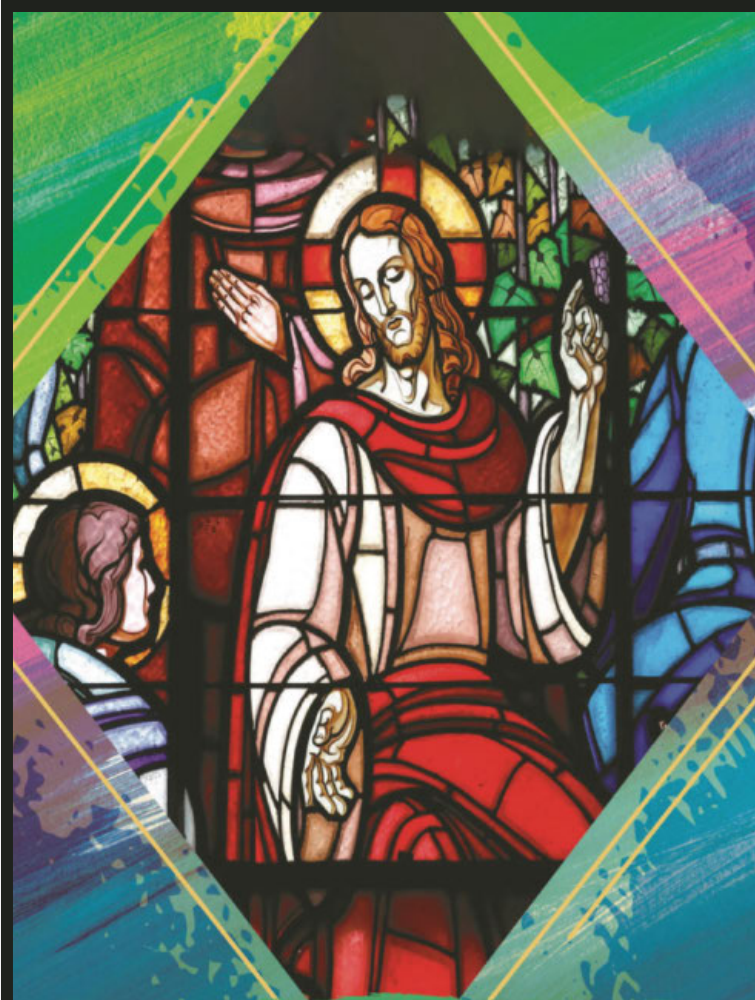




*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
September 24, 2023
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time*



25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.” - Mt 20:1, 8

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

We, The Together in Christ Collaborative of St. Ann and St. John the Evangelist, welcome and engage all ages to become the disciples that Jesus is calling all of us to be. United by faith and in the Celebration of the Mass, we embrace the call of Jesus to live our mission to “Go forth and make disciples.” Through evangelization, education, and by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we will grow together as One Body of Christ.

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
9:00-3:00 M-TH**

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.stjohnneb.org**

**Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-
EB**

**Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —
Paul Ring Of's**

MASS TIMES

**St Ann
Saturday, 4:00 PM
Sunday, 9:30 AM**

**St John
Sunday, 8:00 AM
Sunday, 11:30 AM
Sunday, 6:15 PM**

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

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.

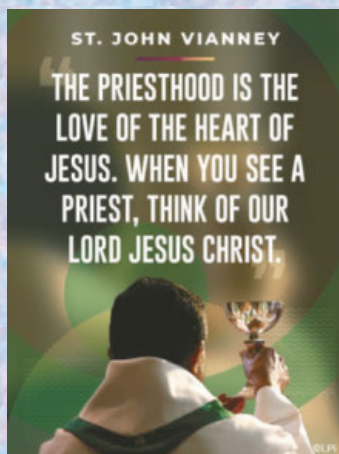
Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, September 23, 2023

4:00 - Alex Doucette—19th Birthday Remem

Sunday, September 24, 2023

9:30 - Joan Mondeau — 7th Anniversary

Saturday, September 30, 2023

4:00 - Brian Landolfi — Birthday Remembrance

Sunday, October 1, 2023

9:30 All the Families of the Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday September 24, 2023

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

11:30 - Michael Bonner — 3rd Anniversary

6:15 - All the children in the world who are victims of trafficking

Sunday, October 1, 2023

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

11:30 - Bronislaw Morawski — 34th Anniversary

6:15 - All Parishioners who are drawn to be Volunteers for the T. I. C. Collaborative

Prayer for Priests

Lord God, most holy,
we approach you in gratitude for your holy ordained priesthood.
You have called these men to be set apart and to shepherd your people,
as you shepherd your entire church.
We pray for them in their daily work.
Grant to them an increase in spiritual gifts and grace,
so they may be prepared for the tasks at hand.
Lead them not into temptation
and protect them from the grasp of the evil one.
It is through the sacraments they confer
that we encounter the divine in a real and profound way.
May your church never lose sight of these,
your special sons, and may we, the body of Christ,
never fail to cherish the gift of their lives,
which they have freely given to you and your holy church.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, your Son.
Amen.

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Growing up, whenever we encountered something (either by viewing or experiencing) that we didn't think was fair we said something to my parents; inevitably, the response was always the same – “life isn't always fair”. While this shocked us (less so, unfortunately, as we got older), we came to see the truth in it. Because of the human condition, and the need for some to “get a leg up” on someone else, life didn't always “balance”. There always seemed to be injustice, and there was a certain level of acceptance. The thing which made it seem more “balanced” was the fact that we were assured that God saw all, and that justice would ultimately prevail.

In today's gospel, there appears a level of injustice at work. In seeing both the full-day laborers and those who work only an hour getting the same amount of pay, one can't help but feel a “twinge” of resentment; imagine yourself in that situation, and you might feel that you deserve more, as the workers in today's gospel do. The landowner, however, is free to dispense his money as he sees fit – this is his right. This parable is meant to serve as an indication of the generosity of God. There are some who “toil in the vineyard” day in, day out; these can be seen as the “cradle Catholics” who were born into the faith. There are others, converts to the faith, who are akin to those who “only work one hour”; they come later to the faith, and are seen by many as deserving less. God, however, does not work on the principle of “first come, first served”. God provides as He sees fit, being generous to all who labor for Him. It may seem that converts to the faith get better treatment, but in reality they are only getting what God sees fit to give them – as is God's right. This idea cannot deter or detract us from doing the work, as Catholic-Christians, to which the Church calls us. We are all called, regardless how we as human beings see it, to work unceasingly for the good of the Church and the building up of the Kingdom here on earth.

May we come to see the work that we do as beneficial to all – those who are “cradle Catholics” and those who, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, have come into the faith later in life. May we all work together to build up the Kingdom here on earth, so that one day we may see the fullness of that Kingdom in heaven.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

For questions or concerns, please email Matt Brady, our Director of Ministries at Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

Catechists Wanted!

As Faith Formation begins this week, we are still short on catechists.

The only requirements are love of Christ and a willingness to work with our children.

No experience needed - we will train you and give you all the materials you need.

If interested, please contact Matt Brady.
Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

We especially need teachers for grades 6-8 on Wednesday and grade 9 on Sunday.

Altar Servers Wanted!

This year we are bringing back altar servers. Any child in grade 3 or higher is welcome as are any adults who would like to serve in this role. There will be a training session on October 22 after the 9:30 Mass. Please email Matt Brady to sign up. If you can't make the training, that's ok, just email Matt to make an alternate time to meet.

Ministry Spotlight: Bereavement Ministry

This team works with grieving families to plan funerals and provide pastoral support during the grieving period. We also need people to help Fr. Paul during funeral Masses.

Reminder:

**Effective October 1st, the 6:15 Mass
will be held at St. Ann's**

Fellowship Hour: Saturday 9/23

Join us after the 4 pm Mass on 9/23 for a Fellowship period to connect with fellow parishioners before you head out to dinner. There will be crackers and cheese, fruit and drinks so it's the perfect (and a free) appetizer! We will be set up in the rose garden between the church and the rectory. Sponsored by our Disciples of Hospitality.

Volunteer Drive THIS WEEKEND

After all the Masses on the weekends of September 23-24 and 30-October 1 we will be holding a Volunteer Drive. As we work to expand our ministries and revive some that have been dormant since the Covid shutdown, we need many more volunteers to make this possible. Please stop by the table to learn about the ways in which you can help our collaborative better minister to all those whom we serve.

All current volunteers should plan on stopping by the table so that they can fill out their paperwork for this fiscal year.

October Family Mass

Next Sunday, October 1st at the 9:30 Mass is our first Family Mass. We invite our children to serve as readers and gift bearers, and Fr. Paul will call the kids up to the altar for the homily. After Mass there will be coffee and donuts under the tent in the Rose Garden.

If your child would like to do a reading or bring up the gifts, please email Matt Brady.

**Fr. Paul Will be available to bless your pets on
October 7th at 10:00 AM
At St. John's**



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

St. Francis is probably the world's best known, most recognized, and respected saint. Yet it is difficult to imagine that a spirituality of work could evolve from a saint immortalized all too frequently as a concrete yard ornament with a bird perched on his shoulder and several wild animals gazing at him admiringly. This over romanticized caricature of the person of Francis could lead one to believe that Francis wasn't much of a man at all, but some lyric, almost mythic figure whose only love was animals. Quite to the contrary however, Francis was a man of multiple spiritual insights who left a legacy that continues to impact the world in a profound and meaningful way.

Quite probably, Francis was not born with the best of work habits. His father was a prosperous cloth merchant who wanted nothing but the best for his favorite son and, as one might imagine, was very generous towards him. As a young man, Francis was more preoccupied with living the life of a troubadour and becoming a gallant knight than with working for his father. In fact, he never did apply himself to his father's business. After his conversion and the gathering of some early followers, Francis became serious about work, but it was now the work of his heavenly Father.

Francis quickly learned that work was holy and provided a pathway to achieving sanctity. In the midst of the hard working townsfolk, Francis and the first friars devoted themselves to the task of sanctifying daily labor and bringing it back to the right relationship with God. The true meaning and value of work had been destroyed by love of gain and personal ambition. There were practically no limitations to where his brothers, the friars worked or the type of work they did. Every field of activity was open to them, including intellectual work. The only prerequisites were that the work be directed toward the community rather than the individual, that the work be carried out faithfully and with a sense of dedication as the Rule required, and that the work not destroy a spirit of prayer and devotion to God.

A Franciscan spirituality of work evolves from three fundamental concepts of an underlying Franciscan spirituality, namely, a focus on the humanity of Christ who is recognized especially in the poor; a sense of the mystery of God experienced in generous, creative love; and a distinctive familial understanding of the created world. Franciscans recognize the world as good and as gift from a loving creator.

May we work as Francis would have us do so, working in the world for the betterment of all and the building up of the Kingdom of God here on earth. May we one day end our work here, only to pick up the mantle of heavenly work in the Kingdom of God in Heaven.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

Protecting God's Children Training

This training, also known as Virtus, is required for all parish staff and volunteers regardless of role. You are only required to attend this training once, so if you have previously attended this training, you can receive credit for it. In conjunction with the Volunteer Drive, all current volunteers will receive an email about their status and info on how to sign up. We are hosting 2 trainings here:

Saturday 9/30 at 10 am at St. Ann
Saturday 10/14 at 9:30 am at St. John

For questions, please contact Matt Brady.



Forrest Gump Movie Night

Friday October 13th at 7 pm
at St. John

There will be free popcorn and a concession stand with other treats. All are welcome! Sponsored by the Disciples of Hospitality.



SOUND OF FREEDOM



A movie about child trafficking that is a MUST for all adults to see. It is extremely tastefully done but addresses the most disturbing matter in today's society. Based on a true story that will shock your inner core. We as Christians need to be aware and stand up to create change.

GOD'S CHILDREN ARE NOT FOR SALE!!!!

**TODAY'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR
THE HEAT AND SNOW REMOVAL FUND**

**NEXT WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR
THE HOLY FATHER'S MISSIONARY EFFORTS**

COLLABORATIVE NEWS AT SAINT ANN'S AND SAINT JOHN'S



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.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Kenneth Upham, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Kay Evans, 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, Fred Sprague, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Brian Scanlan, Rocco Zarrella, Nancy Arcadipane, Alicia Boucher, Irene Churchill, Matthew Owings, Kayla Perry, Fr. Pater Francis's Mother, Barbara, Arthur Pelton, Courtney, Hannah Previti & 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 or added, Please call the Rectory so we can update the list.***



SVdP Clothing Collection

Please help Saint Vincent de Paul help our neighbors. Saturday and Sunday September 23-24 SVdP will coordinate a clothing, bed linen / blanket, and shoe collection to help our neighbors in need.

A SVdP trailer will be parked in the St John's Church parking lot from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM to accept donations of usable clothes, linens / blankets, and shoes.

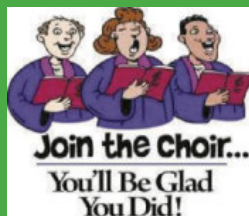
Unfortunately household appliances or furniture cannot be accepted.

The Together in Christ Collaborative Choir wants you!
You do not have to read music.
You do not have to have experience.
You do not have to audition.

If you sing along from the congregation on Sundays then you are qualified! Rehearsals will begin on Thursday nights in September.

Sept. 21st. First rehearsal — St. John's

For more info contact our music director, Rich at richcesarini@gmail.com.



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 — Small jars only please.

Cookies and crackers are also needed.

**St Ann's
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

Is looking for new members

PLEASE CONTACT — TINA ANTHONY

508-245-5481

**P O Box 474
West Bridgewater MA 02379**

**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, October 2, 2023
Monday, October 16, 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

NEWS

Please remember in your prayers:



*Louis DeFeo
William Michael
John Jones
Marianne LaCroix
Vince & Pam Adornato
William J. Maturo*

May they rest in peace, and may their families find comfort from their faith in Jesus Christ.

Please welcome the following children into our Collaborative. Pray that this is the first step in a wonderful journey with God.



*Henry Herman
Elora Anne Hanson
Kevin Conrad, Jr.
Jackson Thibeault*

Has a Loved one Died Recently?

The Saint Thomas Bereavement Ministers are pleased to announce that our series of Bereavement meetings will begin Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m. and will run for 9 weeks. All those who are grieving the loss of a loved one are invited to join. These sessions are held at St. Thomas Parish Center, 103 Center St. Bridgewater.

PLEASE NOTE: ADVANCE REGISTRATION

is requested. Contact Roberta at 508-697-4184 or Ginny at 508-697-7649 to register, or for more information.

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