

Together in Christ Collaborative

January 10, 2021

The Baptism of the Lord



St. John the Evangelist

StAnn



Church of Saint Ann 103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater 02379

508-586-4880

E-Mail: stanns@comcast.net Website: stannswb.com Facebook: St. Ann-WB Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th For both Churches Currently we are working from home.

Saint John the Evangelist 210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333 Office –103 N. Main Street, West Bridgewater

508-378-4207

E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net Website: www.stjohneb.org Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8





TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Permanent Deacons:

Brendan Fitzgerald (Sr. Deacon) deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Christopher Connelly cconnelly@rcab.org

The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 4PM Monday - Thursday

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's
Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA
Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday
9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice
In the Chapel
Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m.
Teen Mass – 6 p.m., TBA
Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano stanns@comcast.net 508-586-4880

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m. All baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required.

Prep classes will take place before the Baptism.

Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Is by appointment during the pandemic. Please call the Rectory Office to set up an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGEContact the Rectory 6 months prior to the intended date of marriage.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK
If you are in need of the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact the
Rectory to make an appointment for a visit from a Priest.

Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad stjohnebridge@comcast.net 5085-3784207

Music Minister: Erica Wasil

COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager: Donna Roderiques donna.stannstjohn@gmail.com

Director of Music: Rich Cesarini richcesarini@gmail.com
Assistant Music Director: Matt Cunningham

Director of Ministries: Stephanie Gaboury directorofministries. TIC@gmail.com
508-378-1521 or 508-588-7140

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, January 9, 2020

5:30 - Kathy Pool — Memorial

Sunday, January 10, 2020

10:30 -- Gene Biagi — 38th Anniversary

Saturday, January 16, 2020

5:30 - Carol Florio — Memorial

Sunday, January 17, 2020

10:30 - Sean Patrick Coakley — 5th Anniv.

Saturday, January 9, 2020

4:00 - William Lopes — 19th Anniversary & 80th Birthday Remembrance

Sunday, January 10, 2020

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, January 16, 2020

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, January 17, 2020

8:30 — Parishioners of Saint Ann

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

Our financial situation is getting to a crisis level. The pandemic has taken a very real toll in so many ways.

Weekly Offertory

Due to the number of collections, the Post Office and Covid, the money will be posted in next weeks bulletin.

ST JOHN
Online
Mail
Mass
Grand Annual To Date \$8,525

ST ANN
Online N/A
Mail
Mass \$
Grand Annual To Date \$8,105

Suggested Sacramental Offerings:

Memorials Masses — \$25

Baptisms — \$50

Funerals — \$600

PLEASE HELP.

My Dear Friends in Christ,

I dare say that most of us don't remember our Baptism (save for those baptized as adults through the RCIA), as we were a bit young at the time. When I was entering the seminary, one of the documents I needed was a copy of my baptismal certificate. When I looked at the date (8/9/64), it dawned on me that I was baptized on my brother's (Tom's) fifth birthday. Perhaps that's why, growing up, he and I had a bit of an antagonistic relationship, e.g. he "taught" me how to ride a bike by taking me up the steepest hill in South Boston with the sole instruction to "hold on tight to the handlebars" and then proceeded to hurl me down the hill, headlong! Hmm.... In any event, we've overcome those differences and have become good friends!

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In this moment in salvation history, Jesus is declared to be God's "beloved son" (Mk 1:11). In our Sacraments we become, in a very real way, beloved sons and daughters of God. This is because Jesus "raises" the celebration of Baptism to the sacramental level. In doing so we are united with Jesus, who constantly reveals Himself to us through the Sacraments. Baptism is the "gateway" to other Sacraments, followed fairly closely by the others. Throughout the centuries, the Church has wrestled with the question of baptism. The "when" of Baptism has been debated for centuries, with the question centering on the readiness of the child to receive such a gift. In our Church, it is the parents who answer for the child in infant baptism; because this did not happen in Jesus' case, many wonder if this doesn't alter, if not negate, the power of the sacrament. I tend to think not, as we have other opportunities (such as First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation) throughout our lives to validate our faith.

In any event, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord gives us, as a Church, an opportunity to reflect on the gift that Baptism is for us. One of the great joys I have, as you might imagine, is to celebrate a baptism. It is made even more special when it can be celebrated at Mass, with the full support of the people. It highlights the importance of the community in the life of faith of the individual Catholic. While we, and we alone, receive the Sacraments of the Church, they are a sign and symbol of a larger reality. That reality is that it is in and through the community that we live our faith and it is in and through the community that this faith is sustained, nourished and strengthened. May we realize the gift that Baptism (and all Sacraments) is for the Church, the People of God. May we know God's love through the Sacraments, and may we share that love with all whom we meet.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT JOHN'S

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolar, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, George Lepine, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Dennis Green, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch, Frank Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevtt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen Daly, Baby Abigail & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul
Saint John's Conference
PO Box 544
East Bridgewater MA 02333
Call the Food Pantry Hotline for food / assistance

THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:

The Food Pantry is open twice a month.—

1st Monday from 1:00-4:00 pm and the

2nd or 3rd Saturday from 10:00 – 11:30 pm.

The Food Pantry is currently accepting donation at the bottom of the ramp. Please make sure you call to let them know you have dropped off food and that it is properly protected from the elements. Cash donations are always welcomed and can be mailed to the address above.

Gift cards are also a great help. \$5—\$25 cards are easier to distribute than large sums, ie \$100

The next Food Pantry will be Saturday January 16, 2021

Cereal, tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc. are always great additions to the shelves.

THE HOLIDAYS WERE SPECIAL FOR MANY FAMILIES DUE TO YOUR GENEROSITY.

THANK YOU!

St. Michael the Archangel Saint Michael the Archangel. defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the

devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray: and do thou. O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

"In these times of uncertainty, we are assured that the Lord is present to us at ALL times. During this time, with the practice of public Masses limited, we can tune in on television/internet and make the following Act of Spiritual Communion while viewing the Mass."

Peace,

Fr. Paul

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You
as if You were already there and unite myself wholly
to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

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NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS BY ST JOHN'S PARISHIONERS

Donated By: In Memory Of:

Mary Langer Chip Langer, Kathy Turke, Frances & Danny Clover,

Les & Dotty Langer

The Pircio Family, & The Shea Family

Karl Talabach, John & Danny Talabach, Georgette &

Mark Kohr

Owen Weljkovic

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS BY SAINT ANN PARISHIONERS

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Mrs. Joan Zahr



Kathleen Andrews & Deceased members of the Andrews and Austin Families

Boyd, Cogswell, & McCarthy Families

Mae & Joseph Corrado, Joseph Smith

Our Loved Ones

Our Loved Ones

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Our Loved Ones

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Rita & Robert Perry; Sasy Major; Robert Perry, Jr.

Reg Perry

F. John D'Arpino; John D'Arpino; Philomena D'Arpino,

Kerry R. Masefield

My families

John & Rose Nolan; Elizabeth, Charles Hurley; Mary

Maloney; John Walsh

Peg & Frank Rinella; Marjorie Antonilli; & Hary Rich

Vincent & Concetta Colombo, Sr. & Family

Our Loved Ones

Joseph Utka; Joanne Hanson; Rita Giovanoni

My Loved Ones

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED TO THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER FUND THIS YEAR. IT TRULY MADE THE CHURCHES FESTIVE!

This Week in Ministry



Hello! For those of you who do not know, my name is Stephanie (Churchill) Gaboury and I am the new Director of Ministries for the Together in Christ Collaborative. This is a new position for the Collaborative, and one of my top priorities is enhancing the Faith Formation program for students, families, and teachers.

Your input is of the utmost importance as we make changes going forward this year! If you have been a CCD teacher in the past or would like to be involved as one now, I invite you to attend a Zoom meeting with me on Sunday, January 10th at 3:00pm. This is the link to join the meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89913125992. You can also email me and I will send you the link and answer any questions you may have.

If you cannot attend the meeting but are still interested in participating or sharing your input, please contact me; I would love to hear your thoughts. Also, if you know of anyone who might be interested in participating as a teacher this year, I ask that you please forward this information to them. Even with the pandemic, I know that we can make this a great year for our students!

Are you interested in being a lector or Eucharistic Minister?

We would love to have you join us! Please email <u>directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com</u> or call one of the administrative offices: St. John's: 508 378 4207; St. Ann's: 508 586 4880 We will happily answer all your questions and train you at your convenience.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who serve each week at Mass!

We could not have in-person celebrations without your efforts. A special thank you to all who assisted during our Christmas Masses and helped decorate both parishes; you absolutely made the churches reflect the beauty of the season!

Stephanie Gaboury Director of Ministries, T.I.C. Collaborative

directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com

"Be doers of the word, and not hearers only; Show me your faith apart from your works, and I by my works will show you my faith" (James 1:22; 2:18)



SAINT VINCENT de PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER @ 774-240-8095 or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:

P O Box 474 West Bridgewater MA 02379

Saint Ann's Church is continuing to collect food items for the West Bridgewater Food Pantry. Items can be left in church on the shelves to the right as you come in the front door.



St Ann Prayer Line:

To request prayers from members of Saint Ann's Prayer Line for yourself, another person in need, or a special intention, please call or email Linda Santry at 508-586-6535 or linda@santry.org. If you would like to join the telephone tree or e-mail distribution list, please contact Linda. We would like to expand our membership for this worthy endeavor.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

When God Whispers

"You don't need to shout. My hearing works just fine."

Are you a parent that has used that one on your kids? I'm not sure at what age they realize that the volume of their voice doesn't correlate to the likelihood of receiving a favorable reply — it might be sometime in the teenage years, when the talking slows down altogether.

But I've got to admit, it would be nice if God always gave us a loud and dramatic sign when He wanted something — the booming voice and the torn-open heavens ("This is my beloved Son!") really get the message across. Sometimes I find myself envious of the Apostles, who were able to witness such things in person.

The fact of the matter is, in the year 2021, God is more likely to speak in a whisper than in a shout. The prophet Isaiah forewarns that Christ himself will not be a noisemaker — for all his preaching, he will not cry out or shout to bring forth justice to the nations. His way is altogether different than that.

We are not the Apostles, and we do not have the privilege of seeing the Holy Spirit descend on Christ like a dove. But here's the good news: God doesn't need to shout. Our spiritual hearing works just fine. We just have to be listening.

Let's wake up each morning ready to hear God's whispers throughout the day. Let's make a conscious effort to invite those whispers into our hearts, where they can become a catalyst for grace in this world.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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