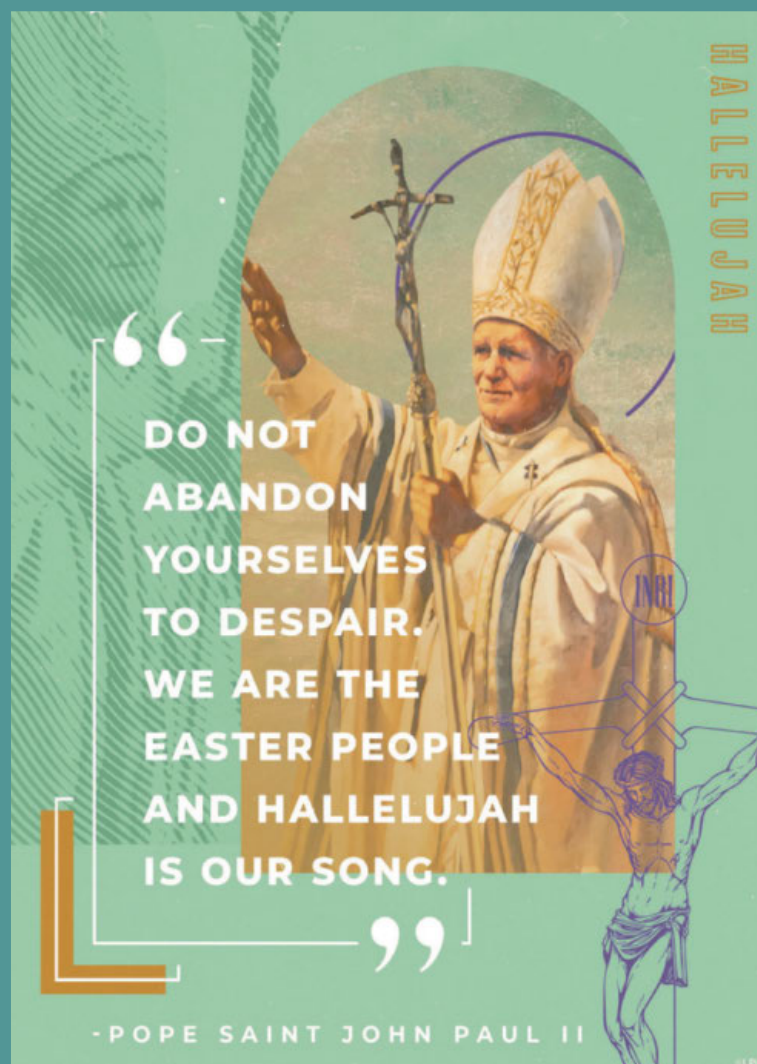




*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
April 9, 2023*



*Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord*



**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 9-3 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: [stjohnnebridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnnebridge@comcast.net)**

**Website: [www.stjohnnebridge.org](http://www.stjohnnebridge.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

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

#### Priests In Residence

**Fr. Peter Francis**  
**Fr. Michael Diochi**

#### Permanent Deacons:

Christopher Connelly  
cconnelly@rcab.org

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

### EUCCHARISTIC 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

### 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

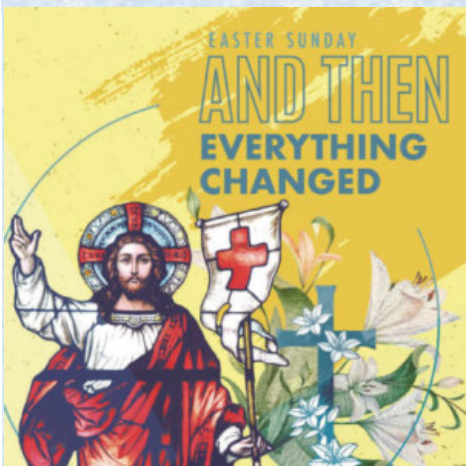
**Administrative Assistant:** Deborah Conrad  
stjohnnebridge@comcast.net  
508-378-4207  
**Music Minister:** Erica Vinton

### 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

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Sunday, April 9, 2023 — Easter Sunday

7:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

11:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

#### Saturday, April 15, 2023

4:00 — Carl Bechet — 1st Anniversary

#### Sunday, April 16, 2023

9:30 — Robert Smith — 10th Anniversary

Petr Smith — 2nd Anniversary

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Saturday, April 8, 2023 — Holy Saturday

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

#### Sunday, April 9, 2023 — Easter Sunday

9:30 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

#### Sunday April 21 2023

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

11:30 - Gerard Penney — 6th Month's Mind

6:15 - John Bota — Memorial

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends in Christ,



He is risen! Alleluia! We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song! Today's solemnity brings about a joy that no power can attain, no money can buy. Today, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, true to His Word, has broken the chains of sin and death and won for us newness of life. What a glorious day this is for all God's people.

I can remember growing up when Easter had a different "feel" than the other holidays/holy days. Family gatherings were a part of each of these times (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter), and going to Mass was part of many of them (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter), but Easter stood out for me. Perhaps it was when I came to the realization of what the day was about. Christmas was (and still is) a beautiful time of year, but often times the "commercialization" gets the better of even the best of intentions; I can't recall any "commercialization" ever being associated with Easter. The other thing about Easter which brings it to the "top of the list" for me is the gift of resurrection.

Don't get me wrong – I'm eternally grateful that God thought enough of us to give His Son for us at Christmas. Easter, however, is when one like us in all things (save for sin) gave His life for the world, so as to rise from the dead and win for us Eternal Life. Scripture tells us that "no greater love hath one, then to lay down their life for a friend" (Jn 15:13). This is what Jesus does for us in the Easter miracle – He lays down His life so that He might pick it up again, winning for us new life.

Easter comes at a time of new birth. In springtime, we see new life come into the world. How appropriate that our Easter celebration comes at this time. May this day (and season) be for us a time of "new birth." Let us look for opportunities to foster growth and revitalization in our parish and community. If you're joining us again for another week of worship, welcome back; you're the reason for our loving community! If you've been away from "the family" for a while, welcome home! May you find in the Collaborative Parishes of St. John the Evangelist and St. Ann's a home where you can put down "roots", planting yourself in the garden of God's loving care. In any event, no matter where you are on your "journey of faith", may you find in St. Ann's and St. John's a place where you can grow, flourish and "bear great fruit" for the sake of God's Kingdom and His Holy People!

A Blessed Easter to All,

Fr. Paul



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

#### Daily Masses:

Wed. & Fri. — St. John

Thurs. & Sat. — St. Ann

Daily Masses will remain the same.



The Easter Banners in the churches  
were donated anonymously.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the  
Easter Flower Fund.

We hope you are pleased with the display!



## 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 monthly sandwich making project for the homeless of Boston continues this month. Join us on Monday, April 17th at 6:30 pm at St. Ann 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/FcbV9jgeKaTAXR6U8>.

### **Adult Bible Study Continues**

Our new Adult Bible Study continues to meet every Wednesday at 7 pm. We will gather in the conference room in the lower church of St. John's. Our focus is the Sunday Gospel and what it means for us as disciples. All are welcome!

### **Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers Wanted!**

We are looking to add to our roster of Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers for both parishes. If you are interested in one (or both) of these ministries, please call the office at:

508-378-4207.

## Ministries

*Changing Lives ~ Sharing the Love of Christ*

There is no better way to make your Parish a home where you can put down "roots", planting yourself in the garden of God's loving care than by becoming involved in your church home.

Please take this opportunity to make our Collaborative Parishes a place where you not only go to Mass but where you enjoy the fellowship of others in a common activity.

The Hospitality Committee has been meeting and would love to have more parishioners participate in the planning of Social Activities for the Parishes.

Bible Study has started — All are welcome!

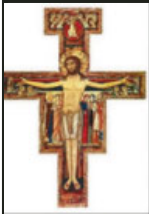
The Choir has been singing for the past two years and is slowly growing. If you like to sing (even if you cannot read music), we would love to have to join us. We especially need male voices.

If you have a special interest, please let us know so that we can plan a ministry around that talent or skill or interest.

### **Disciples of Hospitality**

Our Collaborative Disciples of Hospitality are responsible for organizing the social life of our parishes and decorating the churches for the seasons of the church year. As we continue to grow our work, new members from both St. Ann and St. John are welcome.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 18th at 6 pm in St. Ann's Parish Center. Please join us!



### MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

The sanctity of Francis of Assisi is a many-splendored thing. He is an **EVANGELICAL** saint, for he sought to imitate Christ by living in a most radical way the perfection of the Holy Gospel. He is likewise an **ECCLESIAL** saint, a man who anchored his mission and his teaching in that of the mystical Bride of Christ, the holy Catholic Church. Nature-lovers claim Francis of Assisi, the friend and brother of creation, as an **ECOLOGICAL** saint. Those involved in dialogue with other religions hail the Sultan-visiting, peace-promoting Francis as the model of an **ECUMENICAL** saint. But can the Poor Man of Assisi, who bore on his body the wounds of Jesus Crucified, be rightly called an **EASTER** saint?

For St. Francis, the spiritual Easter was not a one-time event, but a journey, a process. Like St. Paul, Francis could declare: All I want to know is Christ and the power flowing from His Resurrection! This knowledge and power enabled Francis to take the Cross-road which leads to glory: sharing in (Christ's) sufferings by being formed into the pattern of His death, Francis hoped that (he) too might attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Phil 3:10-11). Francis' road to Easter began with a profound encounter with Jesus Crucified. Praying before the crucifix in the church of San Damiano outside Assisi during the first years of his conversion, Francis heard Christ address to him the heart-shaking words: Francis, rebuild My house! The future saint felt a mysterious change in himself, but he could not describe it. This was the beginning of his spiritual Easter.

St. Francis journeyed to Easter transformation by contemplating and imitating Jesus in the mysteries of His poverty and humility. Seraphic love even compelled the Poor Man to ask Christ to grant him to feel in his body the pains of the Passion and to feel in his heart the love which urged Christ to die for sinners. In September 1224, two years before the Seraphic Patriarch's death, God answered his prayer with the imprinting of the Sacred Stigmata, making Francis an icon of the Crucified Jesus. Yet, Francis' immersion in the mysteries of the Passion did not make him sad or somber. Rather, the sorrows of the Lord opened Francis to a deeper, truer joy. The wounds of Christ's Passion which the Poor Man bore were in truth signs of spiritual resurrection, God visibly confirming Francis' passage through death to life. The Easter life is new life, - life in Christ. Again and again, the 13th century authors hail St. Francis as the new man. In him, new signs of sanctity appear, new prodigies are made manifest. His religious family is a new flock in the Church, a new Order, living a new life. Francis proclaimed even in his body that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature: the former things have passed away. Behold! They are made new! (2 Cor. 5:17) Francis' Easter newness was the fruit of his union with the Crucified and Risen One. This union is the secret of the Little Poor Man's joy, his peace-making skills, his enthusiasm for the things of God, his unique relationship with creation. Illness, disappointment, pain, betrayal and misunderstanding still marked Francis' earthly pilgrimage. But, he saw these sufferings in a new light. He understood that through them, God was making all things

### MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY CONT'D

work toward an eternal good, an eternal Easter. And so in Francis and through him an unexpected joy and a holy newness came into the world. St. Francis' mission of newness did not end with death. Those present at his funeral services saw his body, adorned with the wounds of Christ, shining with a marvelous brightness. In life, Francis bore in his body the likeness of the sufferings of Christ. In death, his body presaged the glory of the future resurrection: The wounds he has, show forth Gifts of a newer kind. The power of this new life was also manifested in the wonders which occurred through his intercession: he shone with the new light of miracles after his death.

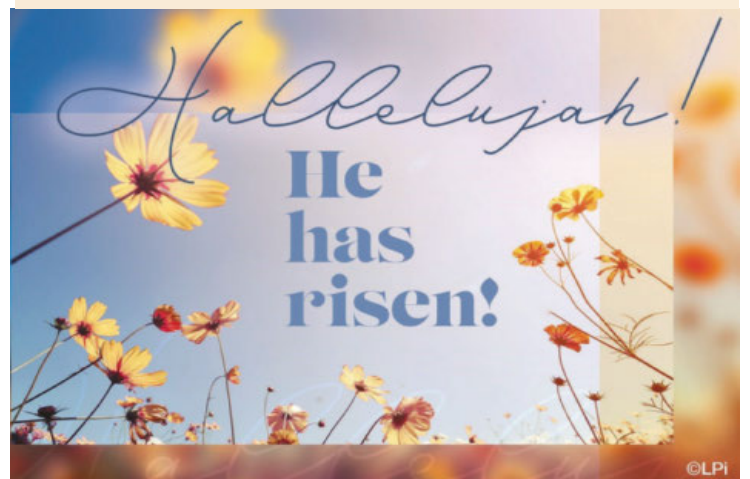
Against this backdrop, the Easter references in St. Francis' writings shine with a new splendor. When composing his devotional Office of the Cross, the Seraphic Father included a special Office for the Easter Season. Yet even in the solemn Offices for Holy Week, the thought of Resurrection is present: Arise, my glory! Arise, lyre and harp! I will arise at dawn!

I have slept and risen and my most Holy Father has received me in glory. Christ made Francis, the Easter Saint, a singer of the new song of Redemption. In the "Exhortation to the Praise of God," the Poor Man sang as his own the hymn of those who stand before the Throne of God in heaven: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power, glory and honor! His song of Easter triumph is likewise that of the Church on earth: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! St. Francis of Assisi shows what can happen when the grace of Easter becomes effective in a Christian's life. He teaches us that every earthly suffering holds the seed of resurrection. For Francis, Easter was a vibrant reality that gave light and hope and even energy for his daily journey with Christ to the Father. He teaches us that the real saints (the Easter saints) are the quite human, quite natural people in whom, through the Easter purification and transformation, what is human appears afresh in its total originality and beauty.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

Happy Easter from Fr. Paul, Deacon Christ, Deacon Brendan and the entire staff from Saint Ann's and Saint John's.





## 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, 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, Jack, Brian Scanlan, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Meg Weljkvic & 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, April 3, 2023  
Monday, April 17, 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

### 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**

**THANK YOU  
TO THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE  
FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK GETTING THE  
CHURCH READY FOR HOLY WEEK  
AND EASTER SUNDAY!**

### 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.



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

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.



Thank you to all who gave to the Easter Flower Fund.  
Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### EASTER



## 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

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



Join with Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, the Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, and the Men of Divine Mercy Prayer Group for the following events (sponsored by the Flatley Foundation):

**Mass 4 Life: Thursday, April 13th at 7pm**  
Sacred Heart Church, 386 Hancock Street, Quincy, MA 02171  
with Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley, OFM Cap., Archbishop of Boston

**Youth 4 Life: Friday, April 14, 2023 from 6-9pm**  
The Marriott Ballroom in Quincy, 1000 Marriott Drive, Quincy, MA 02169  
with Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley, OFM Cap., Archbishop of Boston

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