



*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
September 18, 2022*

*Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*



**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.stjohnne.org](http://www.stjohnne.org)  
Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB  
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring

## 25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon." - Lk 16:8b, 13

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

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## 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**

### 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:** 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, September 18, 2022

7:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

11:30 - All families suffering from Fentanyl deaths

6:15 - F. John & Philomena D'Arpino — Mem

#### Sunday, September 24 2022

7:30 - Joan Mondeau— 6th Anniversary

11:30 -All Parishioners suffering in any way

6:15 - Parishioners of Saint Ann & Saint John

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Saturday, September 17, 2022

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

#### Sunday, September 18, 2022

9:30 - Kenny Fontaine, Jr. — 3rd Anniversary

#### Saturday, September 24, 2022

4:00 - Claudette Rochefort — Memorial

#### Sunday September 25, 2022

9:30 - Francis McCarthy — Birthday Remem



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Today's gospel often takes folks aback at Jesus' commentary on His own "parable of the dishonest steward". Jesus seemingly praises the worker for using "earthly" means to deal with his imminent dismissal from the employ of the rich man, even to the point of using (seemingly) unscrupulous means. I say, "seemingly" (twice, for emphasis) because one has to look beneath the surface to get at the "heart" of the parable and its meaning. Stewards, those (in Jesus' day) who were put in charge of large households of rich people, were known to take a "cut" of anything that came into the house (goods, money, property) for themselves. It was a way to augment their salary which often times wasn't that great; it was accepted policy for them to do this, and even their employers would turn a "blind eye" to this practice. The rich man in today's gospel is letting the steward go for squandering his property, thus losing money for him.

Jesus goes on to praise the steward for going to his master's debtors and cutting the invoice by twenty and fifty percent. In doing this, he was essentially taking out his "cut", giving all money back to his master. In doing this, the steward would win back esteem (and his job!) from his master. The steward's cunning comes in knowing how the world operates. He uses the tools of the world to further his career. Jesus uses this practice to teach His disciples how to live and act in the world. We must be aware of how the world operates, for we cannot "absent" ourselves from it. This is not to say that we should act in this way, but just be aware of it. We are always to live in the world, but not of the world. Our focus must always be the Kingdom, regardless of our physical placement in the world. Jesus reminds us that "no servant can serve two masters" (Lk 16:13); that servant will always have a divided heart. Our focus, in serving God, must be singular – on the Kingdom. We would do well, however, to know and be aware of how the world operates.

May we always "have our eyes on the prize", namely Eternal Life. May we always trust that God, our divine Master, is aware of our good works and will, one day, be ready to reward us in our goodness. May our faith sustain us, our purpose be sure and our fidelity be single-minded/ hearted. May we, one day, see the Kingdom and hear those words from Almighty God: "well done, good and faithful servant, share in your Master's joy" (Mt 25:23)

Have a Blessed Week,

*Fr. Paul*

## NEW MASS SCHEDULE



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

### GRAND OPENING!!!



#### BINGO IS BACK!

**St. Ann's Bingo will open  
Thursday, September 8th  
Doors open at 4 PM  
Bingo will start at  
6:30 PM Sharp**

**Southeast Cyclones will be holding Saturday Night  
Bingo starting Sept. 10  
Doors Open at 4 PM  
Bingo will start at  
6 PM Sharp**

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

### Registration for Faith Formation is Now Open!

Registration for this year's faith formation program is now open. Registration forms can be found at the back of both churches or on the website. Classes will begin Sunday, October 2nd so please register as soon as possible to allow us to finish getting ready. Cost per student is \$100 for the first child and \$25 for each additional child.

The schedule of classes is below. When registering, please select the class each child in your family will attend. All classes will meet weekly, **except for grades 9 and 10, which will alternate weeks.** Once registrations are processed, you will receive the full schedule of class dates by email.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Matt Brady by email at [directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:directorofministries.tic@gmail.com) or by calling 774-533-2002.

Grades 1-5 Sundays 8:15-9:15 am @ St. John
Grades 1-5 Mondays 4-5 pm @ St. Ann
Grades 6-8 Sundays 5-6 pm @ St. Ann
Grades 6-8 Tuesdays 4-5 pm @ St. Ann
Grade 9 Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm @ St. Ann
Grade 10 Sundays 7:30-8:30 pm @ St. Ann

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW  
DIRECTOR OF MINISTRIES

MATTHEW BRADY



Matt began his work with our Collaborative Monday, August 29th and my prayer is that our Collaborative can benefit from his passion for ministry, his knowledge of ministry and theology, and his enthusiasm to serve the Lord and His People. He and I will be working closely together to create this vision for the various ministries and activities here in the Collaborative.

To hear from Matt in his own words:

"Hello everyone! My name is Matt Brady and I am very excited to be joining you as the new Director of Ministries. I have a master's degree in theology from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago and an undergraduate degree from Salve Regina University. I spent the past three years at St. Denis in Westwood, where I led a revitalization of their faith formation program and family ministry and helped guide the parish through Covid. I am looking forward to working with all of you, especially the families, to grow and strengthen our Together in Christ Collaborative."

Please help me welcome Matt to our Collaborative and pray with me that his endeavors may bear much good fruit!

Peace and All Good,

Fr. Paul

### Catechists Needed

Catechists are needed to teach faith formation for all grades.

If you are interested in serving in this vital role, please contact Matt Brady. He will train you and make sure you are well-prepared for each session. **774-533-2002**



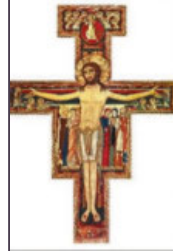
## THE DEACON'S COLUMN

### “The Mass of All Ages”

Of all the things I have done in my life in the years God has given me, the one thing that I have participated in faithfully has been the weekly celebration of the Eucharist. Though I have participated in a minimum of 2,652 Masses (52 weeks a year for 51 years), the weekly celebration has always been new. I take great comfort in knowing that the Eucharist I celebrate every week connects me to myself, to my local parish, and to the wider Church. In essence, the Mass I participated in today is the same Mass I celebrated when I was seven and will be the same Mass I celebrate when I am seventy-seven. Though each mass is unique, it is eternally one. The Mass we celebrate is in essence, the same Mass that Christians have been celebrating since Biblical times. In the second century, St. Justin Martyr wrote to the pagan emperor, Antonius Pius, and explained what Christians did when they gathered together on the first day of the week, Sunday. St. Justin Martyr wrote:

*On the day we call the day of the sun, all who dwell in the city or country gather in the same place. The memoirs of the apostles and the writings of the prophets are read, as much as time permits. When the reader has finished, he who presides over those gathered admonishes and challenges them to imitate these beautiful things. Then we all rise together and offer prayers\* for ourselves . . . and for all others, wherever they may be, so that we may be found righteous by our life and actions, and faithful to the commandments, so as to obtain eternal salvation. When the prayers are concluded we exchange the kiss. Then someone brings bread and a cup of water and wine mixed together to him who presides over the brethren. He takes them and offers praise and glory to the Father of the universe, through the name of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and for a considerable time he gives thanks (in Greek: eucharistian) that we have been judged worthy of these gifts. When he has concluded the prayers and thanksgivings, all present give voice to an acclamation by saying: 'Amen.' When he who presides has given thanks and the people have responded, those whom we call deacons give to those present the "eucharisted" bread, wine and water and take them to those who are absent. (St. Justin, Apol. 1, 65-67: PG 6, 428-429; the text before the asterisk (\*) is from chap. 67—as quoted in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1345).*

As we reflect on the Eucharist we celebrate every Sunday, may we take great comfort knowing that the Mass we celebrate today is essentially the same Mass the first Christians celebrated in their times and is the same celebration the saints and angels participate in eternally in heaven.



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

Next month on October 4<sup>th</sup>, Franciscans around the world will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis. Francis is one of those saints who continues to capture the hearts and minds of all people of faith, not just Catholics (in general) or Franciscans (in particular). This feast is celebrated in earnest, with Masses, festivals, and the traditional “Blessing of the Animals” (which we here in the Collaborative will celebrate on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 a.m. at St. Ann’s).

Though fewer Catholics know about it, St. Francis’ death is also memorialized every year. Transitus, which means “passage” in Latin, is an annual Oct. 3 evening service in which Franciscans mark the passing of the founder of their order. We as Catholics have the Mass of Resurrection to mark the immediate passing of a loved one. Often times we celebrate Anniversary Masses of one form or another (after a month, a year, or some increment of that time which has passed). St. Francis was canonized just two years after his death in 1226, and Franciscan friars have celebrated the Transitus since the 13th century.

The services for the Transitus vary from one community to the next, but they often includes a reenactment or recitation of the story of the saint’s death; a reading of John 13:1-17, the Washing of the Disciples’ Feet, which St. Francis requested read on his deathbed; and the singing of the “Canticle of the Sun,” the song that Francis is believed to have completed in his final days. Transitus services also usually include another tradition which I find particularly appealing...the baking and sharing of delicious almond cookies—St. Francis’ favorite. Blessed Jacoba of Settesoli, a Roman noblewoman, would often bring these cookies to her friend, Francis. He asked for them as he lay dying, surrounded by friends.

If you are a “Friend of Francis”, I would invite you to celebrate not only the Feast of Francis (10/4), but also the Transitus as well. It is important to remember not only how those we love and wish to remember lived, but also how they died. St. Francis died with a grace and peace that all hope for and few achieve. His death, and how it is commemorated, is an important reminder that to die with Christ (as Francis did) is also to live with Him – in God’s Kingdom of Eternal Love and Peace. Happy Transitus!

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](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.



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

**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.**

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN BEING A GREETER OR  
AN USHER FOR ANY MASS AT SAINT JOHNS' OR  
SAINT ANN'S, PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY!**

**508-378-4207 OR 508-586-4880**

### 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.*

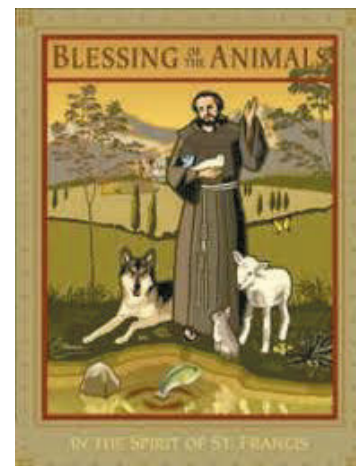
Donations are always appreciated but please call to let us know you are dropping off. **508-378-3760**

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.**

### BLESSING OF THE PETS

**October 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 a.m. at St. Ann's**



"If we want to pass on  
our faith, we can only  
pass on what we have.  
We can't give what we  
don't have. There are  
no shortcuts."

ALLEN HUNT  
Dreams for Your Grandchild

 **DynamicCatholic.com**

Fall 2022 Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats – October 1, October 29 & November 19

*"Project Rachel led me to a place of forgiveness and mercy. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself."* – A Project Rachel retreat participant.

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a "Come to the Waters of Healing" one-day retreat.

Fall dates are October 1, October 29, and November 19 from 9 AM to 5 PM. Locations are confidential. Limited to ten participants per retreat.

For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).

## Spread Your Wings

**According to doctors, most people are creatures of habit. And as we age, we like change less and less. We have had the time to get into a routine and we are comfortable. Like an old comfortable, somewhat worn pair of shoes.**

**But then someone or something coaxes us to try something new or different and if we approach it with an open mind, we find its not so bad, we might even begin to like it. It might rejuvenate us to the point we were glad we tried it in the first place. It might open new experiences, or friendships or new habits that become comfortable.**

**Please open your hearts and minds to the new Mass Schedule.**



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