even if you are not able to participate in the "mother of all vigils," try to learn the lessons this vigil teaches.

At times in life, we can become impatient. We tend to want what we want when we want it. But the lesson of the Holy Scriptures is that God's plan is not only perfect but is also fulfilled only in accord with God's timing. This is His perfect wisdom. It's a wisdom that we cannot always comprehend. In the end, if we embrace the perfect plan of God in our lives, we will share in the Resurrection of Christ. Nothing could ever be better than this. There is nothing that this world can offer us that even comes close to the glorious reward of sharing in the Resurrection of Christ.

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

Stewardship  
March 24, 2024

What we need each week.....	\$3,600.00
Envelopes & loose received .....	\$2,352.00
Maintenance.....	\$186.00
<b>Online Giving.....</b>	<b>\$535.00</b>
What we are <i>under</i> this week.....	<i>\$713.00</i>
Envelopes used .....	94
Weekend Masses attendance .....	151

[smaneworleans.org/give](http://smaneworleans.org/give)  
Thank you for your support

March 31, 2024 – April 6, 2024

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

*Each Mass is offered for the intentions of all present and for the following: "Deceased Parishioners" will be remembered on*

Sunday.....	<b>Barbara Frick †</b>
Monday.....	<b>Jim Vallee</b>
Tuesday.....	<b>Evelyn Johnson</b>
Wednesday.....	<b>Jim Vallee</b>
Thursday.....	<b>Jim Vallee</b>
Friday.....	<b>Bob Mauss †</b>
Saturday .....	<b>Michael Darby †</b>



The *Sanctuary Lamp* light will burn daily during the month of *April* for the soul of **Clarence Baptiste** requested by *Joanne Lewis*.

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.**

<i>Danielle Davis*</i>	<i>Bonito J. Manego</i>	<i>Claude Wiltz*</i>
<i>Taylor Brown</i>	<i>Henry Butler*</i>	<i>Beverly Bierria*</i>
<i>Vertner Woods*</i>	<i>Aline Robinson*</i>	<i>Crystal Valeary*</i>
<i>Althea Augustine*</i>	<i>Patricia Eugene*</i>	<i>Dorothy Grant*</i>
<i>Darril Frick*</i>	<i>Geraldine Aguillard*</i>	<i>Victor Jackson</i>
<i>Gary Medley*</i>	<i>Ronald Cavalier</i>	<i>Gerald Cavalier</i>
<i>Patrick Maheia*</i>	<i>Janice Nadler*</i>	<i>Lorraine Jackson*</i>
<i>Dana Roy</i>	<i>Mary Nadler</i>	<i>Kent Landry*</i>
<i>Shirley Ellsworth*</i>	<i>Helen Legier *</i>	<i>Robin Jackson</i>
<i>Corey Lee</i>	<i>Lynn Evans*</i>	<i>Jaden Coleman</i>
<i>Leslie Duplessis*</i>	<i>Jacquelyn Buggage*</i>	<i>Thelma Hall*</i>
<i>Audrey County*</i>	<i>Albert Evans, Jr. *</i>	<i>Patricia Parker</i>
<i>Yvonne Dukes*</i>	<i>Shirleen Polite</i>	<i>Anna Cavalier*</i>
<i>Rudolph McCormick*</i>	<i>Lorenzo Esteen*</i>	<i>Percy Alexander</i>
<i>Very Rev. Henry Davis, S.S.J., V.F.</i>		<i>Herreast Harrison*</i>
<i>Fr. Robert Seay, OFM</i>		



## 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.



## Divine Mercy Sunday

The Sunday after Easter, April 7, is Divine Mercy Sunday. Special graces can be obtained that day. With the canonization of Saint Faustina, Pope John Paul II, now Saint John Paul II, declared that "the Second Sunday of Easter, henceforth throughout the Church will also be called Divine Mercy Sunday." From the diary of Saint Faustina, Our Lord said, "Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life (Holy Communion) on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. (Diary, #300) To receive the special graces of Divine Mercy Sunday:

- Place complete trust in God's mercy
- Repent of all your sins and go to Confession within a reasonable time before or on the Feast (during Lent suffices)
- Celebrate God's Mercy by attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion always, while in the state of grace (no mortal sin) on Divine Mercy Sunday or on the vigil

• Venerate the image of The Divine Mercy  
Be merciful to others, by our actions, words, or prayers  
If you are: homebound, can't receive the Eucharist because of marital circumstances, not Catholic, or need to know essentials, then visit [thedivinemercy.org/celebrate/how](http://thedivinemercy.org/celebrate/how)



# EASTER

## Catholic Charities

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

"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)

In order to provide pastoral care for the people of God in the Archdiocese of New Orleans, Archbishop Aymond has made the following appointments, which are effective July 1, 2024: **Reverend Francis Kamau, F.M.H. as Pastor of merged parishes: Our Lady Star of the Sea, New Orleans / St. Mary of the Angels, New Orleans.**

In observance of the **Sacred Triduum** and the celebration of Easter, the Parish Office will close at noon on Holy Thursday, March 28, 2024, and will remain closed through Easter Monday, April 1, 2024. Parish Office will reopen on Tuesday, April 2, 2024.

Every year on **Good Friday**, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection. Please give generously.

The **Shroud Encounter** will be held at St. Ann Church and Shrine on Saturday April 13th at 6:00 p.m. and Sunday April 14th at 1:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00. Children under 18 are free. Contact the church at 455-7-71 or [dwilson@stannchurchandshrine.org](mailto:dwilson@stannchurchandshrine.org)

**Second Collection**...April 20-21, 2024 for Diocesan Priest Retirement.

**CRS Rice Bowl**...we are asking you to bring your Lenten Rice Bowl



Just when I was beginning to know my way around NOLA a little bit I had to move! What luck! But Albuquerque is a beautiful place, relaxed, and surrounded by mountains, with gorgeous sunshine most mornings.

I'm living in a stand – alone friary not attached to any church or school. The building is 15 years old, the newest and nicest place I've ever lived. It used to be a provincial headquarters residence until our October 6<sup>th</sup> province consolidation.

We 5 friars live in 5 of the 12 spacious suites. I'm doing "supply" work – this weekend I have Masses at three Native American settlements 40 miles west of ABQ.

Blessings and prayers for all of you at St. Mary/Star of the Sea.  
Peace, Fr. Mike



## 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 April:

Darril Frick, 30	Michael Blazio, 15
Helen Thomas, 11	Jolynn Ruffin, 29
Dianne Clippis, 29	Vanessa Matthews, 3
Rosalie Armant, 16	Valencia Hawkins, 4
Lynn Scott, 10	Crystal Valeary, 12
Gerard Labostrie, 27	Felicia El-Mansura, 19
Terrence L'Herisse, 4	Alexandria Howard, 21
Imani Polete, 15	Ariane Morgan, 5
Bruce El-Mansura, 30	Jeremiah Johnson, 25

### PARISH CALENDAR

Religious Education Class, contact *Vanessa Matthews*

Choir Rehearsal, Tuesdays, 6:00 pm.

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

Food for Seniors, *Tuesday, May 28*, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Emmaus Ministry, *Wednesday, April 24*, 2024, 11:30 am at the Munch Factory Restaurant, 6514 Congress Dr.

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

### REFLECTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - APRIL 7, 2024 – Second Sunday of EASTER (Divine Mercy)

#### THE FIRST READING

ACTS 4:32-35

*There was no needy person among them.*

No one  
owned anything.  
They shared all they had.  
No person in need did without.  
One heart and one mind was theirs.  
Christ was their food. Christ was their life.  
Lord,  
Let our love for you bind us to each other,  
so that there is not one person  
left needy in this  
world.  
Let us  
help you make it  
happen.

#### THE SECOND READING

1 JOHN 5:1-6

*For the love of God is this, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.*

Lord,  
through your  
death and resurrection  
you made peace with the world.  
By your grace let us love you,  
and love one  
another,  
and spread your peace  
throughout the  
world.

#### THE GOSPEL

JOHN 20:19-31

*He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."*

The Lord God formed them out of clay  
and blew into their nostrils  
the breath of life.

*My Lord and my God!*

Jesus breathed on them  
and gave them  
his own Spirit.

*My Lord and my God!*

Christ Jesus, fill us with your  
very own life so we can  
take your love and  
forgiveness to  
every single  
person on  
earth.

*My Lord and my God!*

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

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### What is Easter?

From the USCCB

The word "Easter" comes from Old English, meaning simply the "East." The sun which rises in the East, bringing light, warmth, and hope, is a symbol for the Christian of the rising Christ, who is the true Light of the world. The Paschal Candle used during the Easter Vigil is a central symbol of this divine light, which is Christ. It is kept near the ambo throughout Easter Time and lit for all liturgical celebrations.

The Easter Vigil is the "Mother of All Vigils" and Easter Sunday is the greatest of all Sundays. The season of Easter is the most important of all liturgical times, which Catholics celebrate as the Lord's resurrection from the dead, culminating in his Ascension to the Father and sending of the Holy Spirit upon the Church. The octave of Easter comprises the eight days which stretch from the first to the second Sunday. It is a way of prolonging the joy of the initial day. There are 50 days of Easter from the first Sunday to Pentecost. It is characterized, above all, by the joy of glorified life and the victory over death expressed most fully in the great resounding cry of the Christian: *Alleluia! All faith flows from faith in the resurrection: "If Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty, too, is your faith."* (1 Cor 15:14)

### HAPPY EASTER

*from the Friars and Staff*