



SAINT JOHN

***Together in Christ
Collaborative***

First Sunday of Lent

March 6, 2022



SAINT ANN

MASKS NOT REQUIRED



1st Sunday
OF LENT

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. - Lk 4:1-2a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 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

Website: stannswb.com

Facebook: St. Ann-WB

**Collaborative Office Hours are 9-4 M-Th
For both Churches**

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

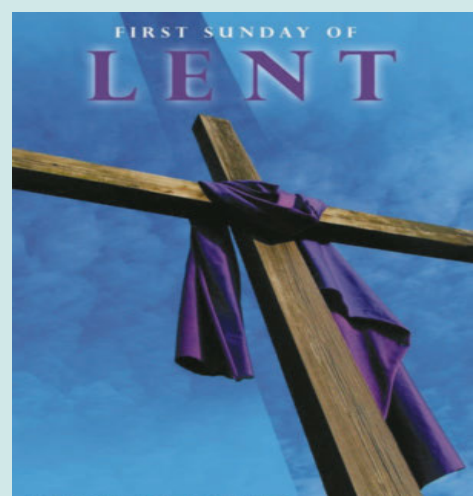
508-378-4207

E-MAIL: stjohnebridge@comcast.net

Website: www.stjohneb.org

Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB

Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring



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 - 4PM Monday -Thursday

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass, Wednesday & Friday

9:00 a.m.

In the Church

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. &

6:15 p.m. Life Teen Mass

w/ Drive up option

Daily Mass: Thurs & Sat.

9:00 a.m.

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 1 p.m. and on Sundays at 1 p.m. These 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

3:00—3:30 at Saint Ann's Church or
by appointment during the pandemic. 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 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: Nancy Goggin

directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

617-639-4215

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 5, 2022

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday March 6, 2022

8:30 - James (Jim) Baker — Birthday Remem.

6:15 - For the people in the Ukraine

Saturday, March 12, 2022

4:00— Elaine Pratt — Birthday Celebration
(living — 90th)

Sunday, March 13, 2022

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

6:15 - For those who need to reunite with God

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 5, 2022

5:30 — For the people in the Ukraine

Sunday, March 6, 2022

10:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, March 12, 2022

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, March 13, 2022

10:30—Robert & Rita Farrell — Memorial
Stephen Mason — Memorial

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekly Offertory

Feb 15, 2022- Feb 21, 2022

ST ANN		ST JOHN	
Online	N/A	Online	\$ 1,082
Mail	\$ 420	Mail	\$ 1,306
Mass	<u>\$ 2,482</u>	Mass	<u>\$ 1,684</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,902	TOTAL	\$ 4,072

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU. Confessions

6:30—8 PM

March 9 — St. John March 16 — St. Ann
March 23 — St. John March 30 — St. Ann
April 6 — St. John April 13 — St. Ann

LENT/EASTER DATES

ASH WEDNESDAY — MARCH 2

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU — CONFESSIONS

WEDNESDAYS 6:30—8 PM (ck schedule)

HOLY THURSDAY —ST ANN'S — 7 PM

GOOD FRIDAY:

SEVEN LAST WORDS—ST JOHN 3 PM

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION—7 PM — ST JOHN'S

EASTER VIGIL — 8 PM — ST ANN'S

My Dear Friends in Christ,



Lent has begun! Our forty-day period of “prayer, fasting and alms-giving” has kicked off, and I hope and pray that this Season is a time of grace and joy for you. Yes, I said joy! When we think of joy, we think of a festive feeling of frivolity, but joy to the Christian is something entirely different. Joy to the Christian is rooted not in this world, but in the Kingdom; this is why the concept is so difficult for many to grasp. We live in a world of instant gratification, of living “in the now”. There is nothing wrong, per se, with “living in the moment” – it can make the present reality that much more “present”. The challenge with living in the here and now, however, comes to bear when we forget why we are here. The present life isn’t just a “stop over” until we get to heaven, but neither is it the “be all, end all” that world would have us believe. The “pitfall” of living a fully human life is to think that this is all there is; it is a temptation to be avoided, for if we do not our very soul could be at risk.

Jesus knows all about temptation. Today’s gospel presents three very real temptations to humanity – physical depravation and need, power and glory, and safety and security. In being presented with these three temptations, Satan acknowledges Jesus’ humanity. This is something of which we need to remind ourselves. When we remember that Jesus (along with being “fully God”) is “fully human”, we find our own humanity “raised up”. A reminder of this comes in our Mass, when the priest (in preparing the water and wine for consecration, so as to become the Blood of Christ), says the words “By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity”. In doing so, he is reminded (and thus, by his actions, reminds the congregation) that Jesus knows what it is to be tempted as a “flesh and blood” human being, but did not give into those temptations.

In moving forward in our Lenten journey, may we realize that there will be temptations. May we also realize that we can, with the help of God through the presence of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit, overcome those temptations. May this Lenten Season be for us a time of cleansing, purification and healing. May this Season also be a time of hope, peace and....JOY!

A Prayerful, Peaceful, and Joyful Lent to All,

Fr. Paul



MY FRANSISCAN JOURNEY

Last Wednesday, with the imposing of the ashes and the admonition: “Repent and believe in the Gospel,” we began our Lenten journey. This season of intense preparation for the joy of the Easter Resurrection admonishes us to prayer, fasting, alms-giving and a sincere repentance of heart. Many of us will begin “giving up” things or making Lenten resolutions. The Church holds up for us the lives of saints in order that we might not only admire their dedication but imitate their example. St. Francis of Assisi observed Lent with the utmost seriousness. We see his ardent devotion to true repentance in chapter seven of “The Little Flowers of St. Francis of Assisi”.

“Saint Francis, true servant of Christ, was in many ways like Christ himself, given to the world for the salvation of all people. Thus, God willed that Saint Francis conform to the example of his only son Jesus Christ in his choice of twelve companions, as we have seen, in the wondrous mystery of the Sacred Stigmata, and in his Lenten fasting, which he observed in the following manner.

Having been lodged at the house of a faithful follower near the Lake of Perugia during the time of Carnival, Saint Francis was inspired by God to observe Lent that year on one of the islands in the lake. So Saint Francis asked his devoted son, for the love of God, to take him on Ash Wednesday in his boat to the uninhabited island by night, so that no one might see them, which the man did readily out of the great love and devotion he held toward Saint Francis. Bringing with him only two small loaves of bread, Saint Francis enjoined his friend to tell no one that he was there and to come back for him no sooner than Holy Thursday, at which his friend took leave of the island, leaving Saint Francis there by himself.

As there were no houses on the island to be used as shelter, Saint Francis was content to use a large, thick bush overgrown with vines and plants as a kind of den or hut for himself. There he prayed and contemplated heavenly matters, staying there throughout all of Lent without food or drink, eating no more than half of one of the small loaves he had brought with him, and his faithful friend found him on Holy Thursday upon his return to the island. Upon seeing a loaf and a half of bread still untouched, he believed that the saint ate the half loaf he did eat out of sheer reverence for the fasting of the blessed Christ, who ate nothing for forty days and forty nights, wishing to follow the example of Christ’s fast but setting aside any temptation to vainglory by eating this half loaf of bread as an act of intentional humility.

Afterward, God began to perform miracles in this place where Saint Francis had observed his Lenten abstinence in such a wondrous fashion. People came to this island, building houses and living there, until finally a town grew up, along with a community house for the friars, and all in this place where Saint Francis observed Lent felt great devotion for him and reverence. Praise be to Jesus Christ and to his poor servant Francis. Amen”

May your Lenten journey be a grace-filled experience and may it bring you closer to Christ and His desire to grow close to Him in all things!

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



THE DEACON’S COLUMN

“Blessed Are You”

When I was in college, I took a class called, “The Jewish Experience.” One of the requirements for the class was to participate in various Jewish services and celebrations. We were asked to participate in a service at a local synagogue and to participate in the ancient rite of the Haggadah, the Passover meal, or the Seder meal. One of the prayers that caught my attention began, “Blessed are you, O Lord Our God, King of the universe, who created the fruit of the vine.” Having served as an altar server for many years at St. Ann’s in West Bridgewater and at the Chapel of Mary on the campus of Stonehill College, I knew the priest’s prayer very well when he took the bread and said, “Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.” Then, taking the wine prepared with a drop of water, says something similar, “Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.” After both priestly prayers, the people respond, “Blessed be God forever.”

The Mass we celebrate every Sunday is profoundly connected to the sacrifice and meal that our Jewish siblings celebrate every year at Passover. The Passover Meal that remembered the Exodus from Egypt and how the Hebrews were passed over by the Angel of Death by the blood of the sacrificed lamb. It was this meal that Jesus desired to be the last meal with his disciples. Jesus celebrated the family meal with his closest friends. He took the place of the children that washed the Father’s hands after the prayer of blessing. This time, Jesus not only washed the hands of his disciples but their feet as well. After retelling the sacred story, Jesus gave the prayer of Thanksgiving. Then finishing the prayers and taking the last pieces of unleavened bread, Jesus did something new. Jesus takes the bread and says, “Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my body which will be given up for you.” Then, taking the cup, Jesus says, “Take this all of you and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant, which will be poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.”

The offertory rite we celebrate to begin the Liturgy of the Eucharist is full of symbolic meaning. The offertory rite we celebrate every Sunday makes present the first Mass Jesus celebrated in the upper room before his sacred passion. This same rite unites us to the history and memory of the Jewish people and the things the same Lord did for them in Egypt. Not only does the offertory rite recall the saving actions of our God in history, but it presents to the Lord the staples of our human existence—bread and wine—food and drink—life and joy! Indeed, blessed be God for ever.

Faith

IN ACTION

IT ALL STARTS WITH

You



My Dear Friends in Christ:

In Matthew's gospel we are told, "You are the light of the world ... Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

I am reminded of that light every day as I witness the countless ways that our brothers and sisters throughout the Catholic community support one another. From organizing and staffing food pantries, to providing outstanding education to children, to serving as spiritual companions to those affected by addiction, I am inspired by the way our parishes and parishioners put faith into action.

These good deeds, and so many others, that help bring the light of Christ to those throughout our communities are made possible through your generous support for the annual Catholic Appeal. **At this time, I ask you to prayerfully consider making a generous gift to the 2022 Catholic Appeal so that together we may continue to strengthen our faith and our communities while serving our brothers and sisters in need.**

Please know of my gratitude for your consideration of this request. Your generosity helps to put faith into action in so many greatly needed and very meaningful ways.

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

Devotedly yours in Christ,

+ Sean, OFMcap

Archbishop of Boston



By participating in the Catholic Appeal, you are helping put faith into action to serve those who turn to the Church for assistance. Your generosity helps to change lives through countless programs and ministries, including:

ADDICTION RECOVERY

The iThirst initiative empowers volunteers at 24 of our parishes to be a spiritual resource for those suffering from addiction, as well as for their families. The Archdiocese of Boston was the first diocese to implement this program, which has now grown into a worldwide ministry. iThirst provides formation for laity and clergy to equip them as Certified Spiritual Companions to accompany addicted individuals and their families along the road to recovery.

Your support of the Catholic Appeal allows the Addiction Recovery Ministry and Opioid Task Force to find and implement life-changing faith-inspired support and programs to anyone affected by addiction.

"We walk with people as two pilgrims, understanding and listening to a vulnerable and marginalized population that has largely gone unheard and underserved."

Keaton Douglas, Founder, iThirst



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Our 100 Catholic schools help 31,000 students go further with faith, providing them with an outstanding education while inspiring them to realize their innate God-given potential. Mission Grammar School (MGS) in Roxbury serves children as young as three months old, offering a support system for families in an underserved community. MGS is an extraordinary example of how our schools encourage students to live the gospel and put them on the road to higher education and a successful life built on a foundation of faith.



"We know that a high-quality education surrounded in a faith-filled community is a way for access and opportunity, equity and possibility for our scholars."

Aliece Dutson, President, Mission Grammar School

Your support of the Catholic Appeal assists our Catholic Schools Office in ensuring our schools continue to be beacons of light in their communities, creating opportunities for success for students from early education through high school.

PARISH FOOD PANTRIES

Many parishes in our Archdiocese operate food pantries that provide nourishment and support for thousands of families in need. Harvest on Vine, the food pantry run out of St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Charlestown serves more than 300 local families each month. This food pantry, along with others across the Archdiocese, are more important now than ever, as the number of those suffering from food insecurity increased by 55% during the pandemic.

"In any community, there are always some folks who are simply, as Jesus would say, the neediest, the ones who everyone doesn't notice. We serve those people."

Fr. James Ronan, Pastor, St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish

Your support of the Catholic Appeal provides ongoing and wide-ranging operational support and assistance to our parishes as they do what they do best: carry out Christ's mission to help those most in need.



The Catholic Appeal helps fund the Central Ministries of the Archdiocese, which make programs and services possible both within and beyond the walls of your parish. Here is a breakdown of how funds raised through the Appeal were allocated in 2021.

■ Parish & Operational Support

Includes serving the 260 parishes across our Archdiocese, from offering support for wide-ranging operational needs to assisting with property damage and other maintenance.

■ Education

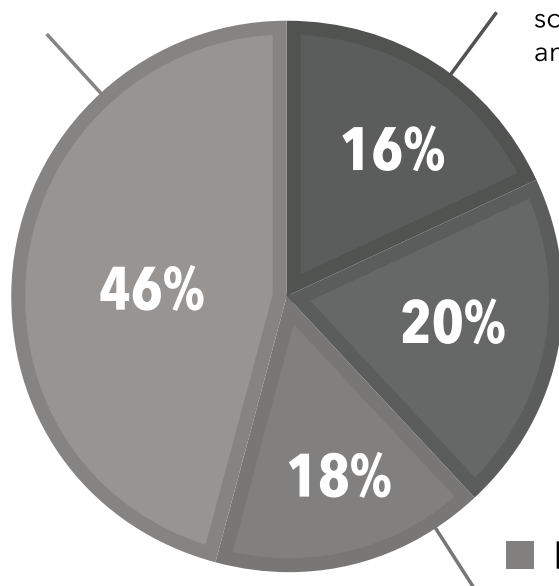
Includes supporting students and faculty at our 100 Catholic schools and providing education and guidance to future priests.

■ Service to Others

Includes offering support to those affected by addiction and training chaplains to work in hospitals and prisons across Greater Boston.

■ Faith & Formation

Includes providing vibrant religious education programs for all ages and overseeing campus ministry programs at more than 25 colleges and universities.

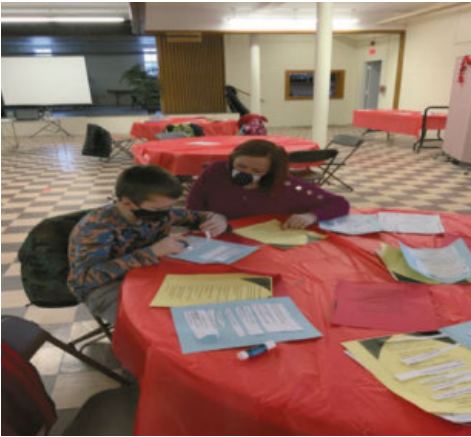


If you have received Cardinal Seán's letter in the mail and already made your gift or pledge, **thank you!** If not, here are the ways you can participate in the 2022 Catholic Appeal:

- Use the in-pew envelope found at your parish to make a gift or pledge.
- Make a donation online or learn more about the benefits of giving by Donor Advised Funds, stock, or IRA contributions by visiting our secure website **bostoncatholicappeal.org**.



**SCAN HERE TO
GIVE NOW**



March Religious Ed Schedule

March 6th: Grades 1,3,4 and 9

Grade 1: Class will meet at St John's hall at 9:25am, followed by 10:30am Mass. Students will attend Mass as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children are welcome to sit with their Parents at Mass.

Grades 3 and 4: will attend 10:30am Mass at St John's as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children may sit with their parents at Mass. Class will follow Mass and go until 12:30pm

Grade 9: will attend 6:15pm Mass at St Ann's, followed by class until 8:30pm.

March 13th: Grades 2, 5,6,7, 8 and 10

Grade 2: Class will meet at St John's hall at 9:25am, followed by 10:30am Mass. Students will attend Mass as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children are welcome to sit with their Parents at Mass.

Grades 5 and 6: will attend 10:30am Mass at St John's as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children may sit with their parents at Mass. Class will follow Mass and go until 12:30pm

Grades 7 and 8: will have class St Ann's from 5:00pm until 6:00pm, followed by 6:15 Mass.

Grade 10: will attend 6:15pm Mass at St Ann's, followed by class until 8:30pm.

March 20th: Grades 1,3,4 and 9

Grade 1: Class will meet at St John's hall at 9:25am, followed by 10:30am Mass. Students will attend Mass as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children are welcome to sit with their Parents at Mass.

Grades 3 and 4: will attend 10:30am Mass at St John's as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children may sit with their parents at Mass. Class will follow Mass and go until 12:30pm

Grade 9: will attend 6:15pm Mass at St Ann's, followed by class until 8:30pm.

March 27th: Grades 2, 5,6,7, 8 and 10

Grade 2: Class will meet at St John's hall at 9:25am, followed by 10:30am Mass. Students will attend Mass as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children are welcome to sit with their Parents at Mass.

Grades 5 and 6: will attend 10:30am Mass at St John's as a class. If parents choose to attend the Mass, the children may sit with their parents at Mass. Class will follow Mass and go until 12:30pm

Grades 7 and 8: will have class St Ann's from 5:00pm until 6:00pm, followed by 6:15 Mass.

Grade 10: will attend 6:15pm Mass at St Ann's, followed by class until 8:30pm.

Important Grade 2 Notice!!!!!!

We have rescheduled the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
Due to the time lost because of Covid, we have needed to reschedule
First Reconciliation.

The New Date for
First Reconciliation is
Saturday, April 2nd

The Religious ED Classes at work in the newly renovated Saint John's Hall.

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

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolai, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett Harry Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Helen Conrad, Kathy Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Karen Parenteau, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Claudette Rochefort, Frank McCarthy, Joan Thompson, Kenneth McLaughlin & 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
Hotline—508-378-3760

Winter dates and hours will be in effect from **November thru April**, pantry days will be the **first Monday** of the month, except for holidays, from 1pm to 4pm., and the **3rd Saturday**, except for holidays, from 10am to 11:30 am

THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:

In today's Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.

*Monday, March 7, 2022 1—4 PM
Saturday, March 19, — 10—11:30 AM*

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

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.

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.



SAINT VINCENT de PAUL
PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095 or jchbaker@msn.com
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.



HELP!!!!

**SNOW REMOVAL IS
EXPENSIVE**

EVERY PENNY COUNTS.

**PLEASE INCREASE YOUR OFFERTORY TO
COVER THE EXTRA COSTS
INCURRED
BY THE RECENT SNOW STORMS.**

Lent is a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ.

We are pleased to announce the formation of the **Disciples of Hospitality Ministry**, and are seeking volunteers from both St Ann's and St John's who will work together on building this ministry. There will be a kick off meeting on Wednesday, March 9th @ 6pm in the lower level of St John's Church to brainstorm ideas and start planning for the Easter season. If you have any questions or are interested in joining but are unable to attend the March 9th meeting please drop us an email at Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

Hello Friend,

"Pray and never lose heart" (cf. Luke 18:1).

For some of us, these words of the Gospel may feel unrealistic, especially when news as alarming as the situation in eastern Europe breaks upon us. But when [Pope Francis addressed the church and the world at the end of his General Audience this past Wednesday](#), he urged us to pray with the faith of those who believe in "a God of peace, and not of war."

"Jesus taught us that the diabolical senselessness of violence is answered with God's weapons, with prayer and fasting," Pope Francis reminded us. As violence, fear, and anxiety grip the hearts of our brothers and sisters around the world, especially in Ukraine and Russia, we are called to take up "God's weapons" of prayer and fasting in solidarity with them. As we do, we live our belief that whenever and wherever Christians come together in prayer, it is Jesus himself who prays in us, with us, and for us.

Yesterday, Sr. Anne and Sr. Orianne Pietra René led a [Divine Mercy Chaplet on Instagram Live](#) for peace, conversion, and the intentions of all affected by this tragedy. Today, we invite you to join us.

Pray the Chaplet

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