

APRIL 28, 2024 — FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER

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
Jeffrey 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 Arment.....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

April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter



Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you." [John 15:1-3](#)

Pruning a vine is an important part of helping it to grow and produce not only more fruit but the best fruit. If left unpruned, a grape vine will eventually produce less fruit and poorer quality fruit. Good pruning helps to direct the nourishment of the vine to the new buds that are most fruitful.

Jesus' teaching above uses the imagery of pruning a vine to help us understand that faith must lead to charity. First, Jesus says that He is the "true vine." He is the only source of the nourishment we need for the new life of grace. He is the only way to Heaven and salvation. Knowing our Lord and being attached to Him firmly is faith. Second, our Lord says that He takes away every branch that does not bear fruit. This indicates that faith without the good fruit of charity is dead and is like a branch on a vine that produces nothing. Third, when Jesus finds a branch that bears good fruit, he doesn't leave it alone. Instead, He prunes it with loving attention so that "it bears more fruit."

To apply these teachings to your own life, begin by looking at your faith as if it were a branch firmly attached to a vine. Do you believe all that God has spoken through His holy Word? It is useful to regularly examine your conscience in regard to your faith. Since faith is the first step in the spiritual life, it must remain firmly grounded in the Truth God has revealed. This means we must regularly study the Word of God as it is revealed through the Scriptures and the catechetical teachings of the Church, and assent to those teachings with all our mind.

Next, after affirming your faith in all that God has spoken through the Scriptures and the Church, try to examine your charity. Do you see concrete acts of love in your life that result from your faith? In other words, we can "love" many things in a purely emotional sort of way. But charity is based on faith, not on how we feel. Charity is the fruit of faith. What acts of charity can you point to in your life? What have you sensed God calling you to do in a selfless and sacrificial way? Have you done it?

Finally, when you discover the ways that charity is alive within you, know that God will focus His pruning there. Pruning can be painful. It will require sacrifice, patience in the face of trial, overcoming selfishness, and doing things you don't feel like doing. In fact, sometimes God even makes charitable acts seem unpleasant as a way of pruning your motivations and making them more pure, based more on faith than on emotion. But this is good.

mycatholiclife.com

Stewardship
April 21, 2024

What we need each week.....	\$3,600.00
Envelopes & loose received	\$1,968.00
Maintenance.....	\$130.00
Online Giving.....	\$180.00
What we are <i>under</i> this week.....	\$1,452.00
Envelopes used	83
Weekend Masses attendance	110

smaneworleans.org/give
Thank you for your support

April 28, 2024 – May 4, 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.....	Deceased Parishioners †
Tuesday.....	Evelyn Johnson
Wednesday.....	Deceased Parishioners †
Thursday.....	Deceased Parishioners †
Friday.....	Robert Mauss †
Saturday	Mark Larson Shirley Hawkins †

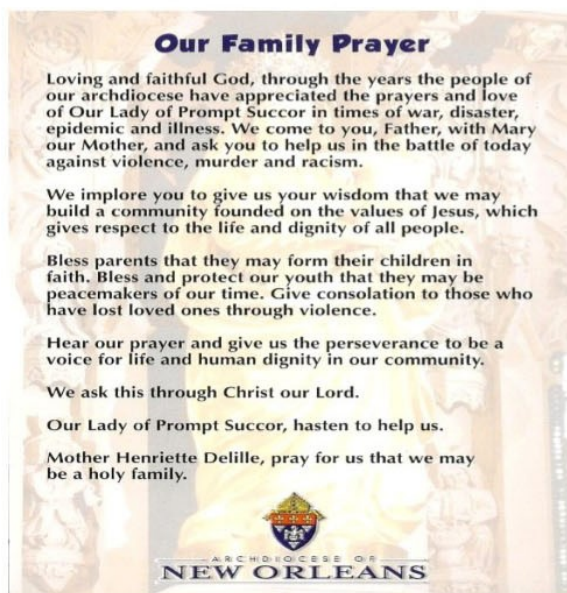


The *Sanctuary Lamp* light will burn daily during the month of *May* for the soul of *Kevin Landry* requested by *Lynn Evans*.

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 Aguiard*	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*	Shirlean 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.



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
 vocations are gifts to the Church and people. Responding to 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

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.**

The next **SMA and Our Lady of the Sea Merger** meeting will take
 place on April 30, 2024 at St. Maria Goretti at 6:00pm.

Sunday, May 12, 2024, is **Mother's Day**. Happy Mother's Day to
 all who share in the vocation of motherhood.

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.

Second Collection....May 19th for Pastoral Solidarity Fund for
 Africa.

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 May:

Wesley Ruffin, 11	Gloria Gillard, 16
Cynthia Jones, 17	Victor Augustine, 27
Joanne Lewis, 28	Katherine Guccione, 11
Clementine Soniat, 9	David Eugene, 9
Mervin Brochard, 18	Paulette Duplessis, 11
Shelly Jones, 31	Warrenetta El-Dukes, 27
Kentral Hagan, 19	Roxanne L'Herrise, 9
Tiayana Marshall, 2	Lydon Guidry, 21
Bryce Eastwood, 3	Karlin Dukes, 8
Brian England, 26	Angel Washington, 19
Breyanne Johnson, 8	Fr. Robert Seay, OFM, 17

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, May 2, 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 - MAY 5, 2024 – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE FIRST READING

Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

The Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word.

The Spirit,
the one that fell upon those
who listened as Peter preached,
that same Spirit sings
in the streams of
our lives; cries out
within the hungry, the immigrant,
the discriminated, the trafficked,
the children left alone;
the warming planet,
the lost and lonely:
whispers inside our souls.

Lord, unplug our hearts
so that we can hear.

THE SECOND READING

1 JOHN 4:7-10

In this way the love of God was revealed to us. God sent his only Son into the world so that we may have life through him.

God
spoke
The Word to us,
healing
the afflicted,
feeding hungry ones,
laying down his life
to show love's
extent.
That name is
Jesus.
The Word is Love.
Jesus, let us love
one another
in you.

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

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THE GOSPEL

JOHN 15:9-17

Love one another as I love you.

They were his close friends.
He had chosen them.
So, sad were they.
And sad was he that
he must leave the earth.
Yet he loved them so much
he could not lose them from his life.
He would place his Spirit deep within them.
And within the rest of us.
Soul of Jesus,
constant companion,
teacher of all good, remind us
what Jesus said and did, and who he is;
how he loves us and makes his home within us.
And the thing that he asks is that we love one
another.

SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION

We live in a fast-paced world where we move from one news item to another with sometimes frightening speed. It is important, therefore, that we remind ourselves that we are still in the Church season of Eastertide. In other words, while we may have moved on in our working and family lives from Easter 2024, we still bask in the wonderful light of the Resurrection and the hope it brings to our world. Our Gospel stories, each Sunday of Eastertide, call us back to the monumental events of Easter, culminating on Easter Sunday morning with the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

Last week, we saw how Jesus used the Old Testament imagery of 'sheep and shepherd' to bring us a step closer to the incredible realization that he was, in fact, God.

This week, Jesus again draws on the Old Testament imagery of 'the vine and the vineyard' to give us yet more clues that he is God incarnate. His opening statement that "I am the true vine..." probably means very little to us, but in the light of the Old Testament imagery from which it comes, what he is claiming is earth-shattering. Without the Resurrection, his claim to be the true vine would mean nothing at all. However, once we acknowledge the truth of Easter Sunday, today's Gospel takes on a huge significance and importance.

If we admire nothing about Jesus except that he was a superb observer of people and nature and that he was an equally superb storyteller, we will have much to admire. Sheep, vines, wheat, corn, sowing, harvesting, salt, foxes, snakes, coins - you name it, and Jesus could brilliantly work it into a story or parable to explain the Love of God for us and the coming of God's Kingdom to us. He was a man wonderfully in tune with creation and constantly finding examples of God's presence in it.

Many thanks,

Brian.

b.maher@oblates.ie