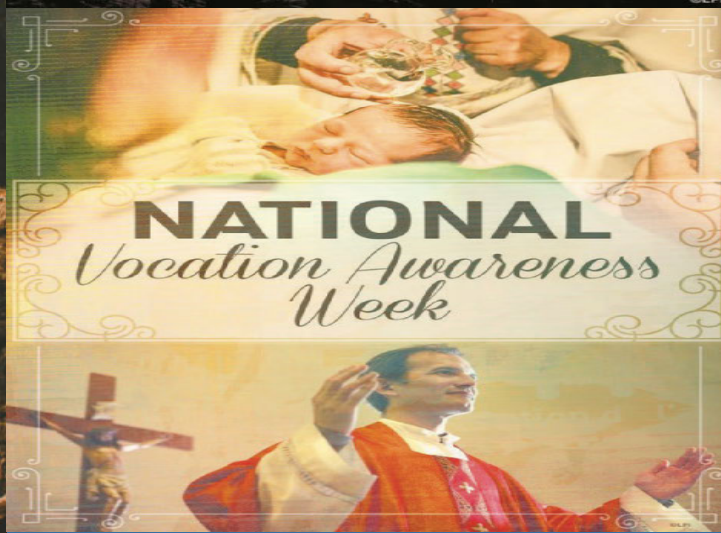
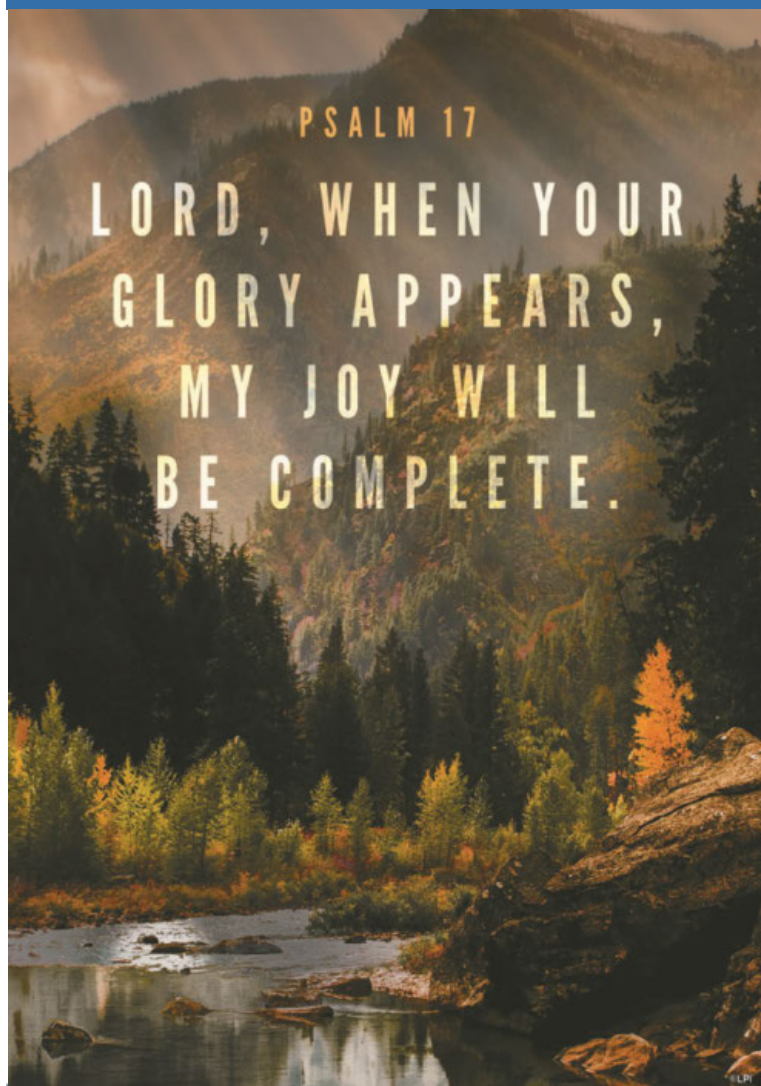




*Together in Christ  
Collaborative  
Saint Ann & Saint John  
November 6, 2022*



*Thirty-second 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.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

#### 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**

### 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

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

## A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Sunday, November 6, 2022

7:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

11:30 - Ruth and Allan Windsor — Memorial

6:15 - Maria & Joseph Deandrade — Memorial

#### Sunday, November 13, 2022

7:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

11:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann & Saint John

6:15 - Manuel & Ana Barros & Family —  
Memorial

\*\*\*\*\*

### St. John is a Stewardship Parish

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Saturday, November 5, 2022

4:00 - Paul Sheedy — 6th Anniversary

#### Sunday November 6, 2022

9:30 — Bronislaw Morawski — 33rd Anniv.

#### Saturday, November 12, 2022

4:00 — Louis & Mary Oriola — Memorial

#### Sunday, November 13, 2022

9:30 — Dorothy Boisclair — 4th Anniversary

### DISCIPLES OF HOSPITALITY

The Disciples of Hospitality are seeking volunteers from both Saint John's and Saint Ann's to work together in preparing our Collaborative for the up-coming Christmas Season and to brainstorm ideas as we move forward in growing this ministry.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 21st at 6:30 in Saint Ann's Parish Center. If you have any questions or are interested in joining but unable to attend the November 21st meeting, please drop us an email at:

Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com



### SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR HEATING COSTS

With the anticipated increase in fuel costs, we estimate that this winter will be a combined cost of approximately **\$30,000** for the heating bills of Saint Ann's and Saint John's.

Oops please excuse the lack of an appropriate additional 0 reported last week. Making it 30,000 rather than 3,000.

Therefore, the second collection until further notice will be directed to those bills.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Throughout salvation history, and right up until present day, the questions surrounding resurrection have come up and continue to perplex, amaze and confound. One of the reasons why we have these questions is due to the fact that, to my knowledge, no one has ever "officially" come back from heaven – save for Jesus, that is! It is this lack of personal experience, therefore, that has led to speculation, doubt and questions surrounding resurrection.

In today's gospel, the question of resurrection is posed to Jesus – what will it look like, will it resemble our life here on earth, will we know it when we see it? Jesus puts the question "to rest", so to speak, by informing the crowd that it will be unlike anything that they have witnessed before. It will be an entirely new way of being, one in which the person brought into the Kingdom will have a life that is unlike anything experienced up until that point. Make no mistake about it – it will be life. Not an "afterlife", as we might think, but both a new way of living as well as a continuation of how we live life here and now.

When I think of resurrection and the Kingdom, I tend to go to the Rite of Christian Funerals, the Mass of Resurrection that we celebrate as a Church, and the words which are used to describe what the deceased, please God, are experiencing. In the preface for funerals, we state that for the deceased "life is changed, not ended", and that "when our earthly body lies in death, we gain an everlasting place in heaven". These words, which have a power that gives meaning to what we are about in this matter, are meant to bring both peace to the deceased and comfort to the living. This is why we celebrate moments such as a Mass of Resurrection (i.e. Funeral Mass), Memorial Masses and "Month's Mind" Masses. They give us an opportunity to remember, to commemorate and to celebrate. It is not a celebration as the world would see it; it is a time not so much for "happiness" as it is for "joy". It is a recognition that where Christ has gone, we hope to follow.

May we have the courage to hope in the gift of resurrection. May we know Christ's love and experience it fully. May we come to experience this life in Christ in some form or fashion here and now, so that one day we may join our brothers and sisters who have been "marked with the sign of faith" in the Kingdom.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



### Christmas Sharing For Saint Ann's

After surveying our Christmas Sharing families, we will again ask you to purchase gift cards that will be distributed to the families, Project Grad Teen Moms, and senior citizens.

The following stores are preferred: Target, Walmart, Kohl's, Amazon. We are asking for gift cards in any amount up to \$50. This will allow us the flexibility to give an amount appropriate to the family, teen mom or senior citizen. We will also need \$25 Trucchi's or Market Basket cards for families and Senior Citizens, and items for the Senior Citizens' gift bags.

All gift cards should be placed in an envelope marked "Christmas Sharing" in the **St. Vincent dePaul boxes** at the doors of Saint Ann's Church, or sent to Linda Santry. There is a box at the rear of the church for Senior Citizens gift bag items. They must be received by **November 30th**, to allow the parents' time to purchase gifts before Christmas. See the handout on November 6th for more details.

If there are any questions, please call or email Linda Santry: **508-586-6535** or [linda@santry.org](mailto:linda@santry.org)

### Project Nazareth

Project Nazareth is a free family resource for bringing the Catholic faith into the home. It will help families build habits of prayer, read Scripture, and become comfortable talking about God. To explore Project Nazareth and for your family, go to <https://bit.ly/projectnazareth>. Please contact [info@projectnazareth.org](mailto:info@projectnazareth.org) for

Offertory Donations that are to be recorded should be made in an assigned envelope provided by the Waltz Envelope Company or by using our On-Line Giving Program.

Any cash or loose checks are greatly appreciated but cannot be recorded in the computer system for individual credit to be used for taxes.

Please make sure that you are registered with the churches of the collaborative. If you are not sure, please call the Rectory and we can look it up or update your registration.



East Bridgewater HUGS is ready for the 2022 holiday season.

If you or someone you know from EB has a need, please go to [www.ebhugs.org](http://www.ebhugs.org) and fill out the online application for assistance. Applications should be completed by Sunday, November 6th.

If you would like to adopt a child or family this Christmas, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact me directly at [wishes@ebhugs.org](mailto:wishes@ebhugs.org).

If you would like to make a cash donation, you can Venmo at East Bridgewater Hugs, use Paypal on our website, [www.ebhugs.org](http://www.ebhugs.org), or drop cash or checks or gift cards off at the EB Public Library or any of our drop off locations or mailed or dropped at HUGS, 100 Lorraine Drive, EB. If you have any questions, please call Theresa at 508-350-9811.

Giving Trees will be up by mid November, for those who want to help by taking tags to purchase specific gifts from a child's wish list.

Thank you to every-  
and helps us to make  
so many families in



one who participates  
Christmas bright for  
need.

### On Veterans Day

While we were here at home,  
They traveled land and sea,  
To make sure we stayed safe,  
To protect and keep us free.

Words are not enough;  
To give them what they're due.  
On Veteran's Day please thank them  
For their service, to me and you.

By Joanne Fuchs





## MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

The sanctity of Francis of Assisi is a *multi-faceted concept*. He is an EVANGELICAL saint, for he sought to imitate Christ by living in a most radical way *the perfection of the Holy Gospel*. He is likewise an ECCLESIAL saint, a man who anchored his mission and his teaching in that of the mystical Bride of Christ, the holy Catholic Church. Nature-lovers claim Francis of Assisi, the friend and brother of creation, as an ECOLOGICAL saint. Those involved in dialogue with other religions hail the Sultan-visiting, peace-promoting Francis as the model of an ECUMENICAL saint. But can the Poor Man of Assisi, who bore on his body the wounds of Jesus Crucified be rightly called an Easter saint?

As the question of resurrection comes up in today's gospel, the Easter Event comes to mind for the Christian, and certainly for Franciscans. While Christmas is seen as the seminal event leading to eternal life, the Resurrection plays a pivotal role in that journey to new life in Christ. For St. Francis, the spiritual Easter was not a one-time event, but a journey, a process. Like St. Paul, Francis could declare: *All I want to know is Christ and the power flowing from His Resurrection!* This knowledge and power enabled Francis to take the Cross-road which leads to glory: *sharing in (Christ's) sufferings by being formed into the pattern of His death*, Francis hoped that (he) too might attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Phil 3:10-11). Francis' road to Easter began with a profound encounter with Jesus Crucified. Praying before the crucifix in the church of San Damiano outside Assisi during the first years of his conversion, Francis heard Christ address to him the heart-shaking words: *Francis, rebuild My house!* The future saint *felt a mysterious change in himself, but he could not describe it*. This was the beginning of his spiritual Easter. St. Francis journeyed to Easter transformation by contemplating and imitating Jesus in the mysteries of His poverty and humility. Seraphic love even compelled the Poor Man to ask Christ to grant him to feel in his body the pains of the Passion and to feel in his heart the love which urged Christ to die for sinners.

In September 1224, two years before the Seraphic Patriarch's death, God answered his prayer with the imprinting of the Sacred Stigmata, making Francis *an icon of the Crucified Jesus*. Yet, Francis' immersion in the mysteries of the Passion did not make him sad or somber. Rather, the sorrows of the Lord opened Francis to a deeper, truer joy. The wounds of Christ's Passion which the Poor Man bore were in truth signs of spiritual resurrection, God visibly confirming Francis' passage through death to life. The Easter life is new life, - life in Christ. Again and again, the 13<sup>th</sup> century authors hail St. Francis as the new man. In him, *new signs of sanctity appear, new prodigies* are made manifest. His religious family is a *new flock* in the Church, a *new Order*, living a *new life*. Francis proclaimed even in his body that *if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature: the former things have passed away. Behold! They are made new!* (2 Cor. 5:17)

Francis' Easter newness was the fruit of his union with the Crucified and Risen One. This union is the secret of the Little Poor Man's joy, his peace-making skills, his enthusiasm for the things of God, his unique relationship with creation. Illness, disappointment, pain, betrayal and misunderstanding still marked Francis' earthly pilgrimage. But, he saw these sufferings in a new light. He understood that through them, God was making all things work toward an eternal good, an eternal Easter. And so *in Francis and through him an unexpected joy and a holy newness came into the world*. St. Francis' mission of newness did not end with death. Those present at his funeral services saw his body, adorned with the wounds of Christ, shining with a marvelous brightness. In life, Francis bore in his body the likeness of the sufferings of Christ. In death, his body presaged the glory of the future resurrection: *The wounds he has, show forth/ Gifts of a newer kind*. The power of this new life was also manifested in the wonders which occurred through his intercession: *he shone with the new light of miracles after his death*. Against this backdrop, the Easter references in St. Francis' writings shine with a new splendor.

When composing his devotional Office of the Cross, the Seraphic Father included a special Office for the Easter season. Yet even in the solemn Offices for Holy Week, the thought of Resurrection is present: *Arise, my glory! Arise, lyre and harp! I will arise at dawn! I have slept and risen and my most Holy Father has received me in glory*. Christ made Francis, the Easter Saint, a singer of the new song of Redemption. In the "Exhortation to the Praise of God," the Poor Man sang as his own the hymn of those who stand before the Throne of God in heaven: *Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power, glory and honor!* His song of Easter triumph is likewise that of the Church on earth: *This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

St. Francis of Assisi shows what can happen when the grace of Easter becomes effective in a Christian's life. He teaches us that every earthly suffering holds the seed of resurrection. For Francis, Easter was a vibrant reality that gave light and hope and even energy for his daily journey with Christ to the Father. He teaches us *that the real saints (the Easter saints) are the quite human, quite natural people in whom, through the Easter purification and transformation, what is human appears afresh in its total originality and beauty*. (Pope Benedict XVI)

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 Nicolar, 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, Joe Pigeon, Barbara Gothage, Nancy McHugh, Jeannette Arruda, Gerry Penney. Dottie & Leo Slack, Joan Fisher, Jay Lasemina, Jeannette Shalginewicz & 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

### 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.

### THE FOOD PANTRY

*Monday, November 7, 2022*

*Monday, November 21, 2022*

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.**

### WAYS TO REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES



**MEMORIAL MASSES**  
Suggested donation \$25+

**HOSTS, WINE AND SACRATARY LAMPS FOR THE  
WEEK — \$30+**



**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR FOR THE  
WEEK**  
\$75+

### 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.

**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.**

### Grand Annual

Unfortunately, as the mailing list was being compiled for St. John's an error was made that caused some people to receive two mailings for the collection. Our sincere apology for this oversight and confusion!

**And Thank You very much for your continued support!**

### 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**

What is an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion?

An "Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion" is a Catholic lay person who assists in the distribution of Holy Communion, either during the Mass, or afterwards, such as to housebound persons.

Training is available for anyone who is interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Won't you help us provide the homebound with the joy of receiving the Holy Eucharist?



## THE DEACON'S COLUMN

### I Believe in One God (Part II: Against Marcion)

In my many years of teaching religious education, catholic high school students, and deacon candidates and wives, I am often confronted with the question, "Why is God angry and vengeful in the Old Testament and loving, kind, and forgiving in the New?" Perhaps you may hold the same question in your heart as you hear the Old and New Testament proclaimed throughout the liturgical year. If you have the same question, you are not alone.

In the first century of the Christian era (circa A.D. 140) there were those who struggled with similar questions. Marcion of Pontus preached that the God of the Old Testament created the physical world, gave the Law to Moses, spoke to the prophets, and wanted to send a Messiah who would establish God's kingdom on earth. However, (and this is a big however), Marcion did not believe that the Father Jesus made known is the same "god" of the Old Testament. Marcion based this belief on the fact that the God of the Old Testament is vengeful, angry, and at times, capricious. Because Jesus reveals a God who is good, merciful, and benevolent, the "gods" cannot be the same god. The "god" of the Old Testament condemns and judges his own people and creates an imperfect world marked by things that work against life and grace. Marcion rejected the "god" of the Old Testament as the eternal Father, because he held that there existed another God who was pure goodness and full of love and compassion.

Marcion believed that this unknowable God, distinct from the "god" of the Old Testament, took pity on creation and sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to correct the wrong thinking of the Old Testament and to reveal the true nature of the unknowable god (more on this next week when we learn about first century Gnosticism). According to Stuart G. Hall, in his book on "Doctrine and Practice in the Early Church", the "god" of the Old Testament "learned his error and came to terms with him (Jesus), exchanging the souls of all those he had condemned by the Law for the death of Jesus. (38)"

The Creed we profess every Sunday rightly argues against Marcion, and his followers that there are two Gods: the Creator god of the Old Testament and the Father who sent his Son in the New Testament. Patriot football fans in the fall of 2022 know that when a coach is trying to play two quarterbacks the team has no quarterback. In a comparable way, if we are trying to hold the belief in "two gods" there might as well be no gods.

The Creed affirms the faith of the Church that we believe in ONE God. There are not two gods, three gods, or multiple gods. The One God professed in the Creed is the God of creation AND the Father revealed as the first person of the Blessed Trinity. This truth is confessed when we say, "I believe in One God, Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth." The God of the Old Testament is revealed as the eternal Father. By professing our faith in ONE God we affirm our belief that the God of the Old Testament is the same God revealed as Father, Son, and Spirit in the New.

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