



*Together in Christ Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
February 16, 2020  
The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary*



# Blessed are they who follow the Lord!

PSALM 119

©LPI

**Saint John the Evangelist**  
210 Central St., East Bridgewater 02333  
Office –103 N. Main Street, West Bridgewater  
508-378-4207  
E-MAIL: [stjohnbridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnbridge@comcast.net)  
Website: [www.stjohnneb.org](http://www.stjohnneb.org)  
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB

**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 9-4 M-Th  
For both Churches

# TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

## PASTORAL STAFF

### Pastor:

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

### Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

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

### Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly  
cconnelly@rcab.org

Joe Hopgood  
deaconjoeh@comcast.net

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

## EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

### St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday  
9:00 a.m.

In the Chapel

Divine Mercy every Thursday  
After Mass.

### St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass – 6 p.m., See Schedule

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.  
9:00 a.m.

## SAINT ANN'S STAFF

**Business Manager:** Donna Roderiques  
**Administrative Assistant:** Arlene Stefano  
stanns@comcast.net

**Director of Religious Education**  
Charlotte Leines  
stannscd@comcast.net  
508-588-7140

**Director of Music:** Matthew Cunningham  
matthewcunningham@bpsma.org

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the Month at St John's and the 4th Sunday of the month at St. Ann's. Prep classes are Wednesday before Baptism at St. John's. Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Other times as scheduled in the bulletin or 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.

## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St John's - every WEDNESDAY from 7-8 p.m.  
in the Church.

St. Ann's - First Friday of the month following the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m.

**Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office**

## SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

**Business Manager:** Donna Roderiques  
**Administrative Assistant:** Deborah Conrad  
stjohnebridge@comcast.net

**Director of Religious Education**  
Lorraine Hopgood  
repstjohn@gmail.com  
508-378-1521

**Director of Music:** Paul Hoffman  
p.hoffman@stjohne.org  
**Music Minister:** Erica Wasil

## PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

Deacon Joe Hopgood  
Paul Hoffman  
Denise Robichaud

Ben Williams  
Nancy Maloney  
Margaret Mary Williams

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**St. John is a Stewardship Parish**

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**Saturday, February 15, 2020**

4:00 - Kimberly Russo — Birthday Remem.

**Sunday, February 16, 2020**

8:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

10:30 - Phyllis & Arthur Conrad — Memorial

**Monday, February 20, 2020**

9:00 - Patrick William Sullivan — Birthday Rem

**Saturday, February 22, 2020**

4:00 - Grace Cosgrove — 1st Anniversary  
Mark Cosgrove — 9th Anniversary

**Sunday, February 23, 2020**

8:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

10:30 - Kathy Turke — 1st Anniversary

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**St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish**

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**Saturday, February 15, 2020**

4:00 - Susan Ledoux — 7th Anniversary

**Sunday, February 16, 2020**

8:30 - James (Jim) Baker — 6th Anniversary

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

**Saturday, February 22, 2020**

4:00 - Shirley McDonough — 5th Anniversary

**Sunday, February 23, 2020**

8:30 - Arthur & Marilyn Pigeon — Memorial

10:30 - William McCormack — 7th Anniversary

**Monday, February 24, 2020**

9:00 - Marie C. Fraser — 1st Anniversary

**Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

9:00 - Michael Llanes — 1st Anniversary

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**February 26, 2020**

**Mass at Saint John — 9:00 AM**

**Distribution of Ashes at Saint John — 4:30**

**Mass at Saint Ann — 7:00 PM**



~~~~~PLEASE WELCOME~~~~~  
Deacon Chris Connelly is officially part of our Together in Christ Collaborative! Deacon Chris will join Deacon Brendan and Deacon Joe in serving the needs of our parishes.

Chris is a resident of East Bridgewater and was ordained in 2011 and is currently working for the Archdiocese of Boston as the Director of Diaconate Formation. Welcome aboard!!!!!!



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Somebody once asked Charles Darwin, the proponent of the theory of evolution, the question “Is there anything that is true only of man?” Darwin answered: “Man is the only animal that blushes”. What does it mean to blush? Well, basically it is an acknowledgement of being embarrassed over something. When we do something wrong, whether wittingly or unwittingly, we tend to get embarrassed; only the most callous of people would do so. When we do purposely do something wrong which hurts or harms ourselves, another and/or God, we call that “sin”. In the Catholic tradition, this purposeful engagement of wrongful behavior results in a damaging of (in the case of venial sin) or break in the relationship (i.e. mortal sin) which we have with others and God.

Thank God we have the Sacrament of Reconciliation to “right the ship”, as it were, restoring that relationship back to where it should be. We also have the Ten Commandments, which are offered to us as a way of living. The Ten Commandments are a “blueprint” for living a life rooted in God’s love. More than that, however, the Commandments are mandates (otherwise, they might have been given as the “Ten Suggestions”, as I saw alluded to on a bumper sticker a while back!) from God on how we are to treat ourselves, others and God, and how we are to look critically at our lives. When we hear the word “mandate”, we shouldn’t be fearful; on the contrary, we are given this mandate from God (in the form of the Commandments) so as to live in freedom, a true and lasting freedom which the world cannot give.

Jesus, in speaking of the law and the prophets, tells His audience that He has come to fulfill, not abolish, them. The fulfillment of these comes through Jesus’ own life, death and resurrection. When Jesus comes “on the scene”, the Scribes and the Pharisees are controlling how the people view and live these realities (of the law and the prophets). The only problem is, they themselves aren’t always living them; they are “talking the talk” but not always “walking the walk”. This is the difference with Jesus. In fulfilling the law and the prophets, Jesus helps us to live both in the “letter” and in the “spirit” of the law, found in the Commandments and the prophets, found in Him. In doing this, Jesus brings about a radically new way of both perceiving and living life in God.

The Commandments are important both for the revelation of God’s presence in the world and for His need to bring order out of chaos. They are also important in that they help us to live in full relationship with Him. May we have the courage to live both in the letter and spirit of the Law. May this Law bring about a freedom to live more fully alive in God, and help us to work toward the building up of the Kingdom here on earth, the betterment of ourselves and our brothers and sisters and for the greater glory of God!

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

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

### The Next Second Collection February 23 — Support of the Church Around the World

| Financial Blessings           | St. Ann's | Budget                                    | St John's | Budget              |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS        |           | <i>Thank you to those who gave to the</i> |           | <i>Grand Annual</i> |
| OFFERTORY      2/01—2/07/2020 | \$ 3,551  | \$3,412                                   | \$ 5,010  | \$ 5,333            |
| GRAND ANNUAL THROUGH 1/3/20   | \$14,210  | \$20,000                                  | \$15,391  | \$20,000            |

#### SOMETHING TO PRAY ABOUT – FROM THE VOCATIONS MINISTRY

Our ministry is dedicated to trying to create a “culture of vocations” in our Together in Christ Collaborative since we are all called to work on discerning our vocations throughout our lives.

No matter what our age or what we are currently doing with our lives, we should be asking what God is calling us to do next. We all belong to God and everything we have is from God. So we should always be asking Him what He desires us to do with this gift of life he has given us.

The Archdiocese is offering TWO other opportunities for individuals to explore their possible calling to religious life! There is a Discernment Retreat for men aged 30 and older on Feb 21-22 and there is a Women's Vocation Discernment Day (for women ages 18-35) on Feb. 22. Please contact Father Ring (fr\_plrstjohn@comcast.net) if you might be interested in learning more about these wonderful opportunities.

*“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts” Psalm*

#### Spotlight on Ministries



**Counters** — The service rendered to the Parish by this group is that of counting the money collected at the week-end Masses. They record accurate contributions received and prepare it for deposit at the bank. The Guild is made up of very dedicated parishioners who observe the strictest confidentiality.



**Fundraising Commission** — St. John's and St. Ann's are looking for people willing to serve on the Fundraising Committee. If you are creative, have experience with fundraising (or don't) and know how to bring a community together, please consider joining the Fundraising Committee. Fundraisers are needed to add a cushion to the Parish budget, to meet payroll obligation, to maintain and grow our parish services, and to make needed repairs to the church, rectory, grounds, and Parish Center. The Fundraising Committee needs new ideas. Please consider joining. Call the Rectory if you are interested. 508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880.



**Building and Maintenance Commission** — It is the mission of the Building Commission to provide the skill and resources to keep the structure and grounds in a neat, safe, respectful condition for the purpose of serving the community and members of Saint John the Evangelist Parish and Saint Ann's Parish with a place to reflect, pray, meet, teach, and socialize. The Building Commission will help the Pastor by suggesting modifications and seeking to upgrade the building and grounds of Saint John the Evangelist Parish and St. Ann Parish when the need arises. This is a vitally important ministry which needs to be comprised of people with background knowledge of facilities maintenance — People with knowledge of what needs to be done and who to go to for the completion of the work.



**Cleaners Ministry** — The service rendered to the Parish by this group is that of cleaning the Church and Sacristy in preparation for the Masses each week. People work in teams of two or three on a rotation of weeks. It generally require one day per four or five week rotation. No heavy lifting is required.

## NEWS FROM THE PARISHES (ST. ANN'S)



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER  
@ 774-240-8095  
or [jchbaker@msn.com](mailto:jchbaker@msn.com)

New mailing address:  
P O Box 474  
West Bridgewater MA 02379

### 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](mailto: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.

### Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats (March 7, April 4, May 30)

*"My spirit was broken and as far as I knew beyond repair. I was consumed with feelings of remorse. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself." – A Project Rachel Retreat Attendee.*

The *Project Rachel* ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a *Come to the Waters of Healing* one-day retreat. Winter/spring dates are March 7, April 4 and May 30. Locations are confidential. Limited to ten participants per retreat. For more information, contact *Project Rachel* at 508.651.3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).

**LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY WHICH IS  
FEBRUARY 26TH THIS YEAR.**

**EASTER THIS YEAR IS ON APRIL 12TH**

#### 5. Are the Sundays in Lent part of Lent?

Yes. See question 1 for the duration of Lent. It runs from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday. No exceptions are made for Sundays.

#### Furthermore:

The Sundays of this time of year are called the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of *Lent* [emphasis added]. The Sixth Sunday, on which Holy Week begins, is called, "Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord."

#### 6. Why is the number forty significant?

Pope Benedict explains: Lent recalls the forty days of our Lord's fasting in the desert, which He undertook before entering into His public ministry. We read in the Gospel: "Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry" (*Mt* 4,1-2). Like Moses, who fasted before receiving the tablets of the Law (cf. *Ex* 34,28) and Elijah's fast before meeting the Lord on Mount Horeb (cf. *1 Kings* 19,8), Jesus, too, through prayer and fasting, prepared Himself for the mission that lay before Him, marked at the start by a serious battle with the tempter. [[Message for Lent 2009](#)].

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Rosary after Mass on Monday & Tuesday  
Adoration — First Friday of the month following  
the 9:00 a.m. Mass concluding with Benediction at  
10:30 a.m.**

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Ann's would love to have some new members! There is work to be done, discussions to have, and decisions to be made and we need more voices and more help.

Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you have been looking for a way to participate, please come to a meeting and see what we are all about! The next one is on Tuesday, February 11th. For more information, contact Chris Baker at 774-240-8095.

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN  
YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

Don't Live a Lie

One day, my son was explaining to his mother that he felt she had lied to him. It was nothing very important, but he wanted to take this opportunity to share how important telling the truth is to him. He explained that he simply tells it like it is in all aspects of his life. But an hour later, we caught him in a lie! Again, it was not about a matter of life and death, but it was a lie. When confronted with his own previous words on how important the telling the truth was to him, he just smiled. Yes, the guilty often have no words of defense.

Jesus said it best in Matthew 5: "Let your 'yes' mean 'yes' and your 'no' mean 'no.'" He was warning his disciples about false oaths and then instructing them on the fullness of the Hebrew laws. We may try to do what we say and say what we mean, but it can be all too easy to fall short. We call ourselves disciples yet provide evidence to the contrary by our actions (or lack of them).

Con't on page 6

**Please keep the following in your prayers:**

Karen Debenedictis, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, JoAnn Micalizzi, 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, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolai, Paul Martin, Kerri Fabrowski, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, David Warren, Bill Frabetti, George Lepine, Dennis Green, Joseph Rizzitano, Richard Harvey, Sandra Garbardi, Nick, Jennifer Washkevich, Paul Currie, Dennis Green, John McCovy Murphy, Dana Debenedictis, Harry Evans, Jerry Paluch & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

**If you are aware of anyone on the prayer list who should be removed, please call the Rectory.**

**NEW BIBLE STUDY STARTING**

Deacon Joe will be beginning Genesis for our Bible Study on February 24, 2020. All are welcome to join. Please email [Deaconjoe@comcast.net](mailto:Deaconjoe@comcast.net) if you would like to join the Bible Study Group. We meet every Monday evening from 7—8 PM in the Religious Education Office of St. John's.

Also on February 17th the Bible Study will be having a special "Ask the Deacon Night" where you may ask any questions you have about the Church.

**ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS**

All Grandmothers, Parents, and Adults who have children, grandchildren or even themselves who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, classes will begin on February 25, 2020.

Adult Confirmation is scheduled for Sunday, April 26th at 1 PM. If you are interested, please contact Deacon Joe Hopgood at [deaconjoe@comcast.net](mailto:deaconjoe@comcast.net).

Con't from pg 5

Even if we feel that we have lied to no one, we may have lied to ourselves. We portray ourselves as generous, thankful, and loving people, yet fail to answer God's call in a situation because we perceive the cost to be too great. Jesus did not simply mean for his message to be about two words. He also meant that when you say you are a disciple, make sure you are a disciple as well.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

Rosary after daily Masses.

Divine Mercy every Thursday after daily mass.

**Adoration — Every Wednesday—7:00—8:00 PM (changed)**

**Catholic Womens' Club will meet on the second Wednesday of each month. EXCEPT JAN & FEB.**

**The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul  
Saint John's Conference  
PO Box 544  
East Bridgewater MA 02333**

**February 16: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:**

In the Gospel Jesus says: "Whoever fulfills and teaches these commands shall be great in the kingdom of God."

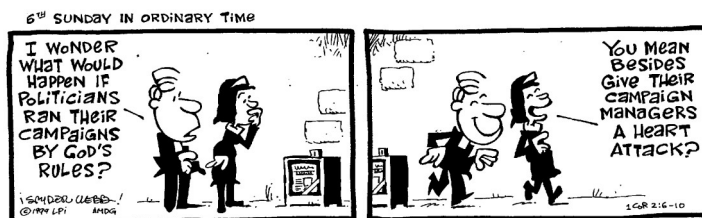
**By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you indeed put your faith into action as you fulfill the commands of Jesus.**

Call the Saint Vincent DePaul HOTLINE at 508-378-3760 if you need food or other assistance.

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1<sup>st</sup> Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

**Don't forget the need is always there!**

White tuna, cereal, and soups are always needed.



**THERE WILL BE A MAKE UP TRAINING SESSION TO UPDATE ALL LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS CONDUCTED BY DEACON JOE**

**February 16, 2020  
2 PM @ Saint John's  
Please make every effort to attend**

*About the Archdiocese of Boston: The Diocese of Boston was founded on April 8, 1808 and was elevated to Archdiocese in 1875. Currently serving the needs of 1.8 million Catholics, the Archdiocese of Boston is an ethnically diverse and spiritually enriching faith community consisting of 286 parishes, across 144 communities, educating approximately 36,000 students in its Catholic schools and 156,000 in religious education classes each year, ministering to the needs of 200,000 individuals through its pastoral and social service outreach. Mass is celebrated in nearly twenty different languages each week. For more information, please visit [www.BostonCatholic.org](http://www.BostonCatholic.org).*

ANYONE CELEBRATING A SPECIAL  
BIRTHDAY OR ANNIVERSARY ?

WE WOULD LOVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE  
YOUR SPECIAL DAY.

CALL THE RECTORY TO LET  
US KNOW.



IF YOU ARE CALLING FOR  
SOMEONE ELSE, PLEASE CHECK WITH  
THEM  
BEFORE HAVING US ANNOUNCE  
ANYTHING ABOUT THEM.

Happy Birthday

CHRIS CASSIDY



**TEEN MASSES  
6:00 PM**

**March 8th  
@ St. John's**

**February 29th — 8:00 - 12:00  
9th Grade  
Confirmation Retreat  
St Ann's Parish Center**