



ST. ANN

— CHURCH & SHRINE —

Anchored in Faith, Your Soul...Our Mission

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 | 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The Exaltation of The Holy Cross



September 14

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday | 7:30am, 4:00pm Vigil

Sunday | 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday | 6:30am, 8:45am

Reconciliation

Saturday | 3:00pm

Tuesday | 6:00pm

Other | By Appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Chapel)

Tuesday | 9:30am-6:00pm (Followed by Benediction)

First Friday | 9:30am-10:00am (Church)

PARISH CLERGY

Pastor

Rev. Billy O'Riordan

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Stephen Okoro

Deacons

Deacon Tom Fox

Deacon Gerard "G" Gautrau

Deacon Phil Doolen (Retired)

Deacon Ray Bertin (Retired)

St. Ann Church Information

Church | 3601 Transcontinental Dr., Metairie, LA

Office | 4940 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA

504-455-7071 | stannchurchandshrine.org

contact@stannchurchandshrine.org

St. Ann School Information

4921 Meadowdale St., Metairie, LA

504-455-8383 | stannschool.org

Principal | Lindsay Guidry





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St. Ann Church & Shrine | stannchurchandshrine.org

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday 9/8

Monday 9/9 | St. Peter Claver

Tuesday 9/10

9:30 am | Adoration in the Chapel until 6:00 pm
9:45 am | Adult Bible Study - St. Cecilia
6:00 pm | Confessions - Church
6:30 pm | Choir Rehearsal - St. Cecilia
6:30 pm | KC Webinar - JPII
6:45 pm | PSR - Cafeteria & Classrooms
7:30 pm | Boy Scouts - St. Ann

Wednesday 9/11

Priests Convocation

8:45 am | School Mass
9:30 am | Rosary Prayer Group - JPII
6:30 pm | Choir Rehearsal - St. Cecilia
6:30 pm | Grandparents' Club Meeting - Cafeteria
7:00 pm | Manresa: Spiritual Exercises - St. Raymond

Thursday 9/12 | Most Holy Name of Mary

Priests Convocation

Communion Services 6:30 & 8:45 am
9:30 am | Adult Faith Formation - St. Raymond
6:00 pm | Knights of Columbus -PMC
6:30 pm | Cub Scouts - Upper Room

Friday 9/13 | St. John Chrysostom

Priests Convocation

Communion Services 6:30 & 8:45 am

Ashley Code Golf Tournament

Family Fest T-Shirt & Tennis Shoe Day

9:30 am | Jerry Talbot Outreach - St. Raymond
6:00 pm | City Park Night

Saturday 9/15 | Exaltation of the Holy Cross

10:00 am | Junior CYO - Upper Room
3:00 pm | Confessions - Church

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1B)/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24/Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/
Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 50:4c-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 (9)/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 9/8

4:00 pm | Virginia & Paul Brignac, Richard J. Sharp, Fred & Alberta Basha, Sacred Heart Alumni, Marcel & Linda Gelpi (SI), Albert Roux III, Jerome & Mary Centanni, Tony & Rosalee Benigno, Tony & Maria Ricotta, Deette Gaubert, Paoletti Family, Elmo Guillot, Diane Ferrara, Louis Banderet, Marie Drouilhet, John Todd III, Ernie Becnel, Barry Boudreaux, Howard Davenport, Pritchard Family Members (SI), Arlene Trippi & Family (SI), Jane C. and Family (SI), Kevin Davis, Devin Henderson, Perry Davis (Health), Newton & Beverly Blanchard, Debbie McSpadden (SI), Jayne & Willie Chaix (Health), Elroy Gambino (SI), Glenn Taylor (SI), Mary Ann Kelly

8:00 am | Bob & Aline Richards

9:30 am | Marina Cochrane

11:00 am | Mr. & Mrs. H.C. Alexander, Janis Farrell Downey, Timothy McNamara, Edna Bentz, Scott Holt, Fr. Michael Lamy (SI), Evan Walle, Helen Downing, Jill Perkins, Sandy Sheldarski, Gordon Terrell, Edward Joseph Asaro, Charles Resor, Mary Claire Rychart

5:00 pm | Parishioners

Monday 9/9

6:30 am | Fr. Michael Lamy (SI)

8:45 am | Ralph G. Watermeier, Sr.

Tuesday 9/10

6:30 am | Charles Resor

8:45 am | Bob & Aline Richards

Wednesday 9/11

6:30 am | Wallace Pecquet

8:45 am | Laurie M. Lacroute

Thursday 9/12

6:30 am | Moris Molaison

8:45 am | Mary Quaid

Friday 9/13

6:30 am | Poor Souls in Purgatory

8:45 am | Gerry Deckelman (SI)

Saturday 9/14

7:30 am | Frances Cranford

SANCTUARY LIGHT SANCTUARY LIGHT

Church

**William Patrick
Boutte, Jr.**



Chapel

**Samuel & Anthony
DiLorenzo**

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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY YEAR B

Isaiah 35:4-7 James 2:1-5 Mark 7:31-37

Today's Gospel reminds me of the Rite of Baptism, not that I had the joy of remembering mine when it happened. I was baptized a few days after I was born. Back then, babies were baptized soon after birth for fear anything might happen. Mothers stayed in hospital for about a week back then and so my mother was not at my baptism in St's Peter and Paul Church in Cork City, Ireland. Usually I visit that church when I am there on vacation and stand over the font in prayer trying to imagine my baptism at that font. Baptism is often referred to as the "gate sacrament" because it's the sacrament that gives access to all other sacraments.

According to the Catechism, Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life and the gateway to life in the Spirit, and therefore the door to other sacraments. Through baptism, we are freed from original sin and become children of God. Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word. Baptism calls the whole family to life in the Spirit in the Church. Parents, the first teachers of the faith, are asked by the priest or deacon at the beginning of the ceremony: "What do you ask of God's Church?" Interesting to note the words "God's Church" and right away, parents are instructed about the responsibility they are about to undertake in raising the child in the faith, so that, keeping God's commandments, they may love the Lord and their neighbor as Christ taught us. Godparents are asked if they are ready to help in this duty. As the Rite of Baptism moves along, the priest or deacon invites the family to approach the font, and again parents and godparents are reminded of their duty with the question: "Is it your will that **N.** should receive baptism in the faith of the Church, which we have all professed with you?" With the affirmative, and only then, the priest or deacon baptizes. After the anointing after baptism with the Sacred Chrism on the crown of the head, there is a clothing with a white garment - a sign of the dignity of the Christian, and with family and friends to help by word and example. The Light of Christ, taken from the paschal candle is entrusted to parents and godparents to be kept burning brightly so that the child, enlightened by Christ, may walk always as a child of the light and, persevering in the faith, may **run** to meet the Lord when he comes with all the saints in glory. Notice of the word **run** to meet ...

Here, I arrive at the word used in the Rite of Baptism and by Jesus in today's Gospel, "Ephphatha" - that is, "Be opened!" Jesus' ministry fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah in the first reading, "then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared." This world, more so in these times than in the past, has become deaf to the word of Jesus like the deaf man in the Gospel, but it is not a physical deafness, rather a spiritual one brought about by selfishness and sin. Basically, sin is all about selfishness - obeying myself over God! People have become used to sin. We suffer and are **dismissed by sin** because Satan calls us by our sins whereas God calls us by name ... When Pope St. John Paul II visited Ireland in 1979 he made a point to tell the young church in Galway: "How many young people have already warped their consciences and have submitted the true joy of life with drugs, sex, alcohol, vandalism, and the empty pursuit of mere material possessions ..." We can hang our "clothes" on these words of Pope St. John Paul II in these times for sure. Have you ever wondered why America is losing itself? I think we are being blinded by media and government officials, and people who have forgotten about God. It's going to get worse ... Ephphatha is an invitation for us to be open to God and to one another. Just as Jesus brings healing and comfort to other people, we too should be instruments of his healing presence to others. Since I like various quotes, I share this one to conclude: Never hurt others to heal yourself. Never hurt yourself to heal others.



Reflection: Fr. Billy

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EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (The feast of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated on September 14.)

Roodmas -- more commonly known simply as "Holy Cross Day" -- was first begun to commemorate the Dedication of the Basilica of the Resurrection, built by St. Helena (Constantine the Great's mother), in Jerusalem in A.D. 355 -- but the true Cross was found shortly thereafter, also by St. Helena, so the two events were joined.

The story of the finding of the True Cross, from the Catholic Encyclopedia:

In the year 326 the mother of Constantine, Helena, then about 80 years old, having journeyed to Jerusalem, undertook to rid the Holy Sepulchre of the mound of earth heaped upon and around it, and to destroy the pagan buildings that profaned its site. Some revelations which she had received gave her confidence that she would discover the Saviour's Tomb and His Cross. The work was carried on diligently, with the co-operation of St. Macarius, bishop of the city.

The Jews had hidden the Cross in a ditch or well, and covered it over with stones, so that the faithful might not come and venerate it. Only a chosen few among the Jews knew the exact spot where it had been hidden, and one of them, named Judas, touched by Divine inspiration, pointed it out to the excavators, for which act he was highly praised by St. Helena. Judas afterwards became a Christian saint, and is honoured under the name of Cyriacus.

During the excavation three crosses were found, but because the titulus was detached from the Cross of Christ, there was no means of identifying it. Following an inspiration from on high, Macarius caused the three crosses to be carried, one after the other, to the bedside of a worthy woman who was at the point of death. The touch of the other two was of no avail; but on touching that upon which Christ had died the woman got suddenly well again.

From a letter of St. Paulinus to Severus inserted in the Breviary of Paris it would appear that St. Helena herself had sought by means of a miracle to discover which was the True Cross and that she caused a man already dead and buried to be carried to the spot, whereupon, by contact with the third cross, he came to life. From yet another tradition, related by St. Ambrose, it would seem that the titulus, or inscription, had remained fastened to the Cross.

After the happy discovery, St. Helena and Constantine erected a magnificent basilica over the Holy Sepulchre, and that is the reason why the church bore the name of St. Constantius. The precise spot of the finding was covered by the atrium of the basilica, and there the Cross was set up in an oratory, as appears in the restoration executed by de

Vogüé. When this noble basilica had been destroyed by the infidels, Arculfus, in the seventh century, enumerated four buildings upon the Holy Places around Golgotha, and one of them was the "Church of the Invention" or "of the Finding". This church was attributed by him and by topographers of later times to Constantine. The Frankish monks of Mount Olivet, writing to Leo III, style it St.

Constantinus. Perhaps the oratory built by Constantine suffered less at the hands of the Persians than the other buildings, and so could still retain the name and style of Martyrium Constantinianum. (See De Rossi, Bull. d' arch. crist., 1865, 88.)

A portion of the True Cross remained at Jerusalem enclosed in a silver reliquary; the remainder, with the nails, must have been sent to Constantine, and it must have been this second portion that he caused to be enclosed in the statue of himself which was set on a porphyry column in the Forum at Constantinople; Socrates, the historian, relates that this statue was to make the city impregnable. One of the nails was fastened to the emperor's helmet, and one to his horse's bridle, bringing to pass, according to many of the Fathers, what had been written by Zacharias the Prophet: "In that day that which is upon the bridle of the horse shall be holy to the Lord" (Zechariah 14:20). Another of the nails was used later in the Iron crown of Lombardy preserved in the treasury of the cathedral of Monza.

Scientific study of the relics of the True Cross show it to be made of some species of pine. The titulus crucis -- the wood on which the inscription "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews" was written in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew (Matthew 27:37, Mark 15:26, Luke 23:38 and John 19:19) -- is made of an olive wood. The titulus has been scientifically dated to the 1st c. and the script is still legible (interestingly, the Latin and Greek are in reverse script), though the Hebrew is missing due to the entire thing being halved, the second half having been lost in the 6th century. It is from the Latin inscription -- "Iesu Nazarenus Rex Iudeorum" that we get the abbreviation "I.N.R.I." that is found on many Crucifixes.





4 | ANCHORED IN FAITH, YOUR SOUL...OUR MISSION

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SAINT OF THE DAY FOR SEPTEMBER 12

Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Story of the Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This feast is a counterpart to the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus; both have the possibility of uniting people easily divided on other matters.

The feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary began in Spain in 1513 and in 1671 was extended to all of Spain and the Kingdom of Naples. In 1683, John Sobieski, king of Poland, brought an army to the outskirts of Vienna to stop the advance of Muslim armies loyal to Mohammed IV of Constantinople. After Sobieski entrusted himself to the Blessed Virgin Mary, he and his soldiers thoroughly defeated the Muslims. Pope Innocent XI extended this feast to the entire Church.

Reflection

Mary always points us to God, reminding us of God's infinite goodness. She helps us to open our hearts to God's ways, wherever those may lead us. Honored under the title "Queen of Peace," Mary encourages us to cooperate with Jesus in building a peace based on justice, a peace that respects the fundamental human rights of all peoples.

www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day





6 | FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL AGES

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Knights of Columbus Hosts Youth Soccer Challenge!

WHEN: Saturday, September 14

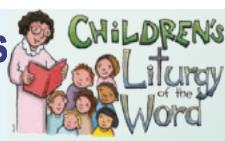
TIME: 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: St. Ann Soccer Field

WHO: All boys and girls ages 9-14

COST: None

Call the St. Ann Church office
at 455-7071 for more info



Children's Liturgy of the Word is returning!!! Held at the 9:30 a.m. Mass, children ages 4-9 are invited forward before the Scripture readings and are dismissed to the Parish Ministries Center where they hear the Mass readings and explanation at a child's level. The children receive an activity sheet with various information about the readings and a saint of the week and return to Mass during the preparation of the gifts.

ALERT!!! Adult volunteers are needed to assist with this important ministry to help our adult leader, Call the church office at 455-7071 to volunteer to help! Thank you!



Confirmation Registration

All incoming 11th grade students wishing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation at St. Ann Church should register for preparation classes that will begin in the Fall using the link below. **The sacrament of Confirmation is received in the eleventh grade year** for all students in a formal religious education program (including Catholic high schools). Contact the church office at 455-7071, ext. 2225 if you have any questions or concerns. To register, visit the church website at <https://stannchurchandshrine.org/confirmation>



Saint Spotlight

St. Peter Claver - September 9th

A native of Spain, young Jesuit Peter Claver left his homeland forever in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He sailed into Cartagena, a rich port city washed by the Caribbean. He was ordained

there in 1615.

By this time the slave trade had been established in the Americas for nearly 100 years, and Cartagena was a chief center for it. Ten thousand slaves poured into the port each year after crossing the Atlantic from West Africa under conditions so foul and inhuman that an estimated one-third of the passengers died in transit. The practice of slave-trading was condemned by Pope Paul III and later labeled "supreme villainy" by Pope Pius IX, but it continued to flourish.

As soon as a slave ship entered the port, Peter Claver moved into its infested hold to minister to captives. After the slaves were herded out and shut up in nearby yards, Claver plunged in among them with medicines, food, bread, brandy, lemons, and tobacco. With the help of interpreters, he gave basic instructions and assured them of their human dignity and God's love. During the 40 years of his ministry, Claver instructed and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves.

Fr. Claver's apostolate extended beyond his care for slaves. He became a moral force, indeed, the apostle of Cartagena. He preached in the city square, gave missions to sailors and traders as well as country missions, during which he avoided, when possible, the hospitality of the planters and owners and lodged in the slave quarters instead.

After four years of sickness, which forced him to remain inactive and largely neglected, Claver died on September 8, 1654. The city magistrates, who had previously frowned at his solicitude for the black outcasts, ordered that he should be buried at public expense and with great pomp.

Peter Claver was canonized in 1888, and Pope Leo XIII declared him the worldwide patron of missionary work among black slaves.

Courtesy of: www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day

I love Labor Day! What other day do you get to celebrate work without actually doing any?



The Cate-Corner Here's another jewel from your *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Faced with a moral choice . . . Some rules apply in every case:

- One may never do evil so that good may result from it;
- the Golden Rule: "Whatever you wish that men would do to you, do so to them."
- charity always proceeds by way of respect for one's neighbor and his conscience: "Thus sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience . . . you sin against Christ." Therefore "it is right not to . . . do anything that makes your brother stumble."

1789



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