



*Together in Christ
Collaborative
Saint Ann & Saint John
November 12, 2023
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time*



"‘LORD, LORD, OPEN THE DOOR FOR US!’ BUT HE SAID IN REPLY, ‘AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, I DO NOT KNOW YOU.’” — MT 25:11-12

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD. ILPI

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
Friday the Office is closed**

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**

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

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK



St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, November 11, 2023

4:00 - David LaCouture — Memorial

Sunday, November 12, 2023

9:30 - Vincent Hallisey — 9th Anniversary

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

Saturday, November 18, 2023

4:00 - Kathleen Andrews — 3rd Anniversary

Sunday, November 19, 2023

9:30 - Joanne Hanson — 4th Anniversary

6:15 All the teens of the T.I.C. Collaborative

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Sunday, November 12, 2023

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

11:30 - Patricia McCarthy — 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, November 19, 2023

8:00 - Joseph Sousa — 1st Anniversary

11:30 - Dorothy Boisclair — 5th Anniversary

Please welcome Fr. Dennis Koltz from PIME Ministries this weekend.

Through the Missionary Cooperative Plan of the Propagation of
the Faith
Office of the Archdiocese of Boston:

On November 11 & 12, Fr. Dennis Koltz will speak at all Masses about the work of the PIME Missionaries. Founded in Italy in 1850, PIME Missionaries are priests and brothers who dedicate themselves as lifelong messengers of the Gospel to those who have not yet heard the Word of God. They live and work alongside the poorest among us in 19 countries, shedding light on the silent struggles of our brothers and sisters in the missions and connecting them to those with a spirit to help. Find out more at: www.pimeusa.org.



CRAFT FAIR
AT SAINT ANN'S PARISH CENTER
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH
10 AM-4 PM
ALL ARE WELCOME!

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

My Dear Friends in Christ,



I have a friend of mine whose son just joined the Coast Guard. I'm always heartened when one of our young people feels the call to serve his or her country so deeply as to enlist in one of the Armed Services. Each branch has its own motto, and for the Coast Guard it is "Semper Paratus" - "Always Ready". It is a testament to the preparedness with which those in the Coast Guard undertake their daily duties. It is a good motto, and one that is fitting for today's gospel.

In today's gospel passage from Matthew, there is an image of a wedding feast within the text but that is not the focus. The thing to which one should pay attention is the actions of the virgins. As they wait for the bridegroom, the evening moves on and the groom is delayed in coming. The virgins fall asleep and upon the arrival of the bridegroom, they are hastily beckoned into the feast. The wise virgins have prepared for the possibility of the groom's delay by having "extra" supplies. The foolish virgins have accounted for no such possibility and are caught short. They beg the wise women for some of their oil, but because there may not be enough for all they are "left out in the cold". After getting the needed supplies, the foolish virgins find themselves shut out, with the bridegroom disavowing any knowledge of the women.

This parable, alluding the Kingdom of Heaven, is one which reminds us that we must always be prepared for the coming of the "bridegroom" – the Lord. When He comes to invite us to the "wedding banquet" – entrance into the Eternal Kingdom – we must be ready to join Him. We should be careful to prepare for all possibilities, for we "know neither the day nor the hour" (Mt 25:13). In other words, when the Lord comes to invite us to join Him in the Kingdom it shouldn't matter WHEN that happens. When Jesus comes calling, we need to be ready to go with Him for He will not ask again. When the Lord comes, it will be a "one-time offer", and it will not come again.

May we prepare our minds, our hearts, and our very lives for the coming of the Lord. May we be ready when the Lord makes an invitation to us to join him in the Kingdom. May we live each day as our last, knowing that this could be the day that the Lord calls us Home. May the Lord, when He comes calling, find us ready, willing, and able to join with Him in the Kingdom.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul

OUR GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION IS UNDERWAY!
IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE YOUR ENVELOPE,
THERE ARE ENVELOPES AT THE DOORS OF THE CHURCH.

MINISTRY NEWS

Ministry News

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

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!

Christmas Pageant

This year's Christmas Pageant is Sunday, December 10th at 1 pm in St. Ann's Parish Center. We are throwing a big birthday party for Jesus, so it will be lots of fun! All are welcome to attend, young and old. Please bring a non-perishable food item for our local food pantries as a present for Jesus.



November 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 November date is 11/20 at 6:30 pm at St. John. All are welcome to join us! This can count for part of the parish service requirement for Confirmation as service hours



November Teen Mass

Our next Teen Mass is November 19 at the 6:15 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. This counts for part of the parish service requirement for Confirmation.



Christmas Brunch **December 3rd after the 11:30 Mass at St. John**

Tickets are \$5/person, \$20/family
Available by calling the office or after Masses starting 11/5 and must be purchased by 11/27

There will be pancakes, sandwiches, fruit, pastries and more. All are welcome!



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

On 11 November, every year, our nation celebrates Veterans Day. It is a time set aside so that we can thank those men and women who served our country proudly and well. It is an important time to give thanks for the gift of freedom that we enjoy today. Why do I mention Veterans Day in my Franciscan column? I'll explain.

Before St. Francis' conversion, he had dreams of being a knight. Knights were in a "class by themselves", so to speak. A knight is also a soldier but a knight is a professional soldier who receives extensive training since he is just a small boy. When he was a small boy, he is known as a page boy. He is just like a very young servant of a knight. This teaches him to be humble. When he became a teenager, he would become a squire. He would serve the knight in the battlefield and fight alongside the knight in the battlefield. When the squire has proven his skills and bravery in the battlefield, he would be knighted as a knight. Most of the knights are from noble family too.

As for medieval soldiers, it could be a general term comprising of peasants who do not have adequate military training but to be armed during war times. Soldiers could also mean mercenaries hired by the king or a medieval lord. Basically medieval soldiers could be anybody armed to fight, even without military training. But knights are soldiers who receive extensive training in warfare, combat and various living skills.

So Francis, as a knight, would have looked towards this life as a lifestyle more than just a job. He would have seen this as a noble way of using his God-given gifts to the best of their use and ability. He would have perhaps seen the life which he lived after his conversion as "noble enough", but far too simple and meager for him. Interestingly enough, after his conversion, Francis became a "knight" of a different sort. He became one who fought not for king and country, but THE King of Kings and for the Kingdom of God. May we honor our military personnel who served not only country and its people, but also who sacrificed self-fulfillment for the benefit of others. May their service be honored on Veterans Day, and all days, and may we strive to serve God in our brothers and sisters.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul, OFS

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, visit our website www.retreathouse.org or call the Holy Cross Retreat House @ 508-238-2051

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR PIME MISSIONARY

NEXT WEEK WILL BE FOR LITURGICAL SUPPLIES

THE CHOIR WILL BE SINGING AT THE 9:30 MASS AT SAINT ANN'S NOVEMBER 19TH

Christmas Sharing Planning

Plans are being made for this year's Christmas Sharing Program and we need your help. Families have been surveyed, and the decision is to again give gift cards to children age 17 and younger in needy families. The families must meet one of the following criteria: be parishioners of St. Ann's, live in West Bridgewater, attend West Bridgewater schools, or be recommended by a parishioner of St. Ann's. As always, we rely on you to help us find the families in need of assistance. If you know of a family who is struggling due to a job loss, injury or disability, please call Linda Santry at **508-586-6535**, or email her, linda@santry.org.

All information is kept in strict confidence.

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, 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 .**



St Ann's St. Vincent de Paul

Winner of the Raffle tickets was Nancy Maloney

Because of your generous donations to the summer lunch program, we were able to help 19 families to include 46 Children.

Please pick a slip from the baskets located at each door as we are putting together toiletry bags for the homeless of West Bridgewater.

The next meeting will be on November 14th @ 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall.

ELECTRTRONIC & APPLIANCES RECYCLING DAY

ST ANN'S PARISH

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH

9:00—2:00

CHECK SIGNS FOR PRICING



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, brownie & cake mix, frosting.
Gift cards for purchase for Thanksgiving Dinners
Cash donations also accepted

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, November 6, 2023

Monday, November 20, 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

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Dear Lord, You demand justice for Your children who have been wronged. Give strength to people who investigate and prosecute traffickers. Encourage them when they are weary. Give courage to survivors when they are asked to testify against their former captors.

Pray for salvation of people being trafficked.

Jesus, would you save those being trafficked not only from the slavery they are held in, but from the slavery that is in their hearts. Save them from the sin that, no matter where a person is born and what life they live, is always there. You are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love. Cause these dear people to call upon you so that you can save them. Grant them an eternity where every tear will be wiped away and every injustice against them made right. May You be their hope.

Psalms 86:5

"For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you."



Today, the United Nations has established **18 November**, as an official World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Violence. The data is staggering: Around 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 9 boys across the globe experience sexual violence before their eighteenth birthday.

The UN has a three-pronged strategy to address misconduct: **prevention of misconduct, enforcement of UN standards of conduct, and remedial action.**

As a further measure to enhance transparency and accountability, the 2015 report of the Secretary-General on Special measures for the protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (A/71/729) included, for the first time, country-specific information for allegations involving uniformed personnel. The Secretary-General has emphasized that it should be seen as a matter of honour when a Member State takes decisive action against perpetrators of sexual exploitation and abuse. It is encouraging to note that best practices are starting to emerge among Member States, ranging from enhancing pre-deployment training, conducting effective and thorough investigations and timely reporting, holding on-site court martial proceedings and imposing strict sanctions for perpetrators, to appointing focal points in the national legal system to facilitate paternity claims.

Change is slow but hope is consistent.

More information is available at <https://conduct.unmissions.org/>

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to you every week.



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Andrew Martinez

amartinez@4LPi.com
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