

## 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

April 21, 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Easter



*Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep." John 10:11-13*

Today, on the Fourth Sunday of Easter, we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. It is a day when we reflect upon the tender image of Jesus as the Shepherd of us all. It is also a day set aside to pray for more shepherds within our Church who will shepherd God's flock with the Heart of Christ.

Our Gospel passage comes from John 10 which, in part, is a commentary on the previous chapter that includes the long and detailed story of the healing of the blind man. Recall that Jesus healed this man who was blind from birth. He did this healing "so that the works of God might be made visible through him." As a result of this man's healing, the Pharisees cast the blind man out of the synagogue, not believing that Jesus' healing was from God. After the man was cast out of the synagogue, Jesus spoke with him again and he professed his deep faith in Jesus, the true Shepherd. The healed blind man said, "I do believe, Lord." Then he worshiped Jesus. Thus, the greater healing of this man was that he became a member of God's flock, accepting Jesus as his true Shepherd.

Our Gospel today is Jesus' commentary upon the actions of the Pharisees in contrast to His own. The Pharisees, as religious leaders, were not shepherds. They were "thieves and robbers" who came to "steal and slaughter and destroy." Jesus, however, came so that those who listened to His voice "might have life and have it more abundantly."

The Gospel passage quoted above explains why the Pharisees were not true shepherds. It was because they "work for pay" and have "no concern for the sheep." Think about that statement as it applies to the Pharisees and their treatment of this man who was blind from birth. First of all, the "pay" that these Pharisees worked for was their own self importance—a fleeting and worldly reward. They saw themselves as the true teachers and interpreters of the Law and saw anyone who did not follow them as a threat. The Pharisees clearly perceived Jesus as such a threat to them. For that reason, they took their envy out on this humble and simple blind man. They were not shepherds to him. They did not encourage him, support him, point him to God or act in any way as an instrument of God's grace. Instead, they condemned this innocent and holy man out of their pride.

Though God shepherds us today through His sacred pastors, we are all called to participate in this shepherding of the Good Shepherd in our own unique way. We are called to lead those within our families, at work, at school, within our neighborhoods, social circles and in every other societal context. But too often we imitate these Pharisees by allowing our own selfishness and desire for self importance to interfere with our ability to put others first and love them with the Shepherd's heart.

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

Stewardship  
April 14, 2024

What we need each week.....	\$3,600.00
Envelopes & loose received .....	\$2,797.00
Maintenance.....	\$130.00
<b>Online Giving.....</b>	<b>\$350.00</b>
What we are <b>under</b> this week.....	<b>\$453.00</b>
Envelopes used .....	81
Weekend Masses attendance .....	129

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

April 21, 2024 – April 27, 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.....	<b>Parishioners of SMA †</b>
Monday.....	<b>Deceased Parishioners †</b>
Tuesday.....	<b>Evelyn Johnson</b>
Wednesday.....	<b>Deceased Parishioners †</b>
Thursday.....	<b>Deceased Parishioners †</b>
Friday.....	<b>Pamela Rodgers †</b>
Saturday .....	<b>Michael Darby †</b>



The **Sanctuary Lamp** light will burn daily during the month of *April* for the souls of **Clarence Baptiste** requested by *Joanne Lewis*; and **Kevin Landry** requested by *Lynn Evans*.

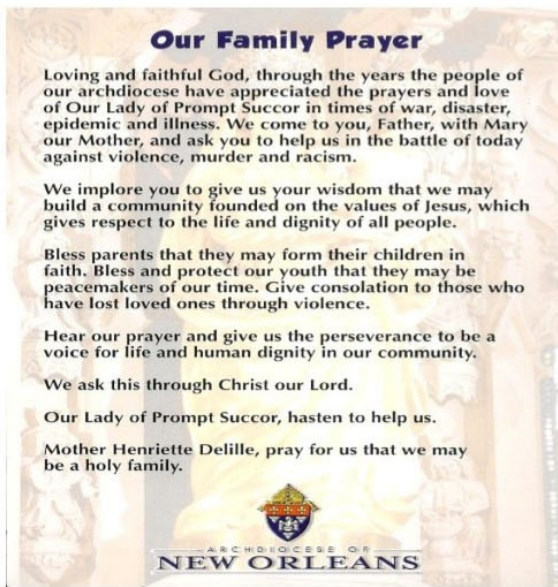
PRAYER LINE

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





### PRAYER FOR THE CANONIZATION OF MOTHER MARY LANGE

Almighty and Eternal God,  
You granted Mother Mary Lange extraordinary trust  
in Your providence. You endowed her with humility,  
courage, holiness and an extraordinary sense of ser-  
vice to the poor and sick.  
You enabled her to found the  
Oblate Sisters of Providence  
and provide educational, social and  
spiritual ministry especially to the  
African American community.  
Mother Lange's love for all enabled her to see Christ  
in each person, and the pain of prejudice and racial  
hatred never blurred that vision. Deign to raise her to  
the highest honors of the altar in order that, through  
her intercession, more souls may come to a deeper  
understanding and a more fervent love of You.  
Heavenly Father, glorify Your heart  
by granting also this favor  
(here mention your request)  
which we ask through the intercession of  
Your faithful servant, Mother Mary Lange.

# CHRIST YESTERDAY & TODAY

### Catholic Charities

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

"Pray for Vocations" is Religious Life and the Priesthood and  
discovers the right to life and dignity. Discover 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: **Rever-**  
**end Francis Kamau, F.M.H. as Pastor of merged parish-**  
**es: Our Lady Star of the Sea, New Orleans / St. Mary of the**  
**Angels, New Orleans.**

**Oder of St. Louis IX Medallion...**SMA recipients are asked to  
wear their medallion on Sunday, April 28 at the 10:00 am Mass.

**The Archdiocesan Youth Leadership Awards Celebration** will  
take place at 10:00 AM on Saturday, April 20, 2024, at St.  
Dominic Church, New Orleans.

The celebration of **the Sacrament of Confirmation** for adults will  
take place on the Solemnity of Pentecost, Sunday, May 19, at  
3:00 p.m. at St. Louis Cathedral.

**CRS Rice Bowl...**we are asking you to bring your Lenten Rice  
Bowl donations. Thank you for your generosity.

**Benefit Planning for Children and Adults with Special Needs**  
The Archdiocesan Commission for People with Disabilities is  
hosting a workshop on enrolling and protecting financial benefits  
for people with disabilities. The workshop will provide infor-  
mation by Carole Cuckell Neff on legal planning for adults and  
children with special needs. The workshop will be held at St.  
Francis Xavier Parish in Metairie on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from  
8:30-11:30



### 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, May 16*, 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 24, 2024 – Fifth Sunday of EASTER

### THE FIRST READING

**ACTS 9:26-31**

*Saul reported how...he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.*

Knock us off our feet  
Oh, and blind us  
with your  
light.  
Pour  
out your Spirit.  
Grant us new sight.  
Lord,  
talk to us  
as you did to Paul,  
so we too can speak out boldly  
in your name.

### THE SECOND READING

**1 JOHN 3:18-24**

*God is greater than our hearts and knows everything...we receive from him whatever we ask.*

Needs come in droves  
with their hands  
stretched  
out.  
You  
know  
each need  
better than we do.  
You know that we lack  
one thing only:  
trust in  
you, O God  
Abba.

### THE GOSPEL

**JOHN 15:1-8**

*Remain in me as I remain in you.*

The branches  
move and live and have their being—in the vine.  
The prayer of the spindly branches is one with  
the prayer of the anchor vine. Abba hears and  
listens to the beseeching of the vine.

Lord,  
you tell us to ask for whatever  
we want and it will be done for us.

We want: no wars  
no hunger  
no violence  
no prejudice  
no pandemics  
no global warming  
never suffering children  
never suffering immigrants  
We want to learn to love.  
Lord, please hear our prayers.

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

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*The National Black Catholic Congress*

**APRIL IS DEDICATED TO**  
*The Holy Eucharist*

“Jesus said to them, *I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.*” **John 6:35**

**St. Catherine of Siena: Saint of the Eucharist:** Cynthia Trainque

“O Catherine, Sweet Catherine” is what I call this very powerful saint. She has captured my heart like no other. Born in 1347 in Siena, Italy she was the 25th of 26 children of Giacomo and Lapa di Benincasa. Many of her siblings—including her twin, Giovanna, died at a few months old.

From age six, Catherine began to receive many mystical graces and made a vow of virginity to her Beloved Jesus at age twelve. When her older sister Bonaventura died in childbirth, the sixteen-year-old Catherine greatly upset her parents’ plans for her to marry Bonaventura’s widow by cutting off her hair and staging a massive fast.

Catherine became a Tertiary of the Order of St. Dominic after having been denied twice and bears the initials of T.O.S.D. after her name. After a three-year self-imposed time spent almost entirely in her bedroom as a form of a “novitiate” (not her novitiate for the Dominicans but a private formation), she was sent out in the world by God to do good.

In Catherine’s day it was very unusual to receive the Eucharist on a daily basis — one really had to have permission in order to do so and most times it was denied. Catherine, however, received very many mystical graces in the Eucharist — so great was her profound love of Jesus in the Eucharist. Visions and ecstasies often lasting 3-4 hours took place at Communion...many priests later attested to it. In fact, her spiritual director/confessor, Fr. Raymond of Capua, tells the following of this powerful and holy woman in his biography of her:

“Pope Gregory XI...to content this longing of hers, published a Bull that granted her the right to have a priest at her disposal to absolve her and administer Communion to her and also to have a portable altar, so that she could hear Mass and receive Communion whenever and wherever she liked” “For the seven year period prior to her death, Saint Catherine of Siena took no food into her body other than the Eucharist. Her fasting did not affect her energy, however. She maintained a very active life during those seven years. As a matter of fact, most of her great accomplishments occurred during that period. Not only did her fasting not cause her to lose energy, but became a source of extraordinary strength, she becoming stronger in the afternoon, after having received our Lord in His Eucharist.