



*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
August 28, 2022*



Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Do not recline at table in the place of honor. A more distinguished guest than you may have been invited.” - Lk 14:8bc

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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: stjohnnebridge@comcast.net
Website: 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

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: 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. 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
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: Nancy Goggin
directorofministries.tic@gmail.com
617-639-4815

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 27, 2022

4:00 –Dennis Rando — Memorial

Sunday, August 28, 2022

8:30 - Reinald Ledoux, Jr. — Memorial

6:15 - Ralph Chick — 16th Anniversary

Saturday, September 3, 2022

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Sunday, September 4, 2022

8:30 - Joe Pigeon — Healing

6:15 - Parishioners of Saint Ann & Saint John

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, August 27, 2022

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday August 28, 2022

10:30 - Michael S. Bonner — 2nd Anniversary

Saturday, September 3, 2022

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, September 4, 2022

10:30 - Sgt. Michael Clancy — 1st Anniversary



My Dear Friends in Christ,

I enjoy going to wedding receptions; I think being Irish, I enjoy a good party! I have a standard rule, however, when it comes to these invites – I ask to never be sat at the head table. I’ve had occasions when either I’ve been left alone and thus put “on display”, or I’ve been seated next to the flower girl and been asked (by her) to cut her meat! Obviously, in both cases it is not as “ideal” a seat as one might imagine!

The parable which Jesus tells illustrates the point that we must be humble in our dealings with one another. We can never presume (as in the case of taking a place of honor) a place of honor, or assume (as in the case of holding a lunch or dinner) that we will be repaid. In either case, as host or guest, we must be free of expectations. The same is true of the Christian life. Anything we receive in life, we receive as a “gift” (yes, even the challenges of life can be seen as a “gift”) – a gift freely given by God. God gives us all that we need to grow in faith, hope and love.

Sirach emphasizes this point in today’s first reading, which also deals with humility. In this missive, the author reminds the reader that in everything that is done in God’s name is to be done with humility and an appreciation of and attentiveness to who God is calling us to be. We are to use those God-given talents and abilities to serve our brothers and sisters in love. When we do this, we are indeed serving God.

May we have the courage to look within our hearts to see who it is God is calling us to be. May we know that when we use those gifts, talents and abilities we are serving not only one another, but God. May we live humbly, approach God confidently and serve faithfully. May we strive to build up our community of faith, assist our brothers and sisters in their faith and always strive for the greater glory of God.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



After consultation with the Parish Council and Staff, we are unveiling a New Mass Schedule

**BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 10 & 11, 2022
Through Approx. Easter**

SATURDAYS

4:00 PM — SAINT JOHN’S

SUNDAYS

7:30 — SAINT ANN’S

9:30 — SAINT JOHN’S

11:30 — SAINT ANN’S

6:15 — SAINT ANN’S

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES

LECTOR AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

Anyone interested in becoming a Lector
Or
Eucharistic Minister
Or
Those currently serving who want to refresh
their skills, training will be available:

August 28th at St. John's
Lectors — Noon -- 1 PM
Eucharistic Minister — 1:15 -- 2:15
Or
September 11th at St. Ann's
1:00—2:00 — Lectors
2:15—3:15 — Eucharistic Ministers

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP YOUR PARISH?

WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF PEOPLE TO
VOLUNTEER FOR :

HELP

USHERS
GREETER
LECTORS
EUCHRISTIC MINISTERS
ALTAR SERVERS

Please call 508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880



Altar Flower Memorial

*Flowers for this weekend
have been donated
In honor of:*

Kerry Masefield



BINGO IS COMING BACK!

**Southeast Cyclones will be holding Saturday Night
Bingo starting Sept. 10**

St. Ann's Bingo's starting date to be announced.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW.



FINANCIAL NEWS

Beginning in the Month of July, we will no longer
publish the Offertory amounts on a week to week
basis.

Rather we will be publishing a brief monthly summary
Income Statement that will not only include the
Offertory but all of the money received in the prior
month along with where the funds were used.

This will help everyone understand the financial
condition of your parish.

*The Knights of Columbus is seeking a field agent for a
career opportunity representing their top rated
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Programs.*

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position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for
membership in the Knights of Columbus.*

*For more information on this exciting career
opportunity, please contact Michael R. Capobianco,
General Agent at (508) 238-2300.*

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED
WITH THE PARISH CENTER
CLEAN UP !!**

**Many hands make light work!
Job well done!**



THE DEACON'S COLUMN

Pondering These Things In Our Heart—Silence in the Liturgy (Part II)

In Luke's Gospel we are presented with two contrasting stories involving the Archangel Gabriel who announces two unlikely and impossible conceptions. The first involves the older and barren couple of Zechariah and Elizabeth and the second involves a virgin named Mary. Why does God punish Zechariah and praise Mary when their responses seem the same?

The difference lies in a small detail in the narrative. Before Mary responds to the angel's message, we are told that although she was troubled by what she heard, she "wondered what kind of greeting this might be." When presented with the reality that his wife was going to conceive a child, Zechariah questions the message without "wondering." On the other hand, Mary's response, "How can this be?" came from a place of true contemplation, discernment, and silent consideration upon the words she received.

Throughout Mary's life she was asked to consider the great things God was doing in her life. At the Annunciation she considered in her heart the message she received. When the shepherds came to her in Bethlehem and heard about the angel's message to them, she "pondered these things in her heart." After Jesus was found in the Temple precincts after being lost for three days, she "held these things in her heart." In similar ways, we are called to do the same in the celebration of the Eucharist. We too are invited to remember what we hear and ponder them in our heart.

Before Mass begins, we are invited to enter the Church and pray in silence. During this silence we separate ourselves from the secular world recognizing that we have been "called out" of the world as his disciples into his Church (which literally means "to be called out of"). In this silence we place ourselves in God's presence and ask for the grace of the Holy Spirit to unite our offering to Jesus.

During the penitential rite, the priest invites us to take a moment and call to mind our sin. The silence that follows gives us a moment to bring to the altar the things that have prevented us from living fully as Jesus' disciples knowing that when we offer our penitent hearts, he gives us the gift of his mercy.

After each reading, and especially after the Homily, the Church instructs us to ponder the things we have heard and consider how those words might speak to our hearts. If we rush these moments and do not give the space in silence, we might miss what God wants to say to us in the moment he speaks and in which we listen. During the prayers of the faithful we are often invited to pray for our deceased loved ones and friends. If there is not enough silence at this moment, we may not be able to call to mind our needs or the people we wish to pray for in the liturgy.

After communion we are invited to sit in silence and allow our communion to penetrate our bodies, minds, and spirits. If rushed, we may miss out on the graces God wishes to share with us in this sacred moment.

The liturgy, though full of sights, sounds, feelings, and smells, is also a time for us to pay attention to the senses and then ponder these experiences in our hearts remembering what they signify and reveal. There are many moments for us to ponder the mysteries of God in our heart during the liturgy. Next time you celebrate the liturgy take the time in silence and ponder the good things God is doing for you in your heart.



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

As I write this, I am just finishing a week of "Love In Action", the motto of Camp Fatima EC (Exceptional Citizens) Week. It is a week-long camp where traditional activities found at any camp (boating, swimming, arts and crafts, campfires) are offered to campers with special needs, either physical or emotional. It has been going for over 50 years, and this is my 23rd year of attending.

It is a magical place of which St. Francis would wholeheartedly approve! I say that for a couple of reasons. Firstly, it is held in the bucolic setting of Gilmanton Iron Works, NH, full of trees, lakes, fresh air, and sunshine. It is definitely a place where St. Francis could most certainly be drawn to, as God's creation is found in abundance there. Secondly, I think Francis would approve of EC Week because while we are there, over one hundred young men and women are seen as the gifts of God that they are (that we all are), and are not seen as "less than" or "lacking" anything. At EC Week, these very special children of God are treated as "normal" (whatever that may mean!) for at least this week. Thirdly, the camp is dedicated to Our Lady of Fatima, something which St. Francis would most certainly approve of and endorse. Each night, as we offer "Goodnights" (messages of love and encouragement between all in the camp), we conclude these offerings with "a very special Goodnight to Our Lady of Fatima". Mary most certainly is watching over us as we conduct this week of Camp.

I hope that by giving you this small glimpse into how I spend the third week in August every year, you might be encouraged to support, pray for, or even participate in EC Week. More information can be found on www.ecweek.org

May St. Francis, through the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!

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, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolai, Paul Martin, 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, Karen McSweeney, Joe Pigeon, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda & 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

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.



St 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.

PANTRY HOURS WILL REMAIN THE SAME THROUGH- OUT 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.

THE FOOD PANTRY

*Tuesday, September 6, 2022
Monday, September 19, 2022*

*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.

Don't forget the training for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers being given by Deacon Chris Sunday afternoon (8/28) at Saint John's.

If you want to learn to be a Lector or a Eucharistic Minister at Mass now is the time to step up.

**Lector's — Noon—1 PM
Eucharistic Ministers 1:15— 2:15**

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.**

Sign Before the Gospel

I have been going to Mass for years and have always wondered: why do we make the three signs of the cross before the Gospel?

Certainly, many people go to Mass or other devotions, doing and saying things out of habit or reverence and not really understanding the reasons behind some of these things. But everything we do has a meaning or purpose that helps us to worship better, proclaim our beliefs, or focus the attention of the people on something that has a greater importance or significance. A review of the meaning of various gestures and practices can help us have a deeper appreciation for what we do.

There is a little prayer that goes with the three crosses before the Gospel: "May the words of the Holy Gospel be on my mind, on my lips and in my heart." In standing to hear the Gospel, we acknowledge that Jesus is present, and the words of the Gospel are addressed to us. All of the gestures and special postures we adopt before the Gospel are intended to help us prepare for hearing the Word as well as act on it. The incense, the Alleluia, the deacon or priest, and the special dialogue and announcement that introduces the Gospel help us focus our attention on the Good News we are about to hear. The three signs of the cross show our desire and good intention to hear and live the Gospel.

©LPi



This is the Boy's Dream Dormitory for St. Benedict's High School, located in Kasambya, Mubende District, Uganda. This dormitory will house 200 boys offering them a safe place in which to earn an education, faith, and the ability to become responsible adults.

The total project cost is estimated at \$195,074 (USD). Please be as generous as you can to help make this dream a reality.

Peace to you all my friends. I am Fr. Stephen Lusiba, a friend to Fr. Paul L. Ring and to you all. Your parish is my home away from home.

In 2019, we completed the girls' dormitory at St. Benedict High School, Uganda. Thank for your support.

We now have a dream for the boys' dormitory. Kindly help me to realize the dream at nearly USD 200,000.00. We would like to bring the boys' also into the compound of the school. We have the space. They now walk long distances from home to school and back.

Why Build a Dormitory?

1. To ensure quality education since students will not be disrupted on the way to school and back home.
2. To minimize the long distances of more than six miles while coming to school, still yet to have to walk back. We have no buses.
3. To reduce early pregnancies /Marriages. Normally when these youths are not in schools, we end up with early marriages at 15!

How to donate?

Write a check to St. John's or St. Ann and in the memo line write St. Benedict. The donation will be wired to Uganda.

Contact me on: lusteve2012@gmail.com

Fr. Stephen Lusiba

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