

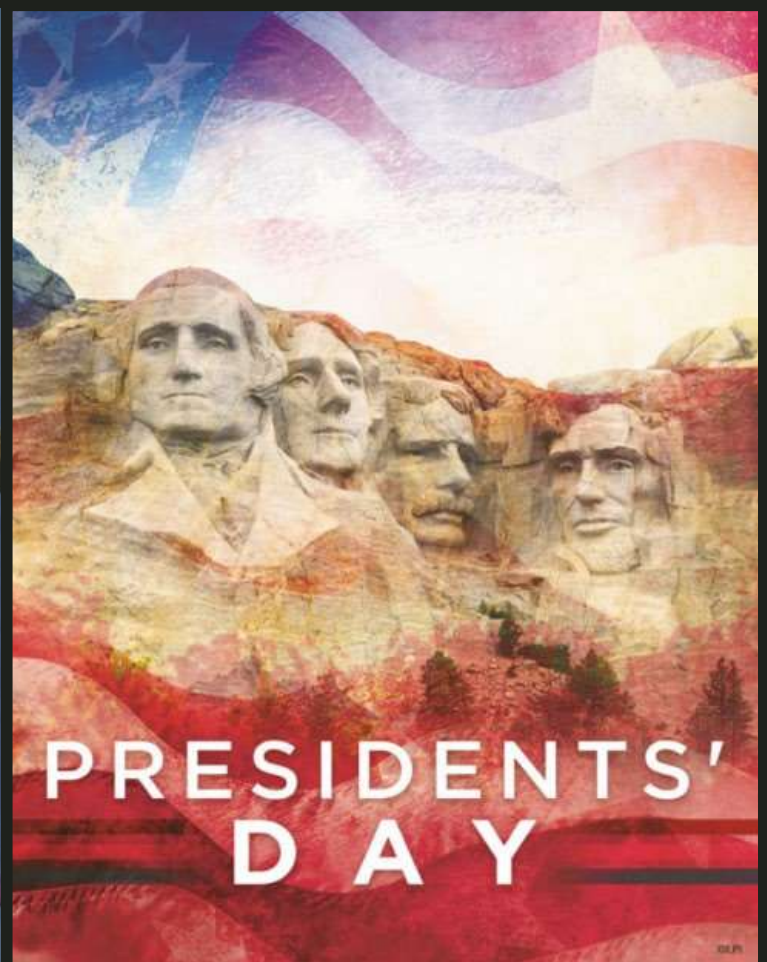
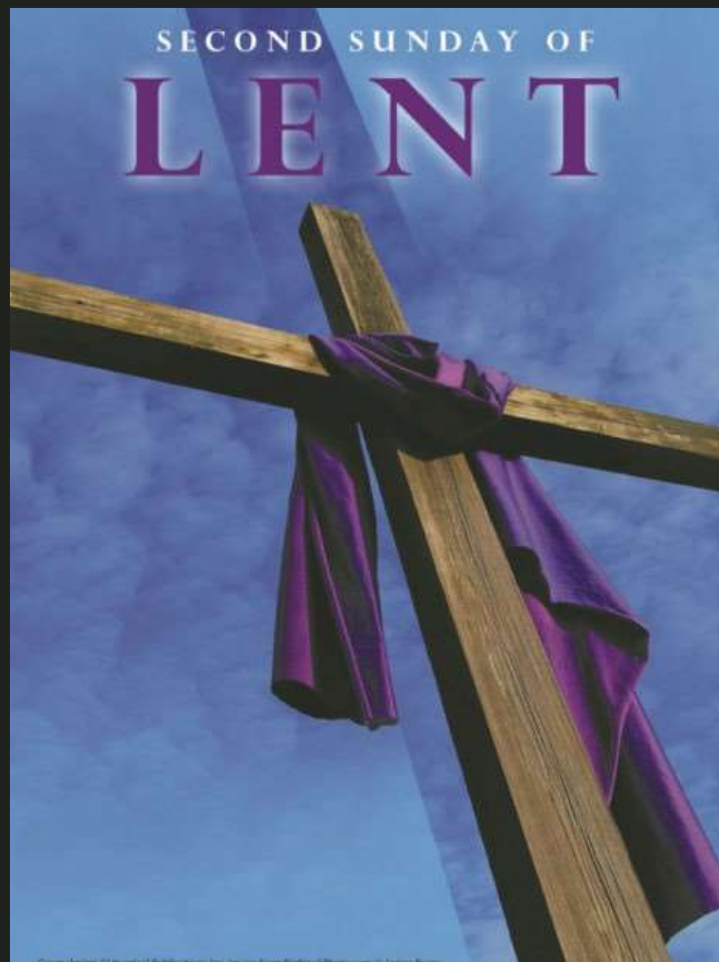


Saturday, 4:00 PM  
 Sunday, 9:30 AM  
 Sunday 6:15 PM

*Together in Christ  
 Collaborative  
 Saint Ann & Saint John  
 February 18, 2024  
 The First Sunday of Lent*



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



### **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: [stjohnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnebridge@comcast.net)  
 Website: [www.stjohneb.org](http://www.stjohneb.org)**

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



# TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

## Pastor:

**Rev. Paul L. Ring**

fr\_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Brendan Fitzgerald (Sr. Deacon)

deaconbrendan@comcast.net

## PASTORAL STAFF

### Permanent Deacons:

## Priests In Residence

**Fr. Peter Francis**

**Fr. Michael Diochi**

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

## **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 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 JOHN'S STAFF**

**Administrative Assistant:** Deborah Conrad

stjohnebridge@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

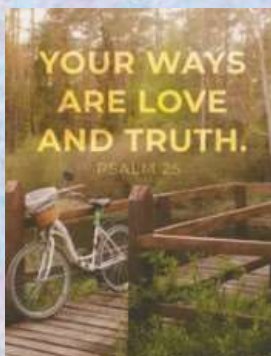
richcesarini@gmail.com

**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, February 17, 2024**

4:00 - Parishioners of the T. I. C. Collaborative

#### **Sunday, February 18, 2024**

9:30 - Rita Giovanoni — 6th Anniversary

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

#### **Saturday, February 24, 2024**

4:00 - Jeannine Smith — Month's Mind

#### **Sunday, February 25, 2024**

9:30 - James (Jim Baker) — 10th Anniversary & Birthdays Remembrance

6:15 - Teens of the T. I. C. Collaborative

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

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Sunday, February 18, 2024**

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

11:30 --Joseph Thompson — 1st Anniversary  
Christopher Thompson — 27th Anniv.

#### **Sunday, February 25, 2024**

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

11:30 - Kathy Turke — 5th Anniversary

## **LENTEN INFORMATION**

### **Ash Wednesday — February 14, 2024**

**Mass at St. John's — 9:00 AM**

**Mass at St. Ann's — 7:00 PM**

**Service (with Ashes) at St. John's — 4 PM**

### **The Light is On For You (Reconciliation)**

**Wednesdays from 6:30—8:00 PM**

**Feb 21 — At St. John's**

**Feb 28 — At St. Ann's**

**Mar 06 — At St. John's**

**Mar 13 — At St. Ann's**

**Mar 20 — At St. John's**

**Mar 27 — At St. Ann's**

### **Stations of the Cross — Fridays at 7:00 PM**

**Feb 16 — At St. John's**

**Feb 23 — At St. Ann's**

**Mar 01 — At St. John's (simple supper)**

**Mar 07 — At St. Ann's**

**Mar 15 — At St. John's**

**Mar 22 — At St. Ann's (6:00 PM with First Church and hopefully a simple Supper)**

## **MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

My Dear Friends in Christ,



**HAPPY LENT!** To many, these two words seem mutually exclusive; after all, what is there to be “happy” about during Lent? Fair enough. If we look at the full definition of the word, however, beyond a sense of being “joyful” or “merry”, we can look at Lent in the sense of being “satisfied”, “fortunate” or “prosperous”. Lent is a time when we “take stock” of how we are living in relationship to how God wishes us, and calls us, to live. In this sense, when we fulfill who and what God is calling us to be, we can truly be “happy”.

When we look at Noah, he should be happy. He has been spared from the flood because of his faithfulness to God, and he is rewarded with a new covenant. It is in this covenant that God re-establishes His bond with us, a bond which was broken by the sin of Adam and Eve and is further damaged by the actions of the people of Noah's time. God comes to regret having made humanity and He seeks, through the flood, to “wash away” the sin of humanity and start again with a new relationship, a new covenant. It is in this that humanity gets a “spiritual ‘do-over’” and, once again, has a relationship with God based not on fear, but on love.

It is in this light that St. Peter writes to the early Christian communities of his day. He writes to the people about Christ's obedience to the will of the Father. Peter contrasts this with the disobedience which brings about the flood, a flood by which all but Noah and his kin are destroyed. This action, Peter tells the people, prefigures baptism and establishes Jesus as the One who brings a new covenant to the people. This covenant, formed in the blood of Christ, is one in which the people are saved from their sins. It is by the death and resurrection of Jesus that we are saved, Peter tells the people. It is by our baptism, which is “not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience” (1 Pt 3:21), that we are joined to Jesus.

It is in this same sense of union that we hear of Jesus in the desert in today's gospel passage. After Jesus' baptism, He is led into the desert by the Spirit. Jesus is tested, but does not succumb to this temptation; Jesus remains faithful. Jesus then, after John's arrest, proclaims the appearance of the Kingdom. It is not merely something which we await, Jesus reminds us, but is something in our midst. May we have the courage to recognize the presence of the Kingdom at work in our lives, and may we have the boldness to proclaim the appearance (and future fulfillment) of the Kingdom to all whom we meet.

A Happy Lent to All,

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)

### Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

Our next sandwich making night will be February 19 at 6:30 pm at St. Ann. All are welcome! This counts as service hours for Confirmation and for anyone else who needs them.

### Soup and Stations

On Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> we will be hosting a pot-luck soup supper at 6 pm at St. John followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7 pm.

Share a bowl of soup with your friends as we gather together for fellowship before we pray. All are welcome and you do not need to bring soup to join us.

### February Teen Mass Next Week

Our next Teen Mass is February 25th 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.

### March Family Mass

Our next Family Mass is March 3rd at the 9:30 Mass. We invite our kids to do the readings and bring up the gifts, and Fr. Paul has the kids join him around the altar for the homily. There is also coffee and donuts in the back of the church after Mass.

If your child is interested in bringing up the gifts or doing a reading please contact Matt Brady.

**An offer of invitation from Nancy Smith, Director of the Holy Cross Retreat Center:**

Consider yourself invited to discern a wonderful Retreat opportunity at the Holy Cross Retreat House held on various weekends from October-April. Kevin and I have lived in Cursillo, and either of us would be happy to sponsor you!

Cursillo means “a short course in Christianity”.

Cursillo is more than a retreat. It is a dynamic Christian seminar. Participants are given practical insights into the everyday life of faith and service. Through prayer, reflection, group activities, and fellowship, the weekend is designed to deepen and round out what one has learned about Christ.

There is time for reflection and silence, and plenty of songs, laughter, discussion, prayer, liturgies, and breaks to make it a most enjoyable experience.

Winter/Spring Dates:

February 1—4 (Men)

February 22—25 (Women)

March 21—24 (Men)

April 25—28 (Women)

October 24– 27 (Men)

November 21-24 (Women)



The retreat costs \$195 for the weekend and includes program materials, lodging, and meals. Please reach out if the cost prevents you from joining us, as help is always available.



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

When one thinks of the saints, one might doubt that they ever faced temptations like we do. However, one only need look at the life of Christ to see that while He was tempted, He never gave in; Christ overcame temptation by meeting it and overcoming it. Like Christ, our saints faced temptation head on, and did so with the courage of Christ. Like Christ and the Saints, we can confront our temptations and overcome them as they did.

Our temptations aren't likely to come to us from a mysterious figure in a deserted place. But often they revolve around the same basic human drives: hunger, emotional security, safety, status, ambition. Many of the stories told about St. Francis reveal his struggles with temptations of various kinds, as in this story, from the Legend of the Three Companions:

*"When the Devil saw Francis's good beginning, he tried ingeniously to turn him from it by suggestions of fright or disgust.... Francis, however, was strong in the Lord and, heedless of the Devil's threats, he prayed devoutly in the cave that God would direct his steps into the right way".*

The message of the Gospel today, like the message of Lent itself, is twofold: "Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Matthew 1:15) We are called to do both. It's easy to think that the repenting is the hard part. But in all honesty, often it's far more difficult to believe in good news. We know our weaknesses far better than we know our strengths. May we be like St. Francis, striving always to "Repent, and believe..."

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

**The Hosts, Wine and Sanctuary Lamp  
this week at  
St. Ann's  
are in memory of:**



**Rita Giovanoni**



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

**NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR  
Support of the Church Around the World**

### Everyday Stewardship

When I was a teenager, the experience of Catholic retreat basically changed my life. I wasn't lost or hurting, but the 3 days placed me on a path that led to where I am today. Certainly, my experiences of faith before and after that weekend also played a role in the person I have become. However, the power of God I felt in that short period of time had such a profound effect on me it became a type of lens through which I then came to see the rest of my life.

Sometimes we need to get away from it all to realize what really matters in life. We step back and see things more clearly. When we are fully in the world it is hard to get past the busyness and constant noise of modern existence. Distractions are all around us and our attention span can be so limited when it comes to truth.

This Lent, find the time to slow down, to get away from it all, and to rest in the peaceful arms of God. Go to the desert and work on surrendering all you are, and have, and will be to Jesus. Reflect on the many gifts you have been given and discern the best ways to cultivate those for God's glory. As this season begins, be mindful of the fact that this time will never come again. There might be a Lenten season next year, but God is calling you now.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### HOLY WEEK

**March 24, 2024 — Palm Sunday**  
**Masses as usual**

**Tuesday, March 26, 2024 — Tenebrae —**  
**St Ann's — 7 PM**

**Thursday, March 28, 2024 — Holy Thursday**  
**Mass at St. John's — 7 PM**

**Friday, March 29, 2024 —**  
**Seven Last Words — 3 PM — St. John's**  
**7 PM — Service at St. Ann's**

**Saturday, March 30, 2024 — Easter Vigil**  
**8 PM — St. John's**

**Sunday, March 31, 2024 — Easter**  
**Regular Mass Schedule with the**  
**Exception of no 6:15 Mass**

## 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, William Neyman, 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, Eileen Doherty, Louise Ferrari & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



**Please let the Rectory know if your loved ones should remain on the prayer list. Or if someone was removed and should be added again.. Thank you for your**

### LENTEN INFORMATION

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**Mar 15 — At St. John's**

**Mar 22 — At St. Ann's (6:00 PM with First Church and hopefully a simple Supper)**

**(please cut out for quick reference)**

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-\$25 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, February 5, 2024*

*Monday, February 19, 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 — need 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.**





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**CONTACT ME**  
**Andrew Martinez**

**amartinez@4LPi.com**  
**(800) 477-4574 x6372**

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