



*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
March 19, 2023
4th Sunday of Lent*



*4th Sunday
OF LENT*



When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" Jesus said to him, "You have seen him and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.
-Jn 9:35-38

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

*The Lord is
my shepherd;
I shall
not want.*

PSALM 23

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: stjohnbridge@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 - 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

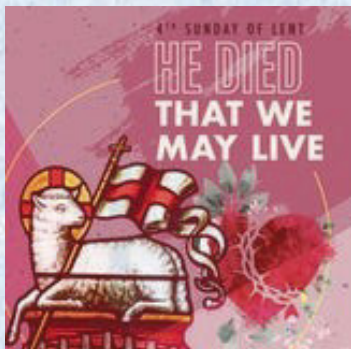
COLLABORATIVE STAFF

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 19, 2023

7:30 - For all families struggling financially
11:30 - For all families struggling with addiction
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

Sunday, March 26, 2023

7:30 - Patricia Euginia—31st Anniversary
Marie Bagley —17th Anniversary
11:30 - Joseph Giovanoni — 1st Anniversary
6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, March 18, 2023

4:00 - Suzanne Serino — 3rd Anniversary

Sunday March 19, 2023

9:30 - Nancy Robichaud — 7th Anniversary

Saturday, March 25, 2023

4:00 - Manny & Mary Diaz — Memorial

Sunday, March 26, 2023

9:30 - Kim Russo — 4th Anniversary

*Wine, Hosts & Sanctuary Lamps this
week are in memory of*



Nancy Robichaud



March 19 — Teen Mass — 6:15

March 25 — Confirmation Retreat — Glastonbury Abbey

April 2 — Palm Sunday

April 4 — Tenebrae — 7:00 PM — St. Ann's

April 6 — Mass of the Lord's Supper — 7:00 PM St. John

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 —

**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,



Today the Church celebrates "Laetare Sunday". The word "laetare" is taken from the Latin and means to "rejoice", which may seem strange to us during this Lenten Season. This designation comes into play, however, when we recognize that we are very close to the celebration of the Easter, and there is "cause for rejoicing here". Today's readings bear this out as well.

Today's first reading speaks of the anointing of David as king. Samuel, in being sent by God, is prompted by God to anoint David. David's other brothers may seem, on the surface, to be more "qualified" to assume the role of king, but God sees beyond the surface. In anointing David, God shows that He "sees" us in a different way than we might see ourselves or others. In looking at the kingship of David (of which Jesus is "in line"), one sees that being anointed is no guarantee to perfection — which is good news for us, indeed! God shows to us that He "anoints" in a different way than society does.

Our second reading speaks of the second "theme" (of three) through which we walk with our RCIA candidates, that of "light". We are called to walk in the light of Christ, for we are "children of light" (Eph 5:8). This might seem easy, for walking in light is much easier, safer and comforting than walking in darkness. Sometimes we might be drawn to darkness, however, because things in darkness are seemingly hidden. I say "seemingly", for God sees all, which is a good thing as God can help us move from darkness into light.

Our gospel brings forth this idea of "light" in a different way, with the story of the man born blind. This is a physical blindness, but it is tied into the spiritual realm by the fact that in Jesus' day sin and illness had a direct "linkage". When one was ill or disabled, one was seen as being "born totally in sin" (as the Pharisees say in John 9:34); we know this not to be the case now, partly due to the actions of Jesus, who has no issue with healing the man. In "schooling" the Pharisees, helps us by teaching us to look beyond what is "seen" with the eye and to "see" with the heart. When we do this, we see as God sees.

Let us be people of the light, walking in the light of Christ. Let us follow the Lord in the light of His truth and love. Let us come to know Jesus and live in the light of life!

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 joining us, please sign up here:
<https://forms.gle/8WNFPiMaMHRByn2D9>. All ages are welcome!

Coffee Hour at St. Ann

On Sunday, March 26th our Disciples of Hospitality will host a coffee hour in the hall following the 11:30 Mass.

Please join us for refreshments and conversation with your fellow parishioners!

Adult Bible Study

Our new Adult Bible Study will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, March 29th at 7 pm at St. John and continue to meet every Wednesday at 7 pm after that. We will gather in the conference room in the lower church. Our focus is the Sunday Gospel and what it means for us as disciples. All are welcome!

Lent Events:

The Light is on for You:

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

Locations:

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

Stations of the Cross:

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:

3/24: St. John
3/31: St. Ann

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!

THE HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Tenebrae Service:

On Tuesday of Holy Week (4/4) at 7 pm at St. Ann we will hold our first ever Tenebrae Service.

Tenebrae is a Latin word meaning "darkness," and this service remembers Jesus' passion and victory over evil. It features the gradual darkening of the church by extinguishing candles so that at the end of the service we depart in darkness to await the light of the resurrection. Please join us!

Holy Week Schedule:

Tuesday (4/4): Tenebrae Service at 7 pm at St. Ann

Holy Thursday (4/6): 7 pm Mass at St. John

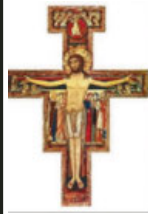
Good Friday (4/7): 7 pm Service at St. Ann

Easter Vigil (4/8): 8 pm at St. John

Easter Sunday Schedule:

8:00 am St. Ann
9:30 am St. John
11:30 am St. Ann

There will be no 6:15 Mass



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Today's readings focus on the theme of "light". From the first reading which speaks of seeing with the light of faith in the choosing of David as King, to the second reading which calls us to be light in the Lord (Ephesians 5:8), to the gospel which tells of the man healed of his blindness/darkness, this image of light runs through today's readings.

One of the ways that St. Francis of Assisi speaks of this light which emanates from God comes in the lines found in Francis' "Canticle of the Sun (Canticle of the Creatures)". In speaking of the sun and the moon, St. Francis calls us to reflect on the light which comes from these entities. In speaking of the sun, Francis writes:

"Be praised, my Lord, through all your creatures, especially through my lord Brother Sun, who brings the day; and you give light through him. And he is beautiful and radiant in all his splendor! Of you, Most High, he bears the likeness." ("Canticle of the Sun (Creatures)", line one)

On this front, St. Francis tells us that the sun illuminates the day and under which we find beauty and splendor. In writing about the moon, Francis writes:

"Be praised, my Lord, through Sister Moon and the stars; in the heavens you have made them, precious and beautiful." ("Canticle of the Sun (Creatures)", line two)

Francis helps us to see, in the moon (and stars and heavens), the magnificent beauty and unique nature of this entity helps us to see how the light of the moon brings light (literally) to the beauty of the nighttime.

How has God's creation, spoken of so beautifully in Francis' work (as cited above), called you into deeper relationship with the Source of all Creation? How has God called you to be aware of, reflect on, and share this relationship with others, especially during this Lenten Season? May you open your mind and heart to this call, and may this call bring about a conversion of mind and heart to you all whom you meet.

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 Nicolai, 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, Rocco Zarrella & 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 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.**



We at SVdP at St Ann's want to thank everyone who donated to our calendar and all those who purchased calendars from us. All the funds raised will benefit those in need.

Thank you and God Bless.



There is nothing like beautiful flowers to make the altar look festive to celebrate the Easter Season.

Please use your Easter Flower Envelope or any envelope from home designated for the flowers to help us provide an altar worthy of this wonderful Holy Day in honor of Jesus' Resurrection.

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

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

March 23-26 (Men)

April 20-23 (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.

To register/obtain more information, contact:

Holy Cross Retreat House
490 Washington St.
North Easton, MA 02356
508-238-2051



Pope Francis has renewed the appointment of Boston Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley to the Council of Cardinals, an influential advisory body formed in 2013. "This morning, I was notified that Pope Francis has renewed my appointment to the Council of Cardinals," said O'Malley, one of nine prelates from around the world initially tapped for the panel a decade ago, in a statement Tuesday. He said he was honored to serve and grateful for Francis' faith in his assistance. The council, O'Malley continued, "advises Pope Francis on matters concerning the life of the Universal Church."

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