



*TOGETHER IN CHRIST
COLLABORATIVE
St. Ann & St. John*



*December 9, 2018
Second Sunday of Advent*



Advent

PREPARING THE WAY

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

The 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

TOGETHER IN CHRIST COLLABORATIVE

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Paul L. Ring
fr_plrstjohn@comcast.net

Brendan Fitzgerald
deaconbrendan@comcast.net

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Michael K. Harvey

Permanent Deacons:

Joe Hopgood
deaconjoeh@comcast.net

EUCCHARISTIC LITURGIES

St John's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass - 6 p.m., 4th Sunday of the Mo.

Daily Mass, Wednesday- Friday
9:00 a.m.

In the Chapel

Divine Mercy every Thursday
After Mass.

St Ann's

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Teen Mass - 6:30, 2nd Sunday of the Mo.

Daily Mass, Mon, Tues, Fri.
9:00 a.m.

SAINT ANN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Jackie Buccigross
jmbstjohn@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Arlene Stefano
stanns@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education
Charlotte Leines
stannscdd@comcast.net

508-588-7140

Director of Music: Matthew Cunningham
matthewcunningham@bpsma.org

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on the 2nd Sunday of the Month at St John's and the 4th Sunday of the month at St. Ann's. Please call the Rectory Office for registration.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. - Other times as scheduled in the bulletin or 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.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St John's - every Tuesday from 7-8 p.m.
in the Church.

St. Ann's - First Friday of the month following the 9:00 a.m. Mass
concluding with Benediction at 10:30 a.m.

Registration: Families not registered, please call the Parish Office

SAINT JOHN'S STAFF

Business Manager: Jackie Buccigross
jmbstjohn@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Deborah Conrad
stjohnnebridge@comcast.net

Director of Religious Education
Lorraine Hopgood
repstjohn@gmail.com
508-378-1521

Director of Music: Paul Hoffman
p.hoffman@stjohnne.org

Music Minister: Erica Wasil

PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM

Deacon Joe Hopgood
Paul Hoffman
Denise Robichaud

Jackie Buccigross

Ben Williams
Nancy Maloney
Margaret Mary Williams

St. John is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, December 8, 2018

4:00 - Suzanne Shepard—29th Anniversary Mass

Sunday, December 9, 2018

8:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

10:30 - Valerie Teague—2nd Anniversary Mass

Wednesday, December 12, 2018

9:00 - Patricia Robichaud—Birthday Remem.

Saturday, December 15, 2018

4:00 - Parishioners of Saint John

Sunday, December 16, 2018

8:00 - Charles Matthews—20th Anniversary

10:30 - Ewa Morawski — 24th Anniversary

St. Ann is a Stewardship Parish

Saturday, December 8, 2018

4:00 - Laurie Avitabile—Birthday Remem.

Sunday, December 9, 2018

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Anns

10:30 - Ana & Manuel Barros—Memorial Mass

Monday, December 10, 2018

9:00 - Sally B. Moran—11th Anniversary Mass

Tuesday, December 10, 2018

Jerry & Mamie Marochino—Memorial Mass

Friday, December 14, 2018

9:00—Christiano Victoria—11th Anniversary

Saturday, December 15, 2018

4:00 - Jonathan Correia — Memorial Mass

Sunday, December 16, 2018

8:30 - Parishioners of Saint Ann

10:30 - Ida Malinsky — 10th Anniversary

Blessed Advent to you all!

Today we continue the "joyful expectation" of the birth of Christ in history, the present, and the future. Today we hear the words of John the Baptist calling people of his time to repentance. Now, this baptism that John was calling people to is not the same baptism that we Christians celebrate. However, John's baptism is at the root of our Christian baptism. John's baptism had its roots in the "oblation washing" of the Jewish people before undertaking anything of great importance.

Christian baptism is a sacrament to wash away original sin so as to enter sinless into the Christian community. It is the one sacrament that is celebrated by all Christians, even those Christians who are not in communion with Rome.

Johns enjoins us to "prepare the way of the Lord." His call is to be taken in the widest sense. This preparation is a personal preparation, and is also a communal preparation. We are called to make sure we are ready to meet the Lord, and this means that we need to make a difference in the world to make it better, to make it more peaceful, and to make it more just. We are called to protect each other's dignity and share of our abundance with others so that each may live a life that is centered on helping others.

My Dear Friends in Christ,

When John the Baptist came upon the scene, he was unlike anything anyone had seen before. Yes, he spoke of repentance, as other prophets had. Yes, he spoke with authority and clarity, as other prophets had. Unlike other prophets, however, his arrival was heralded by those before him. No other prophet could lay claim to this.

When Isaiah spoke of John (without naming him), there was an immediacy to the proclamation that had never been heard of before. This is why many thought that John was "THE ONE". By his unusual nature (wearing camel hair in the desert, feeding on locusts and wild honey), many people thought that John was the Messiah. They thought that these characteristics were surely the "hallmarks" of the Promised One of God. After all, no prophet had been spoken of before his arrival, and certainly no other prophet spoke with the level of authority with which John spoke.

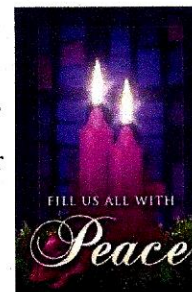
Luke, however, in today's gospel puts that notion to rest. Speaking of "a voice of one crying out in the desert: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths" (Lk 3:4, by way of Isaiah 40:3-5) Luke was obviously alluding to someone else *other than John*...and this, I'm sure, is perfectly fine with John. He knew he was just a messenger, and not The Message. John knew that his job was to lay the groundwork for one who is coming, one far greater than he.

John the Baptist's "job" was to prepare the world for the coming of the Messiah; this is our job as well. As Catholic-Christians, we are called to let the world know that not only is the Messiah coming, but that He is already here. This is the great mystery of the Incarnation, which we will celebrate in a few short weeks. Jesus, who is to come to us as the "babe in the manger", is already in our midst. Yes, we celebrate Christmas as the promise of God fulfilled, the "Word made flesh". We cannot forget, however, that Jesus is in our midst, here and now. If we walk through the Advent Season thinking that we're doing so alone, we are sadly mistaken. Our "walk of faith" towards the Kingdom can only be realized if we come to recognize the presence of Jesus in our world here and now. It is this "two-fold coming" (the coming of the Christ Child and the coming of the King of Glory) that we celebrate each and every time we gather as a family of faith, a community of believers.

May we come to celebrate Jesus when He comes to us at Christmas, but may we also celebrate His presence with us now. May we look to the Lord to lead us to deeper understanding of Him...and ourselves. May we use this Advent Season to deepen our relationship with the Lord, who calls us to share His presence with all whom we meet.

Wishing you continued Advent Blessings,

Fr. Paul



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

The Next Second Collection

Financial Blessings		St. Ann's	Budget		St John's	Budget
SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS	Figures not Available	10/21/18			10/21/18	
OFFERTORY			\$3,680			\$ 5,700
GRAND ANNUAL			\$32,000			\$32,000

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SAINT ANN'S

**CHRISTMAS EVE
4PM, 6PM**

**CHRISTMAS DAY
8:30 AM, 10:30 AM**

SAINT JOHN'S

**CHRISTMAS EVE
4PM UPSTAIRS
4PM DOWNSTAIRS
6PM
MIDNIGHT**

**CHRISTMAS DAY
10:30 AM**

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES (ST. ANN'S)



SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS BAKER
@ 774-240-8095
or jchbaker@msn.com

New mailing address:
P O Box 474



The Annual Cupcake Sale for The Smile Train
Will take place the 15th & 16th of December.

Before



After

FLOWER ENVELOPES TO REMEMBER YOUR
LOVED ONES AT CHRISTMAS ARE AT THE
DOORS OF THE CHURCH.



The Annual Christmas Pageant will be

December 9, 2018
At Noon

All are cordially welcome to attend.

Donations of baked goods will be greatly
appreciated.

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.

**VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED TO HELP
DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS**

**PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY FOR TIMES
AND MORE INFORMATION.**



*The Christmas Sharing
Program. is in full swing.
Please tag your gifts and bring them
to Church and put them under the
tree.*



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Please keep the following in your prayers:

Karen Debenedictis, Harry Hewins, Bill Estes, Tyler Martin, Amanda Little, Patricia Estes, Vince Adornato, Kenneth Upham, Joan Fusco, Pat Zemeitus, JoAnn Micalizzi, Barbara Worswick, Kay Levoshko, Jim Cassidy, Tori Bortolotto, Dave Avery, Phil Garbardi, Marcus LaBree, Charlie Micalizzi, Patricia Baldassarre, Vickie Vasvatekis, Robert Hanson, John Moriarty, Annette Moriarty, Felicia Hernandez, Scott Dolan, Linda, Frank Conroy, Robert Sullivan, Christopher Laursen, Karen Daly, Ann Smith, Joan MacIsaac & The residents of Sachem & Westview & all our service men and women serving in the military.



FLOWER ENVELOPES
ARE IN THE PEWS
AND AT THE DOORS OF THE
CHURCH

Please return envelopes by
December 16th

SORRY FOR THE RUSH.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH
FOLLOWING THE 10:30 MASS
VISIT WITH SANTA



Giving Tree Gift Cards

Are due
December 9th

Please put the amount
on the outside of the
card.
Thank you for your
generosity.

IMPORTANT DATES

Rosary after daily Masses.

Divine Mercy every Thursday after daily mass.

Adoration — Every Wednesday—7:00—8:00 PM (changed)

Sunday, December 9 — Shawl Meeting — 2 PM

Wednesday, December 12 — CWC Christmas Party — Noon

The Society of Saint Vincent DePaul
Saint John's Conference
PO Box 544
East Bridgewater, MA 02333

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord," and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

Call the Saint Vincent DePaul **HOTLINE** at 508-378-3760 if you need food or other assistance.

The Food Pantry is open twice a month. — 1st Monday from 3:00-6:00 pm and the 3rd Monday from 3:00-4:30 pm.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." Light a spiritual fire in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Jan 18-20, 2019 in South Kingstown, RI and Mar 8-10, 2019 in Duxbury, MA.

For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.

DAILY

ADVENT CHALLENGE

Light a candle,
preferably on your
Advent wreath if you
have one, and reflect
on what it means to
have the light of Christ
inside of you.

About the Archdiocese of Boston: The Diocese of Boston was founded on April 8, 1808 and was elevated to Archdiocese in 1875. Currently serving the needs of 1.8 million Catholics, the Archdiocese of Boston is an ethnically diverse and spiritually enriching faith community consisting of 286 parishes, across 144 communities, educating approximately 36,000 students in its Catholic schools and 156,000 in religious education classes each year, ministering to the needs of 200,000 individuals through its pastoral and social service outreach. Mass is celebrated in nearly twenty different languages each week. For more information, please visit www.BostonCatholic.org.

**Prayer to
St. Michael the Archangel**
Saint Michael the Archangel, defend
us in battle, be our protection against
the wickedness and snares of the
devil. May God rebuke him we
humbly pray: and do thou, O Prince
of the Heavenly host, by the power of
God, cast into hell Satan and all the
evil spirits who prowl about the
world seeking the ruin of souls.

The prayers to Saint Michael will continue throughout the year.

Please remember
Saint Ann's and Saint John's
When doing your
Estate Planning!



TEEN MASSES ARE BACK!!!!

Saint Ann

**October 14
December 9
January 13
February 10
March 10**

Saint John

**October 28
January 27
March 24
April 14**