



ST. JOHN

Together in Christ Collaborative

November 14, 2021

**33rd SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**



ST. ANN



**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 9-4 M-Th
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

Website: www.stjohnne.org

Facebook: St. John the Evangelist-EB

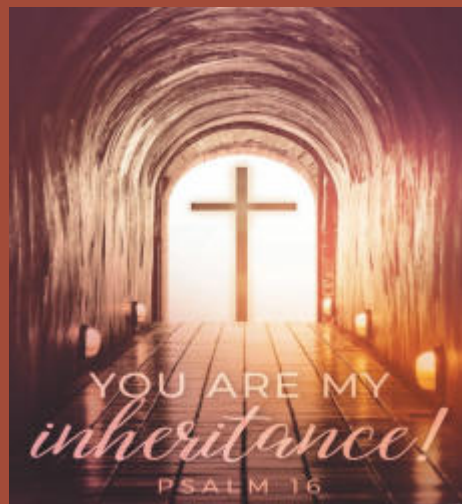
Fr. Paul's Facebook Page —Paul Ring

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But of that day or hour, no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." - Mk 13:30-32



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 - 4PM Monday -Thursday

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.

Outdoor Mass – 6 p.m.*

Daily Mass, Wednesday– Friday

9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice

In the Chapel

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

Outdoor Mass – 6 p.m.*

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.

9:00 a.m. On hold until further notice

***Alternating between the two worship sites, refer to website for details.**

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 p.m. These baptisms are private and can accommodate 30 or so people. Social distancing and masks are required.

Alternately you may opt for celebrating the Baptism at the 6 PM Outdoor Mass.

Prep classes will take place before the Baptism.

Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Is by appointment during the pandemic. 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 Wasil

COLLABORATIVE STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager: Donna Roderiques

donna.stannstjohn@gmail.com

Director of Music: Rich Cesarini

richcesarini@gmail.com

Assistant Music Director: Matt Cunningham

Director of Ministries: Nancy Goggin

directorofministries.tic@gmail.com

508-378-4207 or 508-586-4880

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, November 13, 2021

4:00 - Louis & Mary Oriola — Memorial

Sunday November 14, 2021

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

Saturday, November 20, 2021

4:00—Angelina R. Chaves & Family — Mem

Sunday, November 21, 2021

8:30 - Joanne Hanson — 2nd Anniversary

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, November 13, 2021

5:30 - Robert & Lorraine Anton — Memorial

Sunday, November 14, 2021

10:30 - Dorothy Boisclair — Memorial

6:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

Saturday, November 20, 2021

5:30 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, November 21, 2021

10:30 - Dorothy Boisclair — 3rd Anniversary

THE TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

Weekly Offertory Oct 19 - Oct 25, 2021

ST ANN

Online N/A

Mail \$ 475

Mass \$ 1,754

TOTAL \$ 2,229

Restoration Fund \$1,356

ST JOHN

Online \$ 1,302

Mail \$ 1,343

Mass \$ 2,629

TOTAL \$ 5,274

Restoration Fund \$95

**TOTAL RESTORATION FUND TO DATE —
\$13,160**

A REQUEST FROM THE COUNTERS.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE CHECKS OUT
TO:
SAINT JOHN'S OR SAINT ANN'S**

**CHECKS MADE OUT TO THE
T I C COLLABORATIVE OR ANYTHING ELSE
CANNOT BE CASHED BECAUSE THE
ACCOUNTS ARE IN THE NAME OF EACH OF
THE CHURCHES.**

Thank you for your help in this matter.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

There has been, for the longest time, what could be called “end-time phobia”. It is the panicked approach by some that “The End Is Near” (as I saw on a placard in downtown Brockton recently). This “visionary” approach is usually paired with some “doomsday scenario” taken either from the Book of Revelation or the mind of movie director James Cameron - take your pick! Well, here it is – the year 2015; it is fifteen years past the predictions of “Y2K” and what would follow and we’re still here.

My point in bringing up all of these end-of-the-world scenarios is not to dismiss the fact that the world will end. Regardless of the “when”, the “if” of the matter hardly up for debate; by all accounts, spiritual and secular, the world will end. In today’s gospel, Jesus prepares His followers for the fact that the world, as we know it, will cease at some point. What Jesus does not reveal is the “when” of the event, for it is only in the mind and heart of God the Father and, as my mother would say, “God only knows, and He ain’t tellin’!” This should not worry us, but it should serve as a reminder to us that each day is a gift, and that we should indeed work as if each day was our last. In that way, we fulfill the prayerful mandate of the “Our Father” that we make “thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”. The “Lord’s Prayer” reminds us, in this stanza, that the day/date/time of the “parousia” (the “end time”) should not concern us. What should concern us is that we are building up God’s Kingdom here on earth as best we can, by being God’s good and faithful service, reaching out to those in need, lifting the downtrodden and assisting those who are in need of God’s mercy and love to find it in us, God’s faithful servants.

Today’s readings speak of the “end times” – what they will look and feel like, how they will come about for all, believers and non-believers alike. We would do well to heed these words, to put our faith not in human beings but in God, and work so that when the end comes (as it surely will) we are found ready to be welcomed into God’s Kingdom. Jesus promises us that His Word will be with us until the end of time. May we trust in that word of hope, peace and love. May we come to know that our God will not leave us abandoned and may we be prepared to be welcomed into God’s Kingdom by being, and remaining, God’s good and faithful servants.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



MY FRANCISCAN JOURNEY

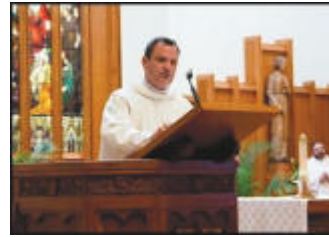
I am in the “home stretch” of my Candidacy, the period of preparation before one offers their “Profession”, or life-long commitment, to the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS). Unlike the “end times” alluded to in today’s Gospel (Mark 13:24-32), this Profession isn’t an ending but a beginning. If one thinks of it like graduation, that’s the sense one would get with Profession. Graduation is often referred to a “Commencement”, and rightfully so. It may be the end of something (e.g., high school, college, or graduate school) but it is also the beginning of something (i.e., a new “chapter in one’s life”).

This “beginning” is what Profession in the OFS is all about. Once a candidate in formation in the Secular Franciscan Order is “Professed”, they have full rights, privileges, and responsibilities in the OFS. They are able to hold office, vote on matters pertaining to the Order (especially on the level of the local fraternity to which they belong), and participate fully in the life of the (Local) Fraternity and the Order (as a body). It also comes with it responsibilities, duties which only professed members can undertake and accomplish. This does not mean the candidate stands idly by, waiting for profession. A candidate can participate in the life of the Order by taking what they learn in formation and applying it to both life in the OFS and life in their home, work, and family.

So, to sum up...Candidates work towards Profession, and this Profession leads to a fully active life in the OFS. Professed member have full rights, and responsibilities in the OFS. All members, both candidates and professed members, seek to incorporate Franciscan charisms into their everyday life, as well as life in the OFS. Ultimately, the goal is to live the “motto” of the OFS, namely “Bringing Gospel to Life and Life to Gospel”.

Pax et Bonum,

Fr. Paul



The Deacon’s Column Reverencing the Altar

As a young child, my parents took me into Faneuil Hall several times a year—in the summer and always around Christmas—never did I stop to think

why there were red bricks along some of the city sidewalks. Yet, there is something about walking the freedom trail and stopping at some of the major places that shaped the future and identity of our nation. It is important to visit these places as they remind us of the sacrifice’s others made for the freedoms we enjoy. When we visit historical places, it is not uncommon for us to pause and remember with a brief but profound moment of silence.

The cross is the place where Christ meets us in our most profound human need—in sin and death. Each one of us cannot escape the reality of our own sin. We try; but we cannot escape it. Even as we run away from God in guilt and shame, our God comes to us in Jesus Christ. At the cross Jesus meets every human being who dies. He does so to not only stand in solidarity with us in death, but to take away the consequences of sin which is eternal separation from God and our loved ones who die in faith. By taking on the cross, Jesus meets us as we try to carry our own and share the burden of each other’s crosses.

The altar we gather around is a profound symbol in our Catholic faith. Fundamentally, the altar is a symbol of the Cross. When the priest and deacon come to the altar and reverence it with a kiss, they gather with them the respect that each Christian hold in their heart for the good things Jesus does for us by taking up the Cross for our salvation. Each one of us makes a procession from our individual homes to our common home in Church. We do so because we know and believe that Jesus has met us in our need and offers to us the grace of a new beginning in him.

There is a difference between visiting historical sites where important events happened in the past and what Catholics do every time we come before the altar. A person visiting the spot of the Boston Massacre “remembers” that historical event, but when a Catholic comes to the altar, the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross is not only “remembered” but it is made present for those who gather around it. As a symbol of the cross, the altar IS the place where Jesus works the greatest sacrifice on our behalf. The altar IS the place where humanity and God are reconciled. The altar IS the place where we see the great love our God has for each one of us. The altar IS the place where God meets us and where, by our procession to Church, we meet Him as he takes away our sin and restores us to friendship with God.

Every time I kiss the altar, I am mindful of my own need for grace. I come to the altar recognizing that Christ meets me, meets us, in our own sinfulness, woundedness, and brokenness. By standing with us in death, he offers us the hope of the resurrection and the newness of life his rebirth brings for all those who believe. Considering this mystery, how do we not bow down and reverence the altar with a kiss?



Welcome to the Bloomin' 4 Good Program!

A Program to Benefit **Society of St. Vincent de Paul Saint John's Conference**

Let's Fight Hunger Together. One Bouquet at a Time.

We are thrilled to share the **Bloomin' 4 Good Program**, an innovative program from Stop & Shop that works to fight hunger in our local communities. In this program, every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet sold sends a \$1 donation to a hunger organization local to the store in which it was purchased.

For the month of December 2021, **Society of St. Vincent de Paul Saint John's Conference** has been selected to receive a \$1 donation for every \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet with the red circle sticker (pictured below) sold at the store located at 475 Bedford Street, Whitman MA.



Look for the bouquets with **the red circle sticker** pictured here to make sure it is a Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet that will benefit your organization upon purchase

Sin on the Soul

Why do some sacraments leave a character or mark on the soul? Don't all sacraments affect the soul?

All sacraments mediate grace and connect us to Christ and to the Church. Some sustain us in our faith journey, while others help us heal from the effects of sin. Each one offers a share in God's life, giving us what we need to be faithful followers of Jesus. But some sacraments change us in ways that are irreversible. The three sacraments that leave a character are Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. We are literally different people because of the effect of the grace of those sacraments. We are changed at the core of our being in such a fundamental way that we can not go back to what we once were.

In Baptism, we are freed from original sin, initiated into the Body of Christ as adopted sons and daughters. In Confirmation, we are given the fullness of God's Spirit, sealed in his grace and gifted with what we need to live a Christian life. In Holy Orders, a priest is marked as an 'alter Christus,' another Christ, and is once and forever a priest who offers sacrifice, forgives sin, and acts in the person of Christ. In these three sacraments, we are conformed more closely to Christ, reflecting his love and truth.

St Ann's Parish Center Renovation Fund and Religious Education Update

I would like to update all of you on the Renovation Project and the opening of the Religious Ed Program. I have both good news and bad news to share.

I will give you the bad news first. We have completed our negotiations with the contractors and unfortunately at this time we are not able to start the renovations. The original contractor that we hired had agreed to give us payment terms of net 6 months. Therefore, we were going to be able to do the renovation and pay for it within 6 months' time. However, the new contractor was not able to offer us the same terms. We would have needed to pay, net 30 days, which is not possible for us to do. Therefore, we will now need to raise the money prior to starting the work. We will be doing many fundraising activities over the next few months to pay for the renovations. We thank you in advance for your support of our fundraising activities.

Next, the good news. We will be able to have our Religious Ed Classes for Grades 1-8 at St John's, starting the first weekend of December. When we were initially analyzing our facilities, there were some concerns regarding St John's Hall, which prohibited us from being able to open the hall. I am happy to say that these issues have been resolved so we are now focusing our efforts into being able to open the hall by the first weekend of December to be able to have Religious Ed classes in the hall. We will be purchasing the air filtration systems for St John's hall and for both of the churches.

We will spend the next few weeks working on St. John's hall to be able to open it on time for class. There are many volunteer opportunities regarding getting the hall ready. We need people to help us paint and we need people to help us move furniture. If you are able to help with either one of these, we would greatly appreciate the help! Please email me if you are able to help at: Directorofministries.tic@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance for your help.

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, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac, Diane Nicolai, Paul Martin, Jim Koury, William Neyman, Janet Wooters, Rene Barnett Harry Evans, Frank & Stephen Genatossio, Dr. Irfan Francis, Angela McDevitt, Nathaniel Maniff, Karen & Janet Daly, Bryan Senn, Joan Fisher, Gail Butler, Helen Conrad, Bob Knowlton, Karen Parenteau, Casey L'Italien, Joan Ward-Fusco, Claudette Rochefort, Frank McCarthy & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.

Please CALL TO UPDATE THE PRAYER LIST. LET THE RECTORY KNOW WHO SHOULD STAY OR BE ADDED TO THE LIST AND WHO CAN BE REMOVED.

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

2021-2022 WINTER HOURS/DATES

Winter days will be in effect from **November thru April**, pantry days will be the **first Monday** of the month, except for holidays, from 1pm to 4pm., and **3rd Saturday**, except for holidays, from 10am to 11:30

THE FOOD PANTRY HAS NEW HOURS:

Monday, November 1 — 1—4 PM
Saturday, November 20 — 10—11:30 AM

*Tuna, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned goods, etc
are always great additions to the shelves.*

In the Gospel today, Jesus tells us: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength...and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you can show your love for our Lord and your love of your neighbor who is hungry, hopeless, alone and frightened.

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.

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.



SAINT 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.

Christmas Sharing

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, Market Basket or CVS cards for families and Senior Citizens. All gift cards should be placed in an envelope marked "Christmas Sharing" in the St. Vincent dePaul boxes at the doors of the church, or sent to Linda Santry. They must be received by November 30th, to allow the parents time to purchase gifts before Christmas. See the handout on October 31st for more details. If there are any questions, please call or email Linda Santry:

508-586-6535 or linda@santry.org

SAINT JOHN'S AND SAINT ANN'S IS RESUMING THE PRACTICE OF USING EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT THE MASSES. IF YOU WERE OR WOULD LIKE TO BE A EUCHARIST MINISTER, PLEASE CALL THE RECTORIES TO SIGN UP.

ST JOHN 508-378-4207 SAINT ANN 508-586-4880
WE ALSO NEED LECTORS

Choir Is Back!

One who sings prays twice. If you would like to pray twice by singing in the Together in Christ Collaborative Choir please plan to attend choir rehearsal on Thursdays at 7:00 PM at Saint John's.

Please email Rich, our music director at richcesarini@gmail.com in advance so that he will have enough copies of music for everyone.

Singing is allowed now and we encourage everyone to join with the musicians to sing God's praises with the music department. This will be a lot easier when the hymnals are out for Advent which will be the first Sunday of Advent, November 28th. Please join in song to praise the Lord.



Hello,

At times during the pandemic congregational singing was discouraged and congregants were ushered out of the church in a safe manner at the end of mass during the closing hymn. Now that restrictions have been lifted it is a good time to remind ourselves that a liturgy begins with the first notes of the opening song and ends with the final notes of the closing song. We ask that you stay and participate in the closing song if you know the words or stay and enjoy it if you don't know the words. The closing song is one last opportunity to sing God's praises in church before we leave to go about our week. We look forward to having hymn books back in the pews in late November so that everyone can read along.

Thank you and God Bless.

-The Together in Christ Collaborative music team.

Give Thanks



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