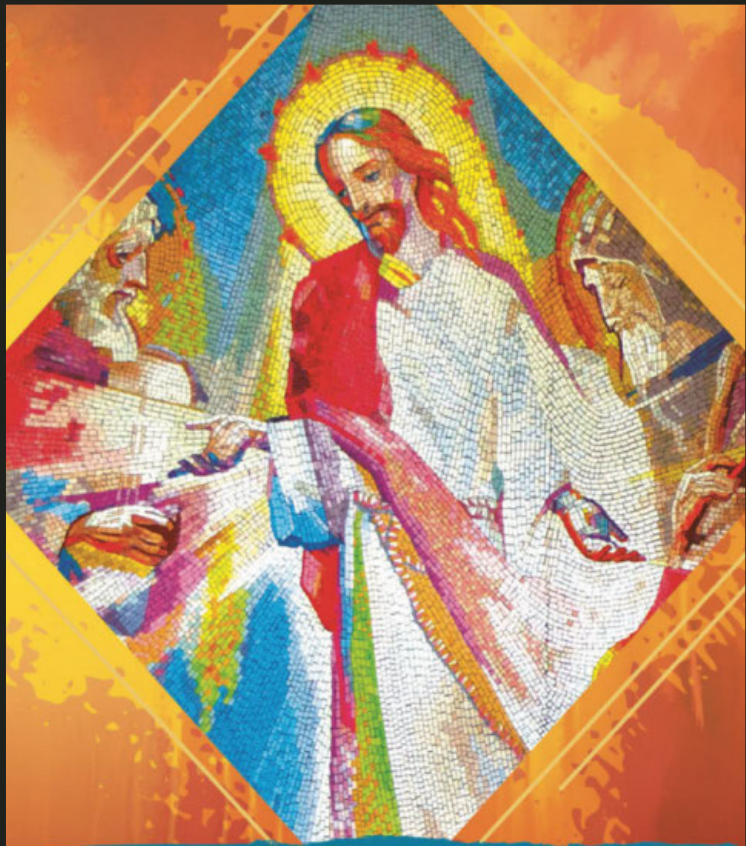




*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
March 5, 2023
2nd Sunday of Lent*



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

His face shone like the sun and his clothes
became white as light. - Mt 17:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

2nd Sunday OF LENT



Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good
that we are here. If you wish, I will make three
tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one
for Elijah." While he was still speaking, behold, a
bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from
the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my
beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen
to him." - Mt 17:4-5

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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 9-3 M-F
For both Churches**

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

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Priests In Residence

Fr. Peter Francis
Fr. Michael Diochi

Permanent Deacons:

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

Christopher Connelly
cconnelly@rcab.org

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

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 a.m.
In the Church

St Ann's
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 11:30 &
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass
w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass: Thurs & Sat.
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
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



MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, March 5, 2023

7:30 - For all the families in the Parish
11:30 - William McCormack — 10th Anniversary
6:15 - Mass for those who have no one to pray for them

Sunday, March 12, 2023

7:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative
11:30 - Gerry & Mamie Marochino — Anniversary
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 4, 2023

4:00 - Tony and Lu Cruz — Memorial

Sunday March 5, 2023

9:30 - For all the families in the Parish

Saturday, March 11, 2023

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

Sunday, March 12, 2023

9:30 - William J. Buckley, Jr. — 4th Anniversary

Anyone wishing to give to the Earthquake victims should mark a separate envelope with the word Earthquake and we will get it to the Archdiocese.

March 25 — Confirmation Retreat — Glastonbury Abbey

April 2 — Palm Sunday

April 7 — Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

April 8 — Holy Saturday (Vigil Mass)

April 9 — EASTER SUNDAY

April 22 — Ecumenical Bi-Centennial Celebration —
6:30 — 8:00 pm at St. John's

Mass Location/Time Changes effective April 15 & 16

Saturday

3:00 pm — St. Ann's (confessions)

4:00 pm — St. Ann's Mass

Sunday

8:00 am — St. John's Mass

9:30 am — St. Ann's Mass

11:30 am — St. John's Mass

6:15 pm — St. John's Mass

My Dear Friends in Christ,

When I have the opportunity to get to the movies I like to get there early enough to see the "Coming Attractions", those features that will be arriving in the theatre in the next few weeks and months. Today's gospel is a "preview" of sorts, for it places in our minds and hearts the end result of Jesus' earthly mission. In the Transfiguration, Jesus shows Himself to Peter, James and John as He will be, after the Resurrection. This moment prepares us, as well, for the glory of the Lord, not only at the end of time but at Easter as well. In this way we recognize that Jesus, in His glorified form, will transform us by His presence in our lives. Again, this personal transformation needs to happen here and now, not at the "end time". The transfiguration of Jesus goes "hand in hand" with our "metamorphosis of the spirit. As Jesus is changed, so are our hearts, minds and lives.

The Transfiguration also shows to us another very important aspect of our lives of faith. Appearing with Jesus are Elijah and Moses. In their joining with Jesus on the mountain, we see that Jesus, true to His word, is the fulfillment and embodiment of both the Law (represented by Moses) and the Prophets (represented by Elijah). We, for our part, are called to follow the Law (of God) both in letter and in spirit. We do this by taking that law and living it out in the everyday. We fulfill and emulate the role of Elijah in this scene by speaking with a prophetic voice, speaking a word that must be uttered to a world yearning to hear truth (whether they know it or not!). This is not easy; it is done oftentimes when we "bear (our) share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God" (2 Tim 1:8b). In doing this, however, we fulfill our baptismal call to serve our brothers and sisters, our community, our God.

As we move through our Lenten journey, may we continue to seek out the Lord by our works of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Let all who come across our path "find a blessing" (Gn. 12:3) in us, as they did with Abram (who, himself, will go through a "transformation" in going from Abram to Abraham, the "father of many nations"). Let us experience the Transfiguration time and time again by exploring and discovering who God is for us. May we, when we discover God at work in our lives, be willing to let God work in and through us. May this "sneak preview" God affords us on this day awaken in us the hope and promise of the Almighty One. May we be "transfigured", changed not in body but in spirit, a Spirit of hope, joy and love.

Have a Blessed Lent,

Fr. Paul



MINISTRY NEWS

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

March Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries:

Our monthly sandwich making project for the homeless of Boston returns this month. Join us on March 20th at 6:30 pm at St. John's as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the Capuchins to give out.

If you plan on join us, please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/8WNFPiMaMHRByn2D9>. All ages are welcome!

Introducing the Kids Shelf!

The newest addition to our Lending Library at St. John is a whole shelf of books for our young parishioners. Right now we have some books about the saints, Pope Francis and some Lent things, but we hope we will be able to add to our collection. Stop by and check it out and borrow a book!

If you have any religious kids books you would like to donate, please email Matt Brady.

Outdoor Stations of the Cross are back!

One of the most popular Lenten practices is to pray the Stations of the Cross. While we gather together as a collaborative to pray them every Friday, we also have outdoor stations at both parishes for you to visit any time. At St. Ann, they are located in prayer garden behind the rectory. At St. John, they are located along the side of the church next to the parking lot.

Lent Schedule

Stations of the Cross are back!

Every Friday at 7 pm we will gather together to pray the Stations of the Cross. Join us as we remember Jesus' journey to the cross.

Locations:

2/24: St. Ann
3/10: St. John
3/17: No Stations- see St. Patrick's Day Stations and Potluck
3/24: St. John
3/31: St. Ann

The Light is on for You:

Fr. Paul will hear Confessions every Wednesday in Lent from 6:30-8:00 pm

Locations:

3/8: St. Ann
3/15: St. John
3/22: St. Ann
3/29: St. John
4/5: St. Ann

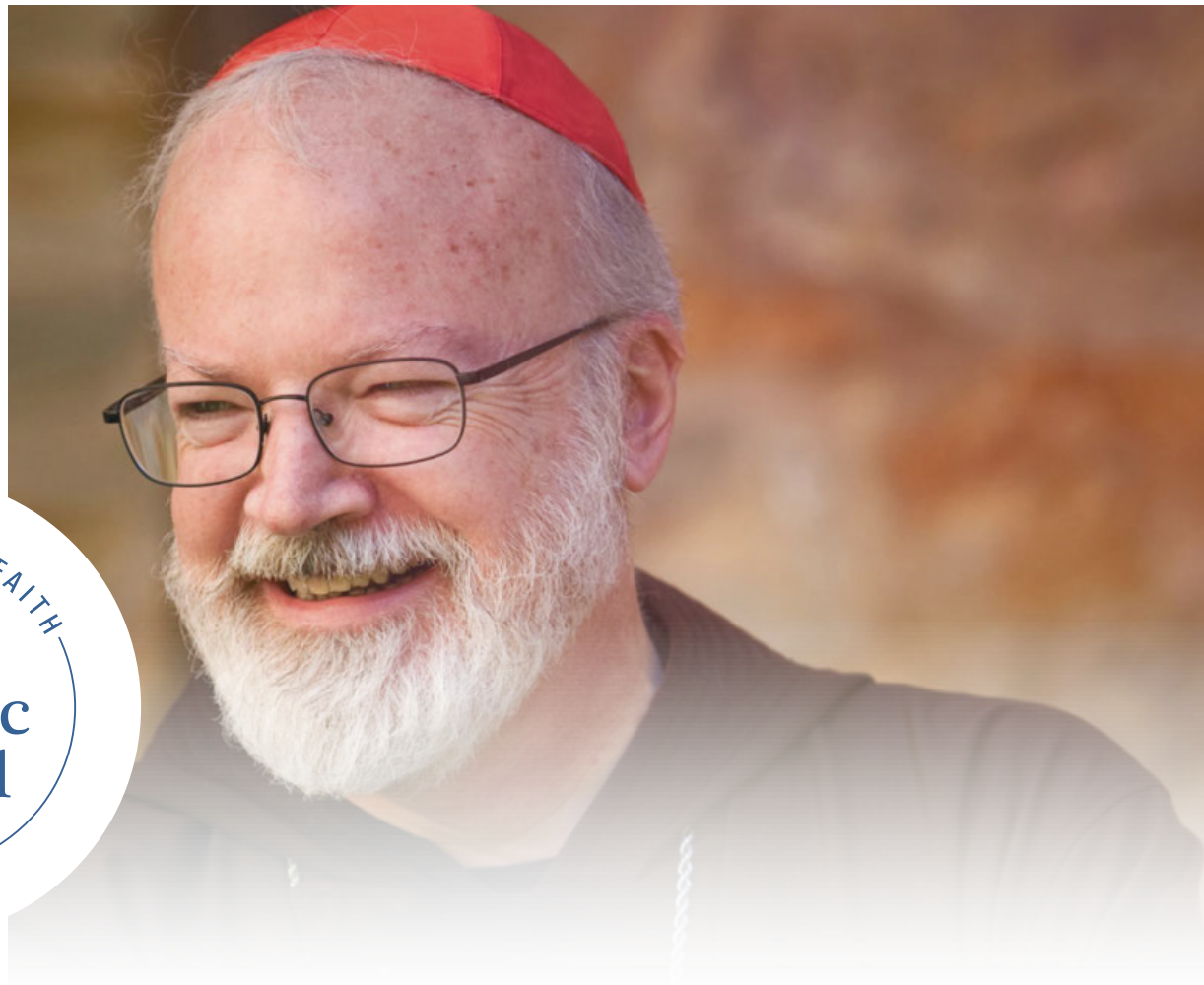
St. Patrick's Day Stations and Potluck: 3/16 at St. John

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, we are hosting a special Stations of the Cross on Thursday, 3/16 at 6 pm followed by a potluck supper at St. John's. All collaborative parishioners are welcome to join us, young and old!

Lenten Sock Drive:

As we journey through the season of Lent, we will be collecting new white socks for the homeless of Boston. Fr. Paul will take our donations to Capuchin Mobile Ministries for them to distribute.

Donation bins can be found in both churches, as well as in St. Ann's Parish Center. Thank you for your generosity!



My Dear Friends in Christ:

During this Lenten season, I am reminded of St. Paul's message in the Letter to the Ephesians, that we are God's handiwork created in Jesus to do good works.

We live in a challenging world where the need for continued and expanded good works is greater than ever. The last several years have brought forth the best qualities as you and so many have demonstrated courage, generosity, and a loving concern for others.

It is with gratitude and humility that I ask you to advance our Catholic Appeal and all its good works by sharing your own courage, generosity, and love. Please prayerfully consider a gift that will be a sign of your Christian concern and strengthen our efforts to improve lives and spread hope.

Please know of my gratitude for your generosity that puts faith into action in so many meaningful ways. Together, we encircle one another with compassion and welcome one another into Christ's embrace.

Asking God's blessings upon you and all whom you hold dear, I remain,

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+ Seán, OFM Cap

Cardinal Seán O'Malley, O.F.M., Cap.
Archbishop of Boston



"I know that the Appeal helps so many people – from children to the elderly to the sick and disabled to men and women who are needy, the homeless – and I feel that it's essential for me to give back. God has been very good to us, and the Appeal is one way to give back to the Church and to God."

- Susan R.



"The reason we're involved in the Catholic Appeal is because it's an opportunity for us to benefit the broader Catholic community. We love our parish, love our church and we donate to the church on a weekly basis. But there's a lot of things that the Catholic Appeal can do that are beyond the capability of an individual parish."

- Jim T.

YOUR *Impact*

By participating in the annual Appeal, you help our Church ensure that the presence and hope of Christ can be felt throughout the 144 communities that comprise our Archdiocese of Boston.

Your gift will immediately make a difference in helping support

OUR PARISHES

250+ parish communities make up the collective fabric of our shared faith. Our ministries help support vibrant parishes so they can create programs and initiatives uniquely suited to their priorities and the needs of the communities they serve.

Our parishes not only serve the faithful within the Church, they serve the needs of our communities.



THOSE IN NEED

Our ministries are dedicated to helping people of all faiths and backgrounds who are in need. As the hands and feet of Christ on earth, those serving our ministries provide resources, compassion, and hope to our brothers and sisters living on the margins.

Our ministries not only serve Catholics, they serve anyone in need of Christ's love.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

The pandemic shone a spotlight on the unparalleled educational experience students receive at a Catholic school. While public and charter schools struggle to recover, Catholic schools—and our students—continue to thrive.

Our schools not only provide an excellent education, they provide stability and support.



FAITH FORMATION

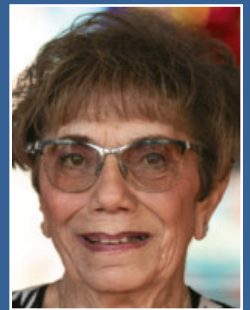
We are each on our own faith journey, so it's important to have access to materials and resources that help us learn, practice, and explore our faith in a meaningful way. Our ministries provide religious education and engagement programs for all ages.

Our programs not only teach the faith, they nurture a relationship with Christ.



"Without the Appeal, we wouldn't be able to provide the services that people in our parish and our school need on a daily basis. There is so much that happens with the Archdiocese's support; and without these ministries and offices that the Appeal supports, we really wouldn't be able to function at the level that we function."

- Fr. Jonathan Gaspar



"When you support the Appeal, you support so many wonderful ministries... Two years ago, my 29-year-old niece overdosed on Fentanyl and passed away. It devastated the family. What pulled me through was my church and my faith. People don't realize how much the Appeal helps and every little bit counts."

- Angela S.

YOU MAKE A *Difference*

***Your Appeal gift has both local and regional impact,
building stronger parishes and supporting our greater
Church and the good work it enables.***

If you have received Cardinal Seán's letter in the mail and already made your gift or pledge, **thank you!** If not, here are the ways you can participate in the 2023 Catholic Appeal:

- Use an **in-pew envelope** and return it to your parish. Most parishes will conduct an in-pew presentation next week during Masses.
- Make an **online donation** by scanning the code below or visiting bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate-now.



*For a greater sustained impact, select the
recurring gift option. Your monthly donation
will continue until you tell us to stop.*

- Make a gift through your **Donor-Advised Fund** using Tax ID #04-2106175 (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston), and include Catholic Appeal and your home parish in the donation details.
- Make a **planned gift** in the form of a bequest, stock or property transfer, IRA distribution, or charitable gift annuity.

To learn more, visit bostoncatholicappeal.org/ways-to-give.

Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law: Tax ID #04-2106175.



EASTER THIS YEAR IS ON APRIL 9TH

The three common practices during Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayers:

“God, may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace.....

“God may my sacrifice of today of (state your Lenten sacrifice) remind me of my dependence on You for all the blessing I enjoy....

“May I stand in solidarity today with all my brothers and sisters around the world who are suffering.”

What are the rules for fast and abstinence in Lent?

Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence (as well as Good Friday). .

The law of abstinence binds those who are 14 years old or older.

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

According to the Church's official rules:

The law of abstinence forbids the use of meat, but not of eggs, the products of milk or condiments made of animal fat [*Paenitemini*, Norms III:1].

Do you have to give up something for Lent? If you do, can you have it on Sundays?

The traditional custom of giving up something for Lent is voluntary. Consequently, if you give something up, you set the parameters. If you choose to allow yourself to have it on Sundays as to promote joy on this holy day, that is up to you.

Almsgiving:

The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on “almsgiving,” which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

On Ash Wednesday, the liturgical season of Lent officially began – the 40-day penitential period in preparation for Easter. However, in centuries past, saints like Francis of Assisi observed multiple “Lenten” periods throughout the year. In the 13th century, St. Francis of Assisi devoted himself to prayer and fasting for 40-day periods four or five times a year. In addition to the traditional Lenten period preceding Easter, Francis would pray from the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul (June 29) to the Assumption of Mary (August 15), from the Assumption to Michaelmas (September 29), and for the four weeks preceding Christmas (Advent). During these periods, he would suspend his apostolic ministries and withdraw to the hermitages. The hermitages were simple, austere places up in the hills and mountains, away from the towns and cities. Thomas of Celano, St. Francis’ first biographer, wrote: “In the clefts of the rock he would build his nest and in the hollow places of the wall his dwelling.”

The most well-known Franciscan hermitage near Assisi is known as the Carceri. Founded by St. Francis, Franciscan friars remain there to this day. Throughout his life, St. Francis founded some 20 other hermitages in central Italy. The hermitages were so important to St. Francis that he wrote a Rule for the Hermitages, describing how the friars should pray and conduct themselves while living as hermits. He said that some friars should dedicate themselves exclusively to prayer, while other friars should look after the needs of the community. Then they should switch roles.

St. Francis’ early biographers show us what happened to him during these periods of prayer during his Lents. Thomas of Celano wrote: “His whole soul thirsted after Christ, and he dedicated not only his whole heart, but his whole body as well, to him.” He also wrote about Francis and prayer: “For his safest haven was prayer; not prayer of a single moment, or idle or presumptuous prayer, but prayer of long duration; full of devotion, serene in humility. If he began late, he would scarcely finish before morning. **Walking, sitting, eating, or drinking, he was always intent upon prayer.** He would go alone to pray at night in churches abandoned and located in deserted places, where, under the protection of divine grace, he overcame many fears and many disturbances of mind.”

It becomes apparent that through prayer, Francis became more and more a channel of God’s grace and love. These deep, intense periods of prayer transformed St. Francis. Thomas of Celano said of Francis: “Thus he would direct all his attention and affection toward the one thing he asked of the Lord, not so much praying as becoming totally prayer.” He said that after praying, Francis was changed almost into another man – another Christ. At the end of the 40 days, Francis would leave his hermitage and go back down to the valley, but not without being transformed and becoming more Christ-like. Then he would dedicate himself to serving God’s people: the lepers, the community, the Church. Few among us can dedicate ourselves exclusively to prayer for 40 days. However, as we begin our Lent, may St. Francis’ example guide and inspire us on our own journey.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Kenneth Upham, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Diane Nicolar, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett, Kay Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin, Debbie & Fred Sprague, Baby Ryan, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Jeannette Shalginewicz, Jack, Brian Scanlan & 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, Please call the Rectory so we can update the list.

**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.

Pantry days will be the **FIRST MONDAY** of the month, except for holidays, from **3 pm to 5:30 pm**, and the **THIRD MONDAY from 3 pm to 4:30 pm**, except for holidays. Please check the schedule.

Monday, March 6, 2023

Monday, March 20, 2023

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

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.

BINGO IS IN FULL SWING

Thursdays — St Ann's Bingo

Doors open at 4 PM

Bingo starts 6:30 SHARP

Saturdays — Southeast Cyclone's Bingo

Doors open at 4 PM

Bingo starts at 6 PM SHARP



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.



**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
(508) 510-5274.**

St. Vincent de Paul @ St. Ann's Church

St. Katharine Drexel Conference Calendar Raffle

Calendar Cost: 1-\$20.00, 2-\$30.00, 3-\$40.00 - Special Prizes on Sunday

March 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 Bird Supplies Value \$30- BW	2 6 Cupcakes Value \$25 the Cakes by Tina	3 Rice Cooker Value \$30 BW	4 \$20 Gift Card for 2 <i>Good Days</i>	5 BBQ Supplies Value \$35+
6 Air Fryer Value \$40	7 \$25 Gift Card George's Roast Beef Anonymous	8 \$25 Gift Card Market Basket The Toland Family	9 Skin Care Value \$25 Neora	10 Hand Tools Value \$45- BW	11 6 Cocoa Bombs Value \$30 the Cakes by Tina	12 Snack Pack Value \$25
13 Queen Size Bed Linen & Comforter Value \$40	14 Assorted Cocoa & Coffee Pods with Cup \$25 Value	15 \$20 Gift Certificate Day Break Restaurant	16 Toiletries Value \$25 Scentys	17 \$30 Gift Card Market Basket The Spano Family	18 6 Cupcakes Value \$25 the Cakes by Tina	19 Diffuser with Pods Value \$25 Scentys
20 \$30 Gift Card Grand Slam The Spano Family	21 Assorted Teas with Cup \$25 Value	22 Wax Warmer with Bars Value \$25 Scentys	23 \$25 Gift Card Market Basket	24 6 Cocoa Bombs Value \$30 the Cakes by Tina	25 \$25 Gift Card Ocean State Job Lot Crazy Deal	26 Assorted Coffee Pods with Cup \$25 Value
27 \$50 Gift Card Chateau The Spano Family	28 \$25 Gift Card Market Basket	29 Snack Pack Basket \$25 Value	30 Cookie Basket \$25 Value	31 Garden Supplies Value \$45		

The Saint Vincent de Paul, Saint Katharine Drexel Conference at Saint Ann's is running a fund-raiser to build up the funds available to help people in need.

The above calendar raffle will begin in March and calendars are on sale now. Calendars can be obtained by contacting Chris Baker at 774-240-8095 or after the masses.

Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreats (March 11, May 6)

Are you—or someone you know—suffering from post-abortion pain? The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women experiencing regret from a past abortion to attend a Come to the Waters of Healing one-day retreat. Spring dates are March 11 and May 6. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508-651-3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com

NEWS



Fr. Stephen Lusiba sends his prayers and best wishes for a wonderful New Year. He wanted everyone to see the progress on the Boy's Dormitory. He says that the challenge is still quite big. He sends his thanks for all that we have helped him accomplish but the job is not finished. God bless and thank you to all who have helped.

The Catholic Women's Group will start meeting again. Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, March 8th beginning with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 12:00 noon at Saint John's.

All are welcome, bring a friend.!

For more information, contact Jeanne MacDonald — 508-807-1823

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