



Saturday, 4:00 PM  
 Sunday, 9:30 AM  
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ  
 Collaborative  
 Saint Ann & Saint John  
 January 14, 2024  
 The Second Sunday in  
 Ordinary Time*



Sunday, 8:00 AM  
 Sunday, 11:30 AM

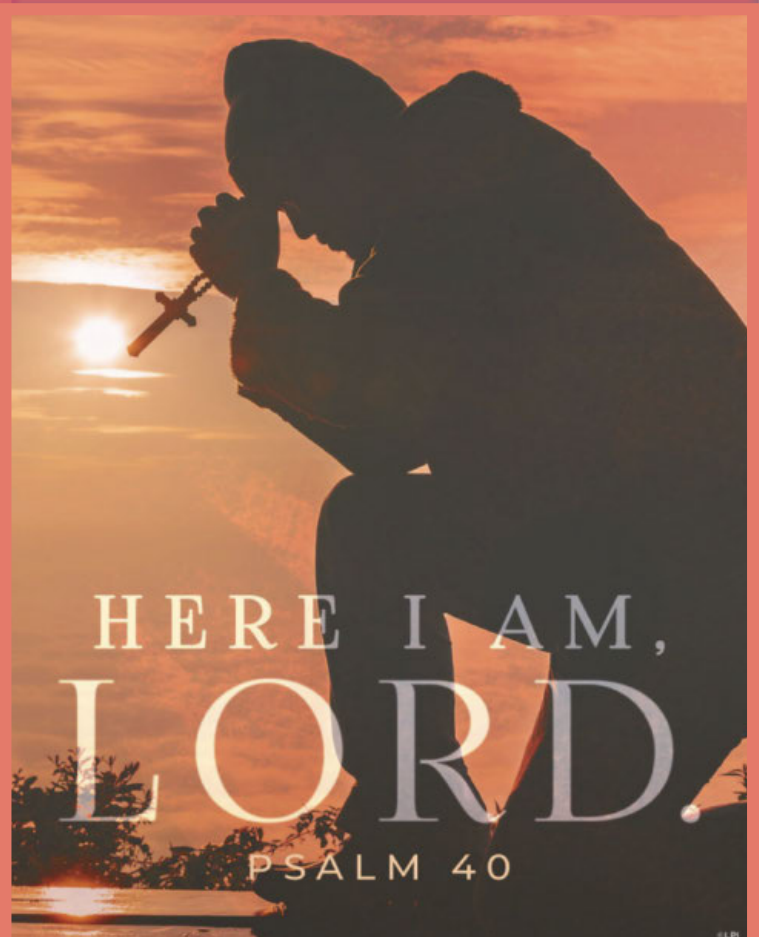


## 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"—which translated means Teacher— "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." - Jn 1:38-39a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1986, 1970 CCD.

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### Church of Saint Ann

**103 N. Main St., West Bridgewater  
 02379  
 508-586-4880**

**E-Mail: [stanns@comcast.net](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
 Website: [stannswb.com](http://stannswb.com)  
 Facebook: St. Ann-WB**

**Collaborative Office Hours are  
 9:00-3:00  
 Monday through Friday**

### Saint John the Evangelist

**210 Central St., East Bridgewater  
 02333  
 Office -103 N. Main Street,  
 West Bridgewater  
 508-378-4207**

**E-MAIL: [stjohnnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnnebridge@comcast.net)  
 Website: [www.stjohnne.org](http://www.stjohnne.org)**

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB  
 Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —  
 Paul Ring OFS**

# TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

## PASTORAL STAFF

### Pastor:

**Rev. Paul L. Ring**  
fr\_plrstjohn@comcast.net

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

### Priests In Residence

**Fr. Peter Francis**  
**Fr. Michael Diochi**

### Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly  
cconnelly@rcab.org

**The Together in Christ Collaborative Office Hours are 9AM - 3PM Monday-Friday**

## EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### **St Ann's**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass  
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass  
Thurs & Sat.  
9:00 a.m.

### **St John's**

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:  
Wednesday & Friday  
9:00 a.m.

Holiday Schedules will vary

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is being celebrated on Saturdays at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and on Sundays at 1:30 p.m. These baptisms are private and not done at the masses currently. Prep classes will take place before the Baptism.

Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

3:00—3:30 at the church holding the 4 PM Mass  
Or by appointment.

Please call the Rectory Office to set up an appointment.

## SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact 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.

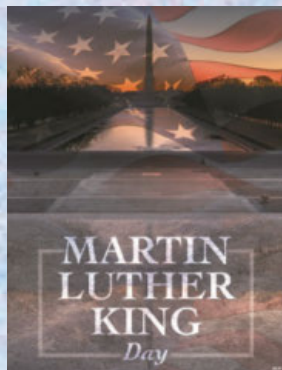
Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

## SAINT ANN'S STAFF

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

## SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad  
stjohnnebridge@comcast.net  
508-378-4207  
Music Minister: Erica Vinton



## COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager: Kevin Mercier  
bmanager.tic@gmail.com

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

Director of Ministries: Matthew Brady  
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com  
774-533-2002





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### **St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Saturday, January 13, 2024**

**4:00 - Michael Shea & Susan Arvidson — 2nd Ann.**

#### **Sunday, January 14, 2024**

**9:30 - Diane Wyman — 1st Anniversary**

**6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative**

#### **Thursday, January 18, 2024**

**9:00 - Anna Ritucci — Memorial**

#### **Saturday, January 20, 2024**

**4:00 - Brendan Hallisey — 1st Anniversary**

#### **Sunday, January 21, 2024**

**9:30 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative**

**6:15 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative**

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### **St. John is a Stewardship Parish**

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Sunday, January 14, 2024**

**8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative**

**11:30 - Steven Puffer — 1st Anniversary**

#### **Sunday, January 21, 2024**

**8:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative**

**11:30 --Gene Biagi — 41st Anniversary**

**SAINT ANN'S NEEDS  
LECTORS FOR THE 6:15 MASS**

**ANYONE INTERESTED PLEASE CALL  
DEBBIE CONRAD 508-378-4207**

## **MASSES FOR THE WEEK**



My Dear Friends in Christ,

My journey to priesthood was, to say the least, a circuitous one. I can remember the first time anyone inquired about my entering the priesthood; it was my pastor, and I literally laughed in the man's face. Not a scornful laugh, but an incredulous one (for which I quickly apologized when I realized he was serious!). I couldn't understand why he thought I would be a good priest. Over the course of the next six months, two other folks (my great-aunt, a Sister of the Blessed Sacrament, and my high school chaplain (a diocesan priest)) asked me that very same question. It was then that I understood what Eli and Samuel went through. God's call to Samuel was at first misunderstood and misappropriated (to Eli), but then with Eli's help Samuel was able to answer God in the manner which was appropriate.

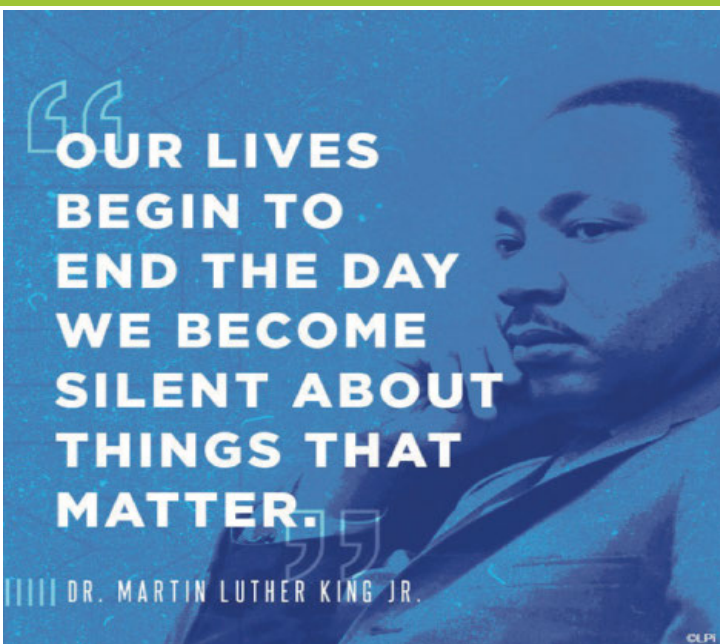
When we think of vocations, we invariably think of priesthood or religious life, which is fair enough I suppose. They are both pretty "high profile" ways of living out one's faith. We do a disservice to God's call to each of us, however, if we limit our thinking to just those two ways of life. Each of us has a vocation, a "call" (which is what the word "vocation" means) from God to fulfill our baptismal promises which, while made by our parents are lived out by us. For most, it means living "secular" lives by gospel (and not worldly) values remaining true to God in word and deed. For some, it means living a professed life consecrating themselves to God in a unique, singular way by means of vows or promises. For all, it means opening up one's heart to the call of God by putting Him first in our lives.

In today's gospel, Jesus offers an invitation to the two disciples of John. After they inquire as to where He is staying, Jesus invites them to "come and see" (Jn 1:39). This simple, yet profound invitation comes with the implication that they (and others) lives' will be changed. This change takes place in the heart, for our lives of faith in Jesus are movements of the heart. We can debate, discuss and deliberate, but what it comes down to is the gift of discernment. We must look within our hearts to see who it is God is calling us to be. For each of us (even those living similar lives), it will be different. Not all priests are the same; not all married couples are the same; not all single men and women are the same. This is a good thing, for it points out the unique nature of our vocation. It is something which is, ultimately, between us and God. It is not something someone else can discern or live – it is for us, and us alone, to do.

May we have the courage to look within our hearts to see who it is God is calling us to be. May we know that in this call we are fulfilling our baptismal call. May we be open to anything the Lord asks of us, even our very lives. May the call of God, imprinted on our hearts at baptism, be lived out with courage each and every day.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



## MINISTRY NEWS

### Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at [Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)

#### Adult Confirmation Classes

Classes will be beginning soon for any adult who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation but is looking to do so. Please contact Matt Brady for more information.

#### January Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass is January 28th at the 6:15 Mass. There will be contemporary music and Fr. Paul will make his homily relevant to the life of our young people.

We also invite any of our teens who would like to do a reading or bring up the gifts to do so. If your teen wants to do one of these things, please contact Matt Brady.

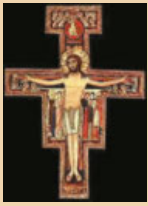


#### **Journey from Grief to Healing**

You are invited to come for sharing and healing in a prayerful small group setting. Mary, Queen of Martyr's Parish Grief and Loss Support group begins on **Tuesday evenings February 6th through April 9th** from 6:30PM to 8PM at St. Kateri Church.

The group will meet once per week for 9 sessions. The facilitators of the group are Meredith Scott and Betty Whittaker. Please call Kathy Benton parish administrator to register: 508-866-4000 ext.401





## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today's readings are about how one is invited by God to fulfill one's baptismal call. In the first reading, Samuel mistakenly believes that it is Eli who is calling him when in reality it is God. In the gospel, the "call" comes by way of invitation by Jesus to "come and...see" (John 1:39) where it is that He is staying. In both of these cases, the invitation calls the respective listener to make a radical departure from one's current state in life and move into another state of life in service to God. Like Samuel, St. Francis' initial "call" was somewhat misinterpreted, as St. Francis thought the call by God (to "rebuild my church") was a literal one when in reality it was more of a spiritual one.

Particularly dear to Francis was an ancient chapel long allowed virtually to fall into ruins, dedicated to San Damiano. In it hung a Byzantine wooden crucifix, painted in red, gold, and blue. It did not represent the tortured Christ of later art; but the large, open, dark eyes of the Crucified looked down with a haunting vividness. It was a striking example of the early painted crucifixes, and it is strange that it should have survived the neglect of the chapel. Before it, Francis loved to pray for the light which would shine through the darkness of his mind. As he looked up one day, he saw the lips of the Christ move, and he heard the words, "Francis, you see that my house is falling down; go and repair it for me." And Francis answered simply, "Willingly, Lord."

How far Francis was from any notion of purifying or reforming the Church is clear from his reaction. His literal mind understood the words in their most literal sense. He was in a crumbling church, and God was simply asking him to repair it. His thoughts must have flashed back to his boyhood when he had learned the technique of building walls around his hometown. The overpowering thing for him at that moment was that Christ — above all, the majestic, yet so human, figure of the Crucified in brilliant colors surrounded by saints — had spoken to him. He had obscurely known and heard God's voice within him before, and it had given him the strength to kiss the leper. But in Francis's mind, there was a whole world of difference between inner promptings, however certain, and what in daylight one could see, hear, and touch. Here at last was the authentic confirmation that God was with him, instructing him about what here and now he should do. Others of different makeup might not need this outward sign. Francis, of all people, did.

Whether God calls one to a figurative or literal "rebuilding" of one's life and situation, may we all be open to being called by God to something new, something different, something radically unique to us. In this way, may God's call to us take root in us so that we may know God, serve God, and love God and all God's people whom we meet.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

**THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR  
Outstanding Bills**

**NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR  
Outstanding Bills**

If you are an Amazon Prime Member, you can watch the Sounds of Freedom Free of charge.

**Based on the true story of a man's mission to rescue children from the darkest parts of the world. This action-packed drama shines a light on the painful reality of child trafficking and the valiant efforts of those who work tirelessly to combat it. Co-exclusive with Angel Studios.**

This is the movie that stirred my soul to do something. We took a little break from this subject over the holidays but now that the New Year is upon us, we need to move forward and organize.

I have been in touch with **Detective Cecelia Cacciatore** to put together a program that would inform us on this subject and direct us as to how to make some positive steps to address the problem.



Please watch the bulletin for further information on this subject.

Debbie





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



### 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.

### Please keep the following in your prayers:

Denise Robichaud, Patricia Estes, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Kay Evans, Angela McDevitt, Karen & Janet Daly, Kathy Conrad, Joan Ward-Fusco, Kenneth McLaughlin, Fred Sprague, Joe Pigeon, Nancy McHugh, Jerry Paluch, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchill, Matthew Owings, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti, Deb Gifford, Karen & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military. ***If you know that some of these people should be removed or you want to have someone added, Please call the Rectory.***



### Civil Rights Day

In Catholic social tradition, "rights" correspond to the treatment every person deserves not because of background or individual merit, but by virtue of being created in the image and likeness of God. As followers of Christ, we are called to a concern for our brothers and sisters. This means that, in acknowledging rights, we also acknowledge responsibilities.

St. John Paul II writes, "every man is his 'brother's keeper', because God entrusts us to one another" ("Evangelium Vitae," 19). In our complicated world, it can be easy to get overwhelmed by public policy. However, we are not exempt from engaging in public life. Today, we remember that we are all called to work to ensure that social structures uphold human dignity and support true human flourishing. LPi



West Bridgewater Food Pantry  
457 Rear, South Main Street, Unit #1  
West Bridgewater

**WHEN: Curbside distribution the FIRST and THIRD Wednesday each month**

**TIME: 1:45-3:00PM or 5:30-6:00PM**

**Tuna, peanut butter, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal are needed.**

**Cash donations also accepted**

St Ann's  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
P O Box 474  
West Bridgewater MA 02379

To join please call — TINA ANTHONY  
508-245-5481

**Donations are always appreciated. Place Money and gift cards \$5-\$24 into the St. Vincent de Paul boxes located at the exits.**

**Because of your generosity, we were able to put together 16 toiletry bags for our homeless neighbors and were able to donate some toiletry items to the food bank.**

**Thank you for your continued generosity.**

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  
Hotline—508-378-3760

### PANTRY HOURS WILL REMAIN THE SAME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

Our pantry is open on the First and Third Monday of each month. When pantry days fall on a major holiday, the pantry will open on the Tuesday of that week.

**First Monday - 3:00 - 5:30      Third Monday - 3:00 - 4:30**

*Monday, January 2, 2024 (Tuesday)  
January 15, 2024*

Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. **508-378-3760**

**The Pantry is a little low — needed any food, especially tuna, peanut butter, soups, pasta & pasta sauce, cereal.**

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

**Thank you for your continued generosity.**



*Please remember in your prayers:*

*Mary Lou Heath  
William Keady  
Benjamin Andrea*

*May they rest in peace, and may their Families find comfort from their faith in Jesus Christ.*



*Please welcome the following children into our Collaborative.*

*Pray that this is the first step in a wonderful journey with God.*

*Olivia Faith Moreau  
Luna Faith Moreau  
Adrianna Winter Brandt Karavetos*



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**Andrew Martinez**

**amartinez@4LPi.com**  
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