



*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
May 7, 2023  
The 5th Sunday of Easter*



## St. Michael the Archangel,

defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

Amen.

St. Michael the Archangel,  
**PRAY FOR US**



Reaction to the SatanCon in Boston sent by LPI, our publishing company. Although it is a week late, it is a wonderful representation of the power of Saint Michael. One we should use in our daily prayers to combat EVIL.

## 5th Sunday OF EASTER



"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be." - Jn 14:2-3

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](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: [stjohnbridge@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnbridge@comcast.net)**

**Website: [www.stjohnneb.org](http://www.stjohnneb.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 Ann's**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass  
Thurs & Sat.  
9:00 a.m.

#### **St John's**

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.  
&  
6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass  
w/ Drive up option

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

## MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Saturday, May 6, 2023

4:00 - Edward Williams — 10th Anniversary  
Melva & Charles Silva — Memorial

#### Sunday, May 7, 2023

9:30 - Michael Durso — 1st Anniversary  
Mary Durso — 18th Anniversary

#### Saturday, May 13, 2023

4:00 — Kevin Sullivan — Birthday Remembrance

#### Sunday, May 14, 2023

9:30 — Edward Rapoza — 1st Anniversary

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

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#### Sunday, May 7, 2023

8:00 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative  
11:30 - Bob DiFazio — 3rd Anniversary

#### Sunday May 14, 2023

8:00 - All Mothers  
11:30 - All Mothers  
6:15 - All Mothers



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Poet and novelist Vanna Bonta was once quoted as saying that she considers herself “more exportant than important”. Forgiving her the act of making up a word, her point is well taken, especially in light of today’s readings. The readings for this weekend are all about service, discipleship and the act of putting oneself second to the needs of others.

In the first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, we recall the institution of the diaconate. As our own Deacons Joe and Brendan can tell you, the diaconate is a ministry of service. It was “created” because there were members of the community (widows) whose basic human needs were not being met. This did not sit well with the Hellenists who were, to say the least, skeptical of this “New Way” (as Christianity was first called). In calling together the seven mentioned in today’s reading, the basic needs of service were met while the prayer of the others could be undertaken. This is not to say that prayer was more important than service; in fact, quite the opposite. The ministry of the diaconate was established because service to the community was vitally important to its well-being. In this way, Jesus’ command to care for the “least” among us would be met.

In our second reading, we see how our lives of discipleship rest on the “cornerstone” (1 Pt 2:6) who is Christ. This “living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God” (1 Pt 2:4), is the “template” by which we are to model our lives. We all belong to the “priesthood of the baptized”, and as such are called to model our lives after the “great High Priest” who is Christ. His priesthood was one of service, and ours must be as well. If we are to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, we must put our needs, wants and desires second to those of the community.

In our gospel passage, we hear of how the works that we do mirror our faith in God. It is not that we can ever “earn” our way into heaven, but the works we do show our faith in the One who instills in us the will to respond to God’s call to serve our brothers and sisters. This weekend, several of our youngsters received Jesus in Eucharist this weekend for the very first time! My prayer for them is that they listen to Jesus speaking to their heart by serving His Church in whatever way they can, large or small!

May we all hear and respond to God’s call to serve His people. May we know that this call is the fulfillment of our baptismal call to put our needs second to that of our brothers and sisters. May we know the way to the Father by following Christ in all that we say, do and are by seeing the needs of our brothers and sisters, responding to those needs and always striving for the greater glory of God!

A Blessed Easter Season to All,

Fr. Paul

## West Bridgewater Boy Scout

### Troop 25

Invites you to a

# Pancake Breakfast

**Sunday, May 7th, 2023**

**8:00am -12:00pm**

**St. Ann's Church Hall**

**103 North Main St. West Bridgewater**

**Adults: \$10**

**Children (under 12) \$5**



Scan here to buy tickets



SCAN ME

## 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 sandwich making project for the homeless of Boston continues next month.

Join us on **May 8th at 6:30 pm at St. John** 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/vxhT8EJaRmgWE6hHA>.

### **Fellowship Hour 5/21**

Our next Fellowship Hour (formerly known Coffee Hour) will be **May 21st following the 9:30 Mass at St. Ann**. Please join us for refreshments and conversation.

Parishioners from both parishes and all visitors are welcome. Sponsored by the Disciples of Hospitality.

### **Adult Bible Study Continues**

Our new Adult Bible Study continues to meet every **Wednesday at 7 pm at St. John**.

We 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!

*Saint John's Memorial this week is for:*

***Bob DiFazio***

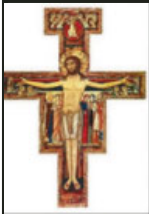
*Wine, Hosts, & Sanctuary Lamp*



***And Flowers***







## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

In today's gospel, Jesus speaks one of those "hard truths" that people don't necessarily associate with Him: "Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6). It is in this challenging declaration that Jesus sets a course to the Kingdom – through Him. Jesus wasn't afraid to "speak the truth in love", and neither was St. Francis.

St. Francis was certainly compassionate, seeing Christ in all things – people, nature, even the leper. But he wasn't afraid to challenge people, even his own Franciscan brothers, when they strayed from the truth. He was not afraid to even challenge those within his own Church. His life and message were uncompromising and simple: greed causes suffering for both the victims and the perpetrators. St Francis's views about the perpetrators are relevant as bankers award themselves enormous undeserved bonuses, while others suffer. The indifference of the greedy and their hatred of the poor hurt the rich, too: St Francis believed living with that sort of attitude was morally, socially and spiritually destructive. St Francis gave no unwarranted deference to people in high places, and when he walked to Rome and finally saw what the Vatican was like, he exploded. He publicly criticized the greed, wealth, power, venality, worldliness, corruption and emptiness of it all. Pope Innocent III could hardly believe his ears. Nobody had ever spoken to him like that, and here was this poor "nobody" telling him that the church was against Christ. St Francis was jailed for this outburst, but in the end the pope let him go.

St Francis offers a vision of a different world, where we share more equally the abundant wealth of goods and life itself as we focus on the right relations to the earth and all our fellow creatures. May we live like Jesus, and be unafraid to lead others to the truth. May we be like Francis, and lead others to Christ. May we use what we have for the benefit for all, striving to bring all to Christ.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

"Holiness is not something that a person has got or can get; it is something a person seeks. To seek to be holy is to be holy."

MATTHEW KELLY  
*A Call To Joy*

"Remarkably, the Lord made you in His very own image. That means your life is sacred. It has value. You have been made by love and with love. It is hard to believe, but you look a lot like God."

ALLEN HUNT  
*Genesis Bible Study Workbook*



DynamicCatholic.com

### "Thank You, Mom"

From the initial wonder to the morning sickness,  
From the sleepless nights to the giggles of delight,  
From the first steps to the temper tantrums,  
Thank you, Mom.

From school day pride to detention day disappointment,  
From the big game to the big show to the big "uh-oh,"  
With secret shared moments and home-cooked meals,  
Thank you, Mom.

Through tears and laughter,  
Through sorrow and joy,  
For all the ups and downs,  
and for the journey yet to come,

**Thank you, Mom!**



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## 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, Alicia Boucher & 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, May 1, 2023*  
*Monday, May 15, 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

A special thank you to Farley Flowers of West Bridgewater for the beautiful arrangements in memory of our loved ones requested by Parishioners.



### 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**

Is in need of:

Spaghetti sauce, mustard, ketchup, relish, & pickles.  
Small jars only please.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
St Ann's

PLEASE CONTACT  
TINA ANTHONY  
508-245-5481

P O Box 474  
West Bridgewater MA 02379

### 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**

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Indeed, goodness  
and mercy will  
pursue me all the  
days of my life

-Psalm 23:6





## NEWS

Question: Are Catholics obligated to attend Mass each Sunday, or receive Communion each Sunday?

The questions about Mass attendance and the reception of Holy Communion are clearly outlined in what are traditionally called the "Precepts" of the Church. These specific teachings are intended to stand alongside the Ten Commandments as fundamental practices for Catholics and are outlined in the Code of Canon Law. The obligations related to Mass attendance and receiving Communion are outlined in the first and third precepts, which we find quoted in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (no. 2042):

The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor") requires the faithful to sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord as well as the principal liturgical feasts honoring the mysteries of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints; in the first place, by participating in the Eucharistic celebration, in which the Christian community is gathered, and by resting from those works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days.

The third precept ("You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season") guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy.

Rather than seeing these as obligations that are simply to be fulfilled out of a sense of duty, Pope Saint John Paul II reminds us of the grace that is made available to us when we gather for Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist: "Sunday is the day which is at the very heart of the Christian life... Time given to Christ is never time lost, but is rather time gained, so that our relationships and indeed our whole life may become more profoundly human" (Dies Domini, no. 7).

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