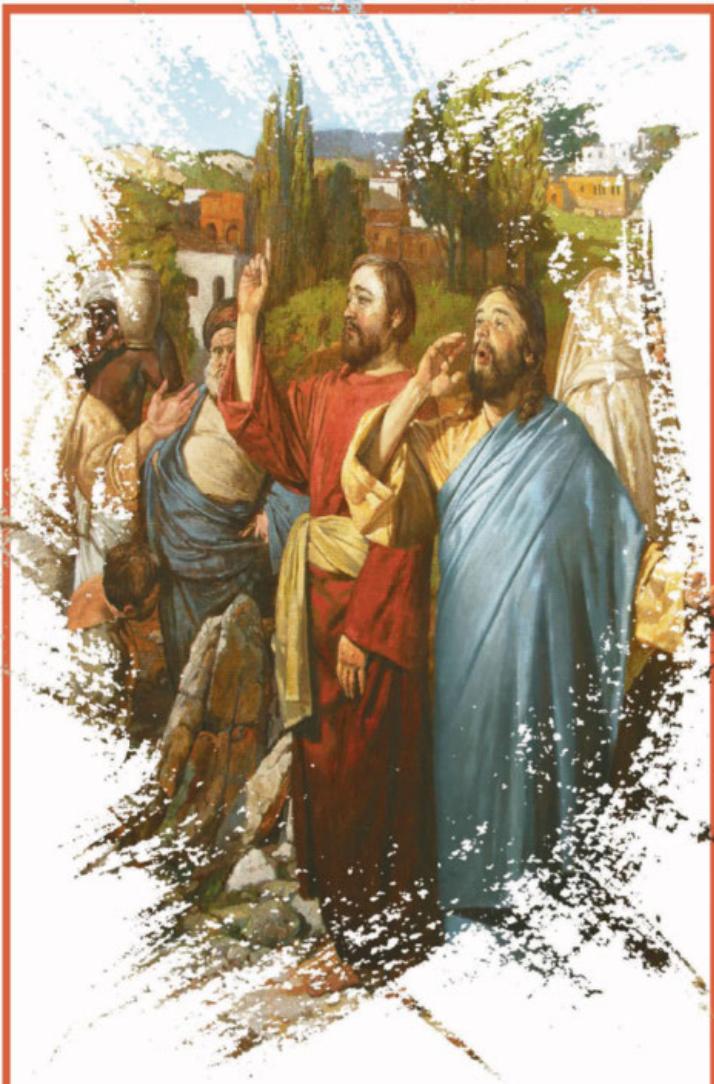




*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
October 15, 2023*



*28th Sunday in Ordinary Time*



"COME TO THE FEAST." — MT 22:4BC

28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCB. ©LPI

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](mailto:stanns@comcast.net)  
Website: [stannswb.com](http://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](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 OFS**

**MASS TIMES**

**St Ann  
Saturday, 4:00 PM  
Sunday, 9:30 AM  
Sunday, 6:15 PM**

**St John  
Sunday, 8:00 AM  
Sunday, 11:30 AM**

# 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.**

**6:15 p.m. Live streamed Mass  
w/ Drive up option**

**Daily Mass**

**Thurs & Sat.**

**9:00 a.m.**

### **St John's**

**Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.**

**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.

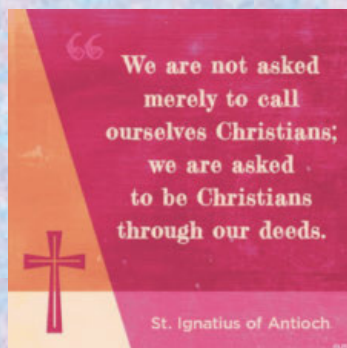
Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

## **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

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



\*\*\*\*\*

### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Saturday, October 14, 2023

4:00 - Mary Stracqualursi — 8th Anniversary

#### Sunday, October 15, 2023

9:30 Lenny Celia — 1st Anniversary

6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

#### Saturday, October 21, 2023

4:00 - Kevin Morely — Birthday Remembrance

#### Sunday, October 22, 2023

9:30 - Rev. Edward McDonoagh — Memorial

6:15 - Parishioners of the T.I.C. Collaborative

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Sunday, October 15, 2023

8:00 - McLaughlin & Hutchins Families — Mem.

11:30 - Linda Fontaine — 20th Anniversary

#### Thursday, October 19th, 2023

9:00 — John Walsh — Birthday Remembrance

#### Sunday October 22, 2023

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

11:30 - Allan & Ruth Winsor — Memorial

GLASTONBURY ABBEY has a wonderful fall schedule of Workshops, fairs, and events for the month of October.

Please Check out the schedule of events at:

[www.glastonburyabbey.org](http://www.glastonburyabbey.org)

Recently, we have had a bit of a black cloud over the Rectory at St. John's.

The hot water tank let go in the basement which flooded the basement and during a recent wind storm the wind got hold of the side door and ripped the closers off the door and destroyed the door frame as well.

With the cost of water remediation in the basement, a new hot water tank and a new door and frame we have accumulated a total cost of \$4,300.00.

While you as parishioners have been extremely generous, we unfortunately, still do not have the necessary funds for such an amount.

On the weekend of October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, the second collection will be to help defray this extraordinary cost. Please be as generous as possible.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

As you might imagine, in celebrating the number of weddings which I do, I get invited to a lot of “wedding feasts”. In accepting these invitations, I only make one request of the bride and groom – you may seat me anywhere you want...except the head table. It's not that I don't appreciate the invite or a “seat of honor”, but what inevitably happens is that I end up either sitting alone (while the wedding party is mingling) or (as has actually happened) I end up cutting the flower girl's/ring bearer's food! Therefore, I graciously accept the fact that I have been found “worthy”, but ask this simple favor for the good of all.

In today's gospel, the Kingdom of God is likened to a wedding feast. In the parable put forth by Jesus, there are some who refuse the invitation put forth by the king. They are then given a second invitation, with the enticements of a good meal (the “fattened cattle”). Some still ignore the invitation; some lay hands on the messengers and kill them. This is how it is with the chief priests and elders; they have heard from the prophets sent by God, yet they choose to either ignore them or put them to death. The invitation is then given to others, but there are still “caveats” involved. Those who are invited must “dress” appropriately, with the proper “wedding garment”. And what is this “wedding garment”? It is not anything physical, but more of an “attitude”, a way of living. One must live in accordance to what God desires of us.

The problem with the chief priests and the elders is that they didn't know what God desired of them. They certainly knew the Law (of Moses), and they most definitely didn't have any problem administering that law. The problem came when they were measured with that standard – this is where they fell short; they heard the Word of God, but didn't apply it to their own lives, for they thought that they were “above the law”.

So where do we fit in to this parable? We have heard the Word of God; have we tried to apply it in our lives? We strive to follow Jesus; have we worked each and every day, wearing our “wedding garment” and showing the world what it means to be a Christian? May we have the courage to not only hear God's invitation, but respond to it wholeheartedly. May we come to know God's love, live in that love, and share it with all whom we meet.

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](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)

**Reminder:**  
**Effective October 1st, the 6:15 Mass**  
**Is at St. Ann's**

#### October Teen Mass

Sunday, October 15th at the 6:15 Mass at St. Ann is our first Teen Mass. There will be contemporary music, a teen-centered homily, and the kids are invited to do one of the readings or bring up the gifts.

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

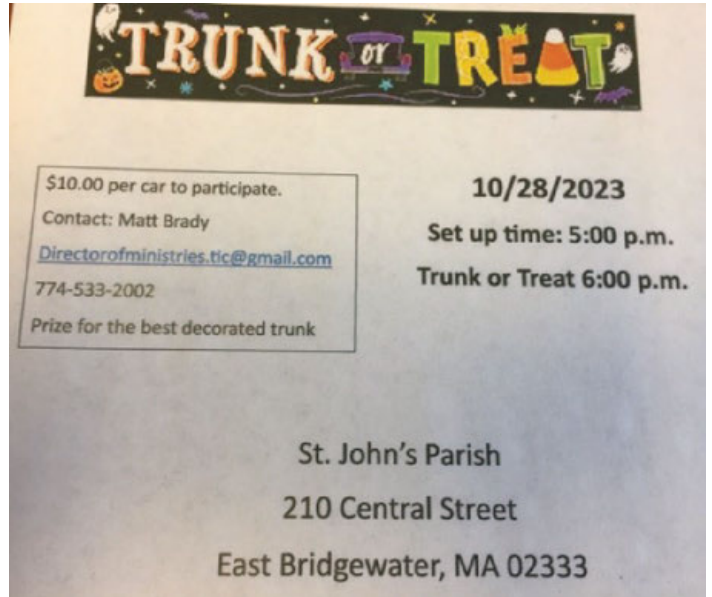
#### October Sandwich Making for Capuchin Mobile Ministries

Join us as we make sandwiches for Fr. Paul and the team at Capuchin Mobile Ministries to distribute to the homeless of Boston. The October date is 10/16 at 6:30 pm at St. Ann.

All are welcome to join us!

Our Adult Bible Study will be starting again on Wednesday, October 25 at 7 pm at St. John.

We will be discussing the gospel for the upcoming Sunday. All are invited to join us!



**TRUNK or TREAT**

\$10.00 per car to participate.  
Contact: Matt Brady  
[Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com](mailto:Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com)  
774-533-2002  
Prize for the best decorated trunk

**10/28/2023**  
Set up time: 5:00 p.m.  
Trunk or Treat 6:00 p.m.

St. John's Parish  
210 Central Street  
East Bridgewater, MA 02333

#### 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.

#### **Interested in Becoming Catholic? Never Been Confirmed but Want to be? We have a program for you!**

RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is the process by which adults who are not members of Church can receive the sacraments and become a Catholic.

We also will be holding a 6 week class for anyone who has never been Confirmed but has already been Baptized and received First Communion. If you would like to participate in either class, please email or call Matt Brady.



## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

I have no doubt that if St. Francis had continued on the earthly “trajectory” of a merchant nobleman, he would have wed. Recently, I celebrated a wedding and it was a very nice evening. The bride looked lovely (don’t all brides?), the groom looked handsome (he was a young man who I have known since he was an altar server of mine in my first parish), and the reception was simple but elegant. The thing that struck me is the fact that the central piece of the evening was the Nuptial Mass. The bride and groom seemed to put as much thought into the Wedding Mass as they did the reception which followed.

Why do I mention this? Simply this: In his conversion, St. Francis went from worrying about things like earthly wedding feasts to the heavenly wedding banquet. He went from being consumed by the things of this world to being consumed with eternal life. He went from loving the world (and putting that first) to loving God (and putting Him first). Today’s gospel presents the Heavenly Kingdom of God as a wedding banquet to which guests are invited by the king to partake. When they refuse the king’s invitation, the king takes steps to “widen the circle” of invitation. Some might think that when Francis experienced his conversion, he saw it as invitation to take part one day in the eternal wedding banquet.

St. Francis was certainly someone who knew his way around in the world. As a merchant, he would have been exposed to business and commerce. As a soldier, he would have been exposed to a regimented way of life. As a spiritual convert and a founder of a religious order, he used these things to help his brothers to be “in the world but not of the world”. St. Francis recognized the balance between work and prayer, and he encouraged his brothers do the same, balancing work and prayer. May we strive, like St. Francis, to be “in the world but not of the world” and may we work towards that balance of the two so that we may find ourselves one day in the Heavenly Kingdom.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS



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](mailto:richcesarini@gmail.com).



**THIS WEEK’S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR UNEXPECTED EXPENSES**

**NEXT WEEK WILL ALSO BE FOR THOSE EXPENSES**

In Father Paul’s column today he asks us if we are willing to follow God’s word.

*“So where do we fit in to this parable? We have heard the Word of God; have we tried to apply it in our lives? We strive to follow Jesus; have we worked each and every day, wearing our “wedding garment” and showing the world what it means to be a Christian? May we have the courage to not only hear God’s invitation, but respond to it wholeheartedly. May we come to know God’s love, live in that love, and share it with all whom we meet.”*

The trafficking issue that is impacting the whole world, is my call to wear my *wedding garment*. It is no longer possible for me to hear the stories, see the films, hear the statistics and do nothing. I am aware that I am only one person but I also know that it only takes one person to bring awareness to many. I hear God’s plea to “Do something.”

The bulletin will be providing various sources of information regarding this matter to bring awareness to this issue. We will also be working with the East Bridgewater Police Department and a council on trafficking from Plymouth County. We hope to host a panel discussion in the near future which will provide information.

We are at the infancy of this effort. Your input is critical. Please call me at the Rectory 508-378-4207 if you would like to join this effort or just be part of getting the information. If you have suggestions, stories, contacts, websites, articles etc. that you think would be helpful, please let me know. I would like to build a ministry that addresses this Christian need.

Please join me.  
Debbie Conrad



## 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. Peter 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 .**



*Wine, Hosts, Sanctuary Lamp and  
Flowers At St. John's  
this week are in memory of*

*McLaughlin & Hutchins Families*



*Flowers At St. Ann's  
this week are in memory of  
Joanne Hanson  
&  
Mary Stracqualursi*



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

## Journey from Grief to Healing



*You are invited to come for sharing and healing in a prayerful small group setting.*

Mary, Queen of Martyr's Parish Grief and Loss Support group begins on **Tuesday evening, October 17th through December 12th** from 6:30PM to 8PM at St. Kateri Church. The group will meet once per week for 9 sessions. The facilitators of the group are Meredith Scott and Betty Whittaker. Please call Kathy Benton parish administrator to register: 508-746-0663 ext 401

*Mary, Queen of Martyrs Parish  
Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Peter. and Saint Kateri Tekakwitha  
10 Memorial Drive  
Plymouth, MA*

## Have you considered living a Cursillo?

Cursillo is an active three-day learning experience in basic Christianity featuring practical insights into an everyday life of faith and service. It is a unique experience and offers us an opportunity to develop, nurture, and deepen our own personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Cursillo is enjoyed by Christians on all different points of their faith journey through a sponsor. (A friend who has lived Cursillo. We can help find you a sponsor.)



Cursillo weekends are held at the Holy Cross Retreat House located in Easton. Our next Men's Weekend is October 26-29 and our next Women's Weekend is November 16-19.

It may be the best gift you give yourself! For more information please email [cursillo@retreathouse.org](mailto:cursillo@retreathouse.org), visit our website [www.retreathouse.org](http://www.retreathouse.org) or call the Holy Cross Retreat House @ 508-238-2051

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**CONTACT ME**  
**Andrew Martinez**

**amartinez@4LPi.com**  
**(800) 477-4574 x6372**

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